



EYNESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting
in the Bartholomew Room at 7.30pm
on Tuesday 10 March 2020

MINUTES

Councillors Present – Cllr G Beach (Chairman), Cllr S Brown Cllr M Chen, Cllr P Crowley, Cllr R Macken, Cllr A Mosson, Cllr S Osborne, Cllr N Relph, Cllr C Rylett and Cllr M Zumbuhl.

Also in Attendance – Clerk to the Council. There were eight members of the public present.

20/47 To receive apologies for absence – Cllr K Crowe and Cllr A Mosson.

20/48 To receive Declarations of Interest in agenda items – None.

20/49 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 11 February 2020 - It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes were signed as true records.

20/50 To approve the minutes of the following meetings and consider the recommendations contained therein – It was **RESOLVED** that the following minutes were signed as true records and the recommendations contained therein were approved:- (a) Extra Footpaths Committee Meeting of 11 February, (b) Gravel & Minerals Committee meeting of 25 February and (c) Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting of 25 February.

20/51 Public Participation - to receive submissions from members of the public relating to items on the agenda, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders – Members of the public referred to agenda item 20/55 recommending that the Council maintain grass verges in accordance with Plantlife guidance to promote biodiversity and save the Council money. The Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment is offering a grant of £10,000 towards the nature recovery project. District Cllr Levy commented on Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC) Minerals & Waste Plan and that he and District Cllr Rylett had submitted a joint response. It was noted that West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC) Cabinet has recommended a zero rating for the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on large developments - consultation is due to commence shortly. Representatives from Eynsham Litter Pickers commented that the subject of the 'Bring Site' in Back Lane Car Park has been discussed by volunteers and that on balance, it should be removed. Consideration of an alternative site might be beneficial. Waste accumulates over the weekend when collections are not made.

20/52 To receive correspondence –

(a) Eynsham History Group – Celebrating VE Day 75 on 8 May at Eynsham Social & Sports Club. Noted.

(b) Eynsham Litter Pickers – As referred to above and below.

20/53 To consider the Clerk's Report and agree actions – The Clerk's reports were reviewed.

20/54 To consider fortnightly Council meetings and arrangement of committee meetings (from 12 May) – It was **RESOLVED** that with effect from the Annual Parish Council Meeting, all committees with the exception of Senior and Traffic Advisory will cease and Full Council meetings will be held fortnightly.

20/55 To note winter maintenance status, review the grass maintenance maps and consider amendments – Councillors recently walked with the Eynsham Nature Recovery Group to review some of the Council's green areas. When all of the areas have been visited, a report will be submitted to the Council making recommendations on immediate and future maintenance standards.

The Clerk advised that part of the Wharf Stream Way public footpath (that runs alongside the allotments) needs to be added to the maintenance schedule for strimming to allow full use of the path and weedkilling is required in the play bark area of the Skate Park. It was agreed to add the two items to the maintenance schedule.

20/56 To consider a request by the Village Hall Management Committee to install a defibrillator at the hall entrance – It was **RESOLVED** that a defibrillator can be installed at the Village Hall.

20/57 To consider requesting the removal of the 'Bring Site' from Back Lane Car Park (previously deferred) – A number of continuing concerns were raised which include the site being used for commercial waste, frequency of waste collections, lids of bins always being open, cleanliness of the site. Household/kerbside collections are available for items that would ordinarily be taken to the site. It was therefore **RESOLVED** to request that the Bring Site is removed unless and until WODC is able to make improvements (ie use of cameras and better management). Useful information is available from wrap.org.uk. Clerk is to write to Cllr Norman Macrae, WODC accordingly.

20/58 Finance.

- (a) **To approve payment of accounts** – It was **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as presented.
- (b) **To approve bank reconciliation** – It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation.
- (c) **To be advised of income and expenditure** – Reports previously circulated were noted.
- (d) **To consider any virement/transfer to earmarked reserves** – It was **RESOLVED** to transfer £42,860 from General Reserves to the Pavilion Reserve.

20/59 19/02516/FUL - Aurora Solar Farm planning application - To receive an update, note additional online documents and consider adding to the Parish Council's response - Members continue to have concerns with the application. 1. No confidence that the Construction Traffic Management Plan will be enforced. 2. The panels may potentially be installed up to 3m high off the ground which will create a negative impact on the public rights of way and surrounding areas. 3. It is felt that the biodiversity reports should be received and considered before the planning application is determined as opposed to consent with conditions. 4. The site will be decommissioned after 40 years which means returning the site to its original state. Therefore the hedges/trees that will be planted (in the event of planning permission being granted) will be removed. As a minimum, all new planted hedges/trees should be retained as part of the net gain in biodiversity and not removed, which would be detrimental. Clerk is to contact WODC accordingly.

20/60 To receive an update on the A40 Improvements and Park & Ride project and agree actions – The Freedom of Information Act request has been approved and the Outline Business Case has been provided. Members are to review and report to the next Council meeting.

20/61 To receive an update on the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village and agree actions – Informal meetings have been held with WODC and Grosvenor. Concern continues around the issue of whether the development will meet Garden Village principles.

20/62 To receive reports from Councillors representing the Council on outside bodies/meetings – Cllr Rylett reported on matters around the Garden Village. It was requested that any concessions being considered as part of viability assessments, should be done so in an open and transparent way. It is anticipated that the Garden Village Area Action Plan will be considered by the Cabinet and Full Council in April. West Eynsham Strategic Development Area proposals are now being pursued. (Standing Orders were suspended in order for the meeting to exceed its 2.5 hours limit (item 3. (x) refers). Cllr Beach reported that he and the Clerk had met with Siemens to discuss OCC's Minerals & Waste consultation and Wharf Road Traffic Regulation Order. He met with Bartholomew School and raised the possibility of a Youth Council being created. Cllr Crowley's written report was circulated.

20/63 To note dates of the next Eynsham Parish Council meetings:-

- Footpaths Committee – 17 March at 6.30pm &
- Play Area Committee – 17 March at 7.30pm.

Councillors and residents are to refer to the published meeting agendas for confirmed dates/times.

At the conclusion of this part of the meeting, the Chairman moved that, considering the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, the public, press and broadcast media be excluded for the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

20/64 Bartholomew Room.

- (a) To note the Strutt & Parker valuation report – The valuation report was noted. The Bartholomew Room is symbolic and has a high value to the community.
- (b) To consider the building's future use and agree actions – It was agreed that the building should remain available to community. Potential lease arrangements with village organisation(s) will be explored. The Parish Council will pursue alternative venues for its chambers.
- (c) To consider the Leys Longden tender report, agree refurbishment project funding and appoint a contractor for the Bartholomew Room refurbishment work (previously deferred) – Leys Longden report was reviewed and a contractor was appointed for the refurbishment work. Clerk is to obtain approval from the Secretary of State to allow the Council to borrow funds for the work. On approval, a Loan will be sought from WODC for £100,000 repayable over 5 years.

The meeting closed at 22.40pm.