

## BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and on September 27th 2022 at 7.30pm In the Church Room

**Present:** Cllrs S. Robson (Chair), H. Baines, J.Davys, C.Collett, B.Nielson, S.Jackson, J.Debney, A. Simpson, P.Sudbury

**In attendance:** K. Fanstone (Clerk)

1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Apologies received from Cllr Gilgrass, Cllr Harding
2	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2022 were approved and were signed by Cllr Robson
3	<b>Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest</b> Cllr Debney declared an interest in the Village Hall Carpark. Cllr Collett declared an interest in the Didcot Road Land and redevelopment enquiry.
4	<b>Public Participation</b> <b>Little Martins Management Group.</b> 3 members of the Little Martins management group attended the meeting to follow up on the points raised at the meeting in June, they expressed their disappointment that they have had no updates. It was agreed in June that the Parish Council would write to all the residents that were affected by the weed killing chemical incident in June, as yet no letters have been received. It was agreed that a water bowser would be provided to water the grass and new trees through the dry weather in the summer but it was never delivered. To date the grounds maintenance company still have not attended the open spaces to cut and maintain the areas. There are still trees on Watermans Lane that need attention and a revised draft of the new maintenance plan has not been provided for the group to work from. The Parish Council apologised for the ongoing problems with the open spaces in Little Martins, there have been issues with the grounds maintenance company committing to attending and adding Little Martins to the contract for the village. This was not helped by Cllr Debney and the Clerk being away at different times over the summer. It was agreed that Cllr Debney will look at the trees on Watermans Lane with the tree surgeon, and in the meantime, Cllr Davys will cut down the dead branches up to a safe height. Katie confirmed the money had now been received from Kingerlee to buy the new trees. The Parish Council apologised for not sending a letter to all the residents sooner and agreed this will be done. Cllr Debney will also work on the revised maintenance plan and be in contact with the management group about implementation.  <b>Jason Debney</b> As a Brightwell resident Jason took part in the public participation to present to the Parish council his disappointment and frustrations with the village hall car park work. Areas on the land have been cleared to a new plan that has not been discussed with the Parish Council or local residents. Jason requested that no more trees be removed on the land and a plan agreed between the council and residents before any

	<p>more work continues, he also would like to see the tree stumps retained on the wildlife are and not removed from the site, and for the Council to consider a full fence along the boundary of the carpark and the gardens on the South side. He also reminded the Council of its dark skies policy and stressed no lighting should be on the car park area. The Council thanks Jason for his comments and agreed to discuss his points later in the meeting as part of the car park agenda item.</p> <p>Jason returned to the table to join the other Councillors</p>						
5	<p><b>District Councillor Report</b></p> <p>Cllr Sudbury is having ongoing conversations regarding the pedestrian crossing and there is now support to have an additional crossing by the entrance to the new housing estate, this will also help residents from Brightwell walking to Wallingford.</p> <p>The new County Council lighting policy has been to informal cabinet and is going for formal adoption. It is hoped the lights in the bypass will be reduced by 50%.</p> <p>If there are any suitable venues in the parish, there is funding available to make these available for members of the community to stay warm.</p> <p>The climate group are working hard to improve policies and there will hopefully be confirmation of these by Christmas.</p> <p><b>County Councillor Report</b></p> <p>Cllr Simpson reported the new five-year land supply has now been agreed but will face its first test shortly with the appeal in Cholsey.</p> <p>Cllr Simpson requested any photos of new trees planted for the Queens canopy to be sent on to her.</p> <p>Cllr Collett asked for the planning committee’s thanks to be passed on to the planning team, over the last few months they have been really helpful with planning in the village, and it was encouraging to have such positive communications with the SODC planning team.</p> <p><b>Clerks Report –</b></p> <p>The external audit report had been received and was noted by the Council, it has been published on the website and notice board.</p> <p>The Council agreed to move the full council meetings back to the church room from next month.</p> <p>Cllr Gilgrass has previously circulated the CIL spending policy for external projects, Cllr Robson proposed adopting, Cllr Baines seconded and all voted to approve the policy. The Council thanked Cllr Gilgrass on his hard work to produce the policy.</p> <p><b>Planning Report</b></p> <p>Applecroft – We are still waiting for an update on the application and when it will go to committee. How and who speaks will need to be carefully managed.</p> <p>The Orchard on High Road – Cllr Debney continues to strongly object to the position on the footpath, but to keep the project moving forward understands the council decision to accept the Highways positioning.</p> <table><tr><th>Ref</th><th>Description</th><th>Decision</th></tr><tr><td>P22/S52615/HH</td><td>Sinodun Hill House</td><td>No Objection</td></tr></table>	Ref	Description	Decision	P22/S52615/HH	Sinodun Hill House	No Objection
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P22/S52615/HH	Sinodun Hill House	No Objection					

