

HINTON WALDRIST PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Allison Leigh, 26 Eaton, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX13 5PR
Telephone: 01865 865876 [E-mail: pc.hwaldrist@gmail.com](mailto:pc.hwaldrist@gmail.com)

Minutes of Hinton Waldrist Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 14th July 2020

Present: Mr Hugh Hamill (Chair) (HH), Mrs Alison Geary (Vice Chair) (AG) and Councillors Mrs Debbie Cordery (DC), Mr Peter Evans (PE), Mrs Stephanie Stott (SS), Mr Anthony Williams (SW), Mrs Judith Willis (JW) and Oxfordshire County Councillor Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor (AFO)

Also Present: Mrs Allison Leigh (Clerk) (AL)

HH noted that this meeting was held remotely via Microsoft Teams due to Covid-19. Members of the public were made aware that they could contact the clerk to access the meeting, but no one has made contact.

20/18: Apologies for absence: None

20/19: Declarations of Interest: PE, DC, AG and SS declared an interest in the agenda item 20/27: Allotments.

DC declared an interested in agenda item 20/30: Planning.

20/20: Public questions and statements: A representative from the Church was in attendance to participate in the discussion on agenda item 20/28: Grass cutting request from Church.

20/21: Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council of the 26th May 2020 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting. HH will sign these for AL to collect. ACTION: AL to collect/file signed minutes.

20/22: Reports from County and District Councillors:

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

AFO reported that OCC held an all-day virtual full council meeting on the 14th July and the report of this meeting will be available on the 15th July.

AFO reported that options for the new future of Oxfordshire are being discussed.

AFO reported that Registration has been in operation and that libraries have been opening up bit by bit.

There was a discussion on the Active Travel Campaign.

AFO reported there are to be temporary bus gates in Oxford.

A discussion arose as to the policy on the homeless.

Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)

Strategic Issues

J. Avery reported that the VoWHDC Council Leader reports no decisions have been made in relation to the original Ox - Cam ARC proposals. The ARC (formerly known as the Cambridge - Milton Keynes - Oxford Corridor) is a notional arc of agricultural land along an axis 50 miles from central London. The original idea was to develop educational, research and business assets and activities within that zone. J. Avery emphasised that the government has stated that a key priority is to ensure that the "Zero Carbon" objective is achieved.

A meeting was held with the Oxfordshire Strategic Transport Forum reps to discuss all issues relating to cycling and public transport and any conflicts with planning and highway proposals. The question of how to work with the Growth Board was central to the discussion.

A local government White Paper is to be published in September/October for the purpose of addressing the issue of local government reorganisation. One proposal that has been tentatively suggested is that of creating a Unitary Authority by merging the South Oxfordshire District Council with VoWHDC. J. Avery stressed strongly that for the time being this option is off the table.

A full VoWHDC District Council meeting will be held on 15 July 2020. Please see the Vale website for full details.

Local Issues

Traffic control is matter of concern across Thames Ward. Although no housing development is happening within the ward, a major development (some 700 new homes) is in progress in the vicinity of Charney Bassett and Southmoor. There would be a knock-on effect of that development will be an increase in road use within the ward.

With regards to assisting the vulnerable during the pandemic J. Avery was given £2000 to distribute to worthy causes. To date he has given £1000 to three organisations with the ward. He would welcome any further requests for funding.

AW expressed a concern that the rate of development will lead to towns and no villages. J. Avery said that there is no legislation to indicate this is the case, and that he will send a report to AL stating this in writing.

AFO also indicated that no one is suggesting that villages will be swallowed up.

20/23: Report from Police Constable Officer: There was no report.

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20/24: Matters arising and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda: AL noted that general grass cutting in the village was discussed at the May meeting. It was reported that verges have been cut, but it is not certain who has cut them. HH suggested that grass cutting remains off of the agenda until after the Covid-19 period.

20/25: Update on Covid-19 – Hinton Waldrist Helpers: HH reported that the Hinton Waldrist helpers have not had as much call for assistance, but that 2-3 people are contacting the Hinton Waldrist Helpers each week. The Hinton Waldrist Helpers are still available if need arises.

20/26: Update on bus service from Hinton Waldrist to Oxford: The bus service is still suspended until further notice.

20/27: Allotments: SS reported that the allotments had been added to the Asset of Community Value (ACV) list in January 2020, but the owner of this land had been notified and has the right to request a review of the decision to include the land on the ACV list under section 92 of the Localism Act 2011.

