

DRAFT MINUTES

ENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Held by Video Conference due to Government Restrictions in line with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 on Thursday 29th October at 7.15 pm 2020

PRESENT: Parish Councillors N. Knott (Chair), P. Shaw, C. Glendinning, D. Robottom, T. Gilbert, P. Johnson, A. Lee, CC Hilary Hibbert-Biles (7.35 pm) and two residents.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. R. Parker and A. Ward

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Beth Sinclair – Parish Clerk

94. Cllr. Gilbert declared an interest in Item No. 9 – Enstone Airfield

95. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:-**

The minutes of the previous Parish Council Zoom meeting held on Thursday 24th September 2020, having been previously circulated, were read, approved and signed by Cllr. Knott.

96. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

- Oak Tree at Church Enstone – The previous dilapidated bench has been removed. Noted
- Heythrop Park – Following the burst pipe at Heythrop Park, Thames Water had to close the B4030 for over a week, to repair the damage. Noted
- Ditchley Park – Site meeting re: the Hoar Stone – ongoing
- The bench on The Green, Enstone – Cllr. Richard Parker has repaired this and was thanked by the Parish Council – noted
- Caravan – Green Lane – ongoing
- Wig wag signs and repainting of white lines around the Parish – there are delays at County level regarding this work being carried out. Noted
- Netwise – Most of the Parish Councillors' profiles are now on the website. Mrs Rachel Hunt joined the meeting to explain the process of how to enable Parish Councillors to generate emails using Netwise and that she was there to help with any issues – she was thanked for all her ongoing hard work relating to the new website.
- Mullin – ongoing
- Neighbourhood Plan – ongoing

97. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION:-**

- **Difficulties with parking outside village shop** – A resident attended the meeting concerning the ongoing difficulties of vehicles manoeuvring outside the village shop. Several vehicles exit past the No-Entry sign daily, which is unlawful and dangerous. It was suggested that a one-way system is implemented. This suggestion will be part of the parish survey/questionnaire.
- **Street lamp on the corner of the shop** – the resident also queried why the street lamp on the corner of the shop goes off at midnight although a street lamp on the Litchfield Road is still illuminated? The clerk will contact Highways regarding this.
- **Surveyor – Chapel Lane** – the query arose as to why surveyors were recently working along Chapel Lane. The Parish Council was not aware of any new planning applications.
- **Drain Cover A44** – the clerk was thanked for her work involving the repair of the drain cover outside Chapel Lane.
- **Planning Application** – Cllr. Tom Gilbert explained that the Parish Council will soon receive a planning application for an extension to his home. Noted.
- **Congratulations to the clerk** – The chair congratulated the clerk on her ten year tenure as Parish Clerk and was thanked for all her ongoing hard work and support to the Parish Council.

98. **PARISH HALL**

- Cllr. Lee advised that the hall is currently being booked by several organisations.

99. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

- A written report had been received from CC Hilary Hibbert-Biles requesting that the Parish Council contacts OCC, Planning, Highways and the Director for Environment regarding the possibility of Stoney Bridge's weight restriction being removed.
- Covid-19 in Oxfordshire has moved into the "red" and cases are doubling weekly. The County Council has asked Government for all of Oxfordshire to go into Tier 3 but Government has, so far, declined this request.
- Cherwell has the highest number of cases outside Oxford City. It is imperative that everyone keeps to social distancing, washing hands frequently and keeping to the rule of six. This is being reviewed weekly.

100. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

- No report had been received

101. **CORRESPONDENCE:-**

West Oxfordshire District Council:-

- No reports had been received

Oxfordshire County Council:-

- *Resignation as a Conservative Group Member – CC Hilary Hibbert-Biles – CC Hibbert-Biles will act as an Independent Member following her resignation as a Conservative Group Member. Noted.*
- *Distribution Notice, T8145 – Enstone, B4022 (Woodford Bridge Repair) – Concern was raised at the suggestion that the weight restriction could be removed at Stoney Bridge. The Parish Council and CC Hilary Hibbert-Biles will contact OCC explaining why the weight restriction must be kept in place. The work has been delayed until Spring 2021.*
- *Distribution Notice, T8213 – Gagingwell, B4030 – This work will be undertaken in the New Year. Noted.*
- *Covid-19 & Events – The information had been circulated to all members. Noted.*
- *Local Contact Tracing System – All members had received notification of this. Noted.*
- *The Planks – Repair to the planks will be discussed at November's meeting.*
- *Lidstone Road – The road outside the school will be made good and then a full repair will take place by OCC in Spring 2021.*
- *Street Lamp – Little Tew Road – A quote has been received and this suggestion will be part of the parish survey/questionnaire – Noted.*

Other:-

- **Enstone Airfield** – Cllr. Tom Gilbert, whose family owns part of the land at Enstone Airfield, expressed concern that he feels unfairly treated by the Parish Council on matters relating to it and said he has always been willing to offer advice and information on matters relating to the airfield. His grievance relates to a letter addressed to Enstone Parish Council from the Planning Officer at WODC, dated 18th September regarding an alleged breach of operating hours within the airfield. He feels that communication has been sent to the Planning Department without being discussed at Parish Council meetings and/or minuted.
- The Chair responded that this was not the case and that the letter that had been received, was as a result of a site visit by the Planning Team at WODC, eighteen months previously – the Parish Council had, in fact, contacted the Planning Team regarding other issues at the Airfield and this site visit had demonstrated a number of breaches. It had taken eighteen months to investigate and report.
- Cllr. Gilbert expressed concern that issues regarding the Airfield was part of the parish questionnaire/survey and that should members of the Parish Council visit the site, the landowners' permission would be required beforehand.