	P22/S2655/HH	Sunnyside	No Objection but condition for screening hedge along lane	
	P22/S2899/HH	Church View	No Objections	
	P22/S3086/HH	The Old Orchard	Objection	
	P22/S2370/FUL	Middle farm amendments	Condition in line with conservation officer	
	P22/S2116/FUL	Strathdene	Concerns as velux can still open, noise can still travel between the two properties.	
	P22/S3086/HH	The Old Orchard - Amendments	Amendments approved	
<b>Agree Payments for approval</b>				
Payee and reason				£ total
K. Fanstone – Clerk's Salary September				£647.40
Bioregional				£9990.00
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John Lewis Condolence Book				£22.00
Scofell				£900.56
Neil Homer – Acorn House				£960.00
Neil Homer - Applecroft				£960.00
Stewart Village Hall hire – March 22				£33.00
Stewart Village Hall hire – Parish Office annual room hire				£720.00
Stewart Village Hall Hire – May 22				£44.00
Information commissioner's Office annual fee – Direct Debit £40.00				
Cllr Collect did not take part in the Old Didcot Road land discission. There has been an enquiry from a developer regarding land on the Old Didcot Road, it is unclear how much of the land they are interested in and they haven't been clear on the type of hosing they are looking at building. The Clerk is to contact them regarding attending the November meeting to present their proposals.				
6	<b>Matters for Discussion/Decision</b>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) There was a discussion regarding adopting the new recommended code of Conduct from SODC, Cllr Neilson felt that the old code of Conduct was still valid and represented the Parish Council as an independent council, other Councillors were keen to adopt the new policy. Cllr Robson proposed adopting the new Code, Cllr Collett seconded, 6 Councillors voted yes and one abstained. New policy to be adopted and put on the website with the BCSPC logo.</li> <li>b) The new Equality and Diversity policy had been previously circulated, Cllr Baines proposed adopting it and Cllr Jackson seconded, all voted to adopt. Policy to be added to the website.</li> <li>c) Cllr Neilson to look into the land registry for identified pieces of land in the village.</li> <li>d) The quote from Cottrell's had been circulated to work on the trees in Kings Meadow, all were in agreement that the work needed to done. Katie to get back to the Cottrell's to arrange work.</li> </ul>			

	<p>e) The community speed group have met and had their first meeting, they are a really enthusiastic group and are going to work together to compile some ideas and speed initiatives for the village and will come back to the council. The Parish Council are really grateful to the group of villagers taking on this project.</p> <p>f) The footpath changes on the farmland around the village were acknowledged, there are no new changes being implemented it is just to confirm and establish the existing footpaths through the land.</p> <p>g) The Car Park agenda item was moved to the end of the meeting so Cllr Debney could stay for matters to report</p>
8	<p><b>Matters for report and inclusion on Octobers Agenda</b></p> <p>Cllr Baines reported the Fire Brigade had been in touch about the overgrown hedges and verges on Bell land and Church Lane, Cllr Debney confirmed these are usually maintained by the County council but Giles has agreed to cut them back as part of the work he is doing in the village.</p> <p>The final presentation from Bioregional will be in the church on 10<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm, the Parish Council are keen for as many people from the village to attend.</p> <p>Cllr Debney plans to present the new Neighbourhood plan to the Council in October; the Subcommittee will be meeting in the next week to discuss and confirm the changes.</p> <p>Cllr Collett had attended the Gigaclear briefing and explained that a community asset was eligible for the high-speed connection free of charge for a period of time, all agreed that the shop would benefit greatly from this.</p> <p><b>Agenda Item g</b></p> <p>Cllr Debney left the Council meeting.</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed the points that Jason had raised, the summer break and delay in September's meeting has led to a breakdown in communication, this should be resolved now with regular monthly meetings. There has been some confusion regarding the size of the carpark and the location of the wildlife strip due to 2 different plans being circulated. It was decided that no decisions about trees could be made until a clear boundary line with the wildlife strip was confirmed, Cllr Collett to mark out the area with Steve at the weekend as per the original plans. The Council will get quotes for the two different fencing options and then a decision can be had regarding the neighbour's boundary. It was agreed that the Council will not be putting extra lights on the carpark area. The carpark plans will need to be discussed at the next meeting and the next steps confirmed by full council.</p>

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.30pm. There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10.05pm