SS received a letter from VoWHDC at the end of May stating, "After considering the evidence you provided with your nomination and the representations from the owner, the reviewer has decided on behalf of the council that Hinton Waldrist Village Allotments Field should be removed from the ACV list."

The council resolved to re-apply. SS will work on this. ACTION: SS to work on new ACV application.

20/28: Grass cutting request from Church: It was reported that the council had received a donation request from the Church to assist with the funding of its grass cutting due to a reduction of income during the Covid-19 period.

While councillors would like to assist, AL shared legal information explaining that Parish Councils cannot fund church-related expenses such as grass cutting. She did report that if the grass cutting is for a churchyard that has been formally closed with an order of closure, then the church can bring this to the council for discussion of the Parish Council taking over the grass cutting.

The Church indicated that this churchyard is not formally closed and but would report back to the council if it was in future.

The Church thanked the council for the discussion on the matter and requested a copy of the council minutes once approved.

20/29: Oxfordshire Association for Blind Covid-19 Appeal: The council resolved to donate £50 to the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind Covid-19 appeal.

20/30: Planning:

Planning applications

<u>Planning Number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Response</u>
P20/V1313/HH	Old Well Cottage Church Road Hinton Waldrist Faringdon SN7 8SE	Single storey, rear extension to form Family Room. New dormer window and rooflight to front elevation. Two new dormers to rear elevation. Internal alterations to existing roofspaces to for new bedroom and en-suite shower room.	Hinton Waldrist Parish Council has no objections to this planning application.

Planning Decisions

<u>Planning Number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Response</u>
P20/V1033/FUL	Lamb & Flag House & The Old Stables Faringdon road Longworth Abingdon	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permissions P19/V2458/FUL and P19/V2457/LB, to create a cupboard and replace roof tiles on the Old Stable, and change the rear and side windows on both dwellings. Subdivision of Grade II Listed Lamb & Flag House into two separate dwellings; 2 no. roof lights to existing link extension; 1 no. door and 2 no. windows to rear elevation of the extended element of the building; (minor) extension of the post and rail fencing to the front; erection of a close-boarded fence to the rear; internal alterations.	Planning permission has been granted.

20/31: Financial report:

- Reconciled account balance as of 30/6/2020: £7063.75
- Cheques authorised:

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cheque number</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Allison Leigh	Salary	624	216.40	14/7/2020
Allison Leigh	Expenses	625	40.00	14/7/2020

Receipts

There are no receipts.

Audit:

- Review of Internal Audit Report for 2019/20: The council reviewed the

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Internal Audit Report for 2019/20.

- Review and signing of Certificate of Exemption 2019/20: The council reviewed and approved the Certificate of Exemption 2019/20. ACTION: HH will sign in the presence of AL on 15/7/2020.
- Review and signing of Annual Governance Statement 2019/20: The council review and approved Annual Governance Statement 2019/20. ACTION: HH will sign in the presence of AL on 15/7/2020.
- Review and signing of Accounting Statements for 2019/20: The council review and approved the Accounting Statements for 2019/20. ACTION: HH will sign in the presence of AL on 15/7/2020.
- Confirm Notice of Public Rights, Reserves and Variances for 2019/20: ACTION: AL will post the Notice of Public Rights. The council reviewed and approved the reserves and variances for 2019/20.
- Discuss thank you for internal auditor: The council resolved to purchased £50 in Millets Farm vouchers for the internal auditor in lieu of payment. ACTION: AL will purchase/deliver vouchers for the internal auditor.

Clerk Home allowance increase: AL noted that the council had asked her to keep the council apprised of salary increases. AL reported that a salary increase had not yet been agreed. However, she reported that HMRC has increased the home working allowance to £26 per month to cover additional costs.

She reported that currently the council pays £20 for Telephone line, broadband, travel, postage. Technically the home allowance should not include travel and postage and should be £26.

The council resolved to the clerk's home allowance to be £26 with travel and expenses to be paid separately.

ACTION: AL will update further expense invoices to reflect the above.

20/32: Publications and correspondence: None.

20/33: Matters for report: AW reported that Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust BBOWT intends to increase access to the nature reserve. He is concerned this could spark off raves as there have been before.

He also raised a concern about car parking as he noted on occasions this has prevented access to the farm yard.

He also noted that with regards to new oak trees - it will be some years before they will be established. Meanwhile, cutting down the poplars will really upset the wild life.

20/34: Date of the next meeting: The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council is 15th September 2020. The meeting will be held at 7.45 pm. MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY UNLESS GOVERNMENT ADVICE CHANGES.

The meeting closed at 9:15.

Minutes approved by Chairman

Date