- Cllr. Lee reminded members that working at the airfield is Cllr. Gilbert's living and understood why he feels he's been unfairly treated and that issues concerning the airfield need to be addressed sensitively. Cllr. Gilbert is a member of the Parish Council who works at the airfield.
- Cllr. Shaw explained that the Parish Council has not initiated any action or enforcement but that it had sought clarification from the Planning Team only.
- Cllr. Knott iterated that any member who does not agree with the minutes must raise this at the meeting when they are being signed.
- **ENCON** – A resident attended the meeting and raised ongoing concerns regarding low flying aircraft at Church Enstone. Although this is legal, it is a considerable nuisance to residents. It would be useful to have a communication channel with Enstone Airfield but this is difficult as the Airfield is owned by several private companies. It was noted by the meeting that the Chair of Encon has contacted local Parish Councils asking them to set up a petition for residents to sign, regarding low flying aeroplanes. After discussion, it was agreed that the clerk will respond to Encon that while recognising that some residents are concerned about aircraft activity, in order to maintain impartiality, it is not appropriate for the Parish Council to undertake a petition. Based on evidence collated by Encon, if the Parish Council then needs to get involved, it will do. The clerk will suggest that Encon puts an article into the Ensign magazine.
- **Gagingwell, Speed Indicator Devices** – Cllr. Shaw explained that OCC will install the posts shortly and the clerk will now order the two SIDs – Noted. Cllr. Shaw was thanked for all his hard work regarding this.
- **OALC – September's update** – This had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. Noted.
- **Remembrance Sunday 2020 – Robert Jenrick (England MPs)** - MP Robert Jenrick has contacted all Parish and Town Councils regarding the arrangements for this year's Remembrance Day Services. Noted.
- **Parish Questionnaire** – Cllr. Glendinning and Mrs. Rachel Hunt were thanked for all their hard work concerning the parish questionnaire. After discussion, the contents of the questionnaire were finalised and will be published on www.enstoneparish.org, and also made into a booklet for the Ensign magazine (at the Parish Council's expense). The deadline for responses will be 30th November. The questionnaire will not include questions relating to Enstone Airfield.

102. **Planning Applications:-**

- **Enstone Airfield, Enforcement Reference: 20/00081/PENF** – Alleged unauthorized hangars; alleged breach of operating hours of the grass airstrip within the airfield - noted
- **Orchard House, 2 The Square, Church Enstone, 20/02362/HHD** – Erection of two storey and first floor extensions to detached garage to create office above. *No objection*
- **Church Enstone Hall, Little Tew Road, Church Enstone, 20/02364/FUL** – Erection of four bay garage and change of use of land to extend domestic curtilage, together with associated landscaping works to include new dry stone retaining wall and steps. *No objection*

Decisions Received:-

- **Manor Farm, Chapel Lane, Enstone, 20/01502/FUL** – Formation of new vehicular field access onto Cleveley Road – *Approved*

103. **Finance:-**

a. *To agree the following accounts for payment - Santander Account (normal parish account):-*

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|------------------------------|---------|
| ● Mrs Beth Sinclair | £595.16 |
| ● NEST Pension Scheme (er) | £18.14 |
| ● NEST Pension Scheme (ee) | £24.19 |
| ● Ubico, emptying dog bins | £50.08 |
| ● Zoom | £14.39 |
| ● Canopy, Landscape Services | £216.00 |
| ● Thomas Fox (7 of 7) | £876.00 |
| ● WODC, loan | £573.61 |

- Antech Computers £90.00
- Cllr. Richard Parker, expenses to repair bench £106.07

RECEIVED:-

- WODC, 2nd Precept £16,528.00

b. **Statement of Affairs to 30.9.2020**

The clerk had circulated the statement of affairs and accounts to all members prior to the meeting. These were checked and the Council approved these.

c. **Draft Precept for 2021/2022**

The clerk had prepared the draft precept and circulated this to all members. This will be discussed at the Finance Meeting on Monday 16th November.

104. **Dates of Next Meetings:-**

- Finance Meeting – Monday 16th November 7.15 pm
- Thursday 26th November – 7.15 pm
- Thursday 28th January – 7.15 pm

There being no further business the Zoom meeting ended at 8.50 pm