

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Virtual Zoom meeting Wednesday 3rd June 2020 at 7.30pm.

PC MEMBERS

Chairman	Mr. R. Peirce
Vice Chair	Mr. M. Smith
	Miss H. Booker
	Mr. A. Crockett
	Mr. G. Botting
	Mr. S. Lawson
	Mr D. Booth

Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham
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1. To receive apologies for absence

Mrs. J. Farmer, Mr. R. Fletcher.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to give an update on her conversation with Cllr. Farmer, the Clerk advised that due to her pregnancy Cllr. Farmer stated she is taking some time away from the Parish Council until the baby is born and she is in a routine. Cllr. Farmer expressed that she would return before the 6 month period is met. The Council resolved to send flowers when her baby arrives.

2. To Received Declarations of Interest.

None.

3. Public Forum: Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council, the public may also speak about specific items of business as they arise, with the permission of the Chairman.

None had requested the link to join the meeting.

4. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Annual General Virtual Meeting held on 20th May 2020.

Approved as a true record.

5. Matters arising from those Minutes not on the agenda elsewhere.

No other matters.

6. Planning Applications to discuss and agree Councils response.

No new applications for consideration.

6.1 Applications Granted by SODC

P20/S1033/HH Application proposal, including any amendments Erection of a log shed (retrospective). Site Location 73 Whitehouse Road Woodcote RG8 0SA.

6.2 Applications Refused by SODC

None.

6.3 Other Planning Matters

The Vice chairman referred to the email forwarded from the Clerk sent from SODC regarding their Local Plan.

The Secretary of State has appointed Planning Inspector Jonathan Bore MRTPI to conduct an Examination into the soundness and legal compliance of the Plan. There is a timetable and a virtual meeting will be held. The PC had already registered to speak, the Vice Chairman proposed that he together with the Chairman and Cllr. Botting should meet separately to discuss the comments and input for the PC to report back at the next PC meeting. The Timetable starts around Mid July so the PC will be prepared and ready with their inputs.

Cllr. Botting proposed that as the Woodcote NP2 was being prepared against the SODC Core Strategy that this may now need to change to align our NP2 to the emerging SODC Local Plan as they are under pressure to produce this by end of 2020. The Pc agreed that NP2 should be realigned to the emerging SODC Local Plan.

7. Rescind Delegated Powers

The PC had resolved to delegate powers just after the Government Lock down due to Covid-19. These powers were to the Chairman, Clerk and Vice Chairman. The government have now issued regulations to allow Parish Councils to hold Virtual meetings and the PC have a Virtual meeting procedure. It was resolved to rescind the Delegated powers effective from this meeting.

8. Risk Management – Review Statement document.

The Clerk had circulated the current document. Cllr. Booth had suggested some changes which had subsequently been incorporated prior to the meeting and the document circulated.

The numbering of the tables in the document can create confusion it was agreed to change the number to letters.

Following Travellers being evicted from the cricket area in Goring the PC resolved that vulnerable areas in Woodcote should be covered in the Risk Statement to ensure that all necessary precautions are taken to mitigate risk of these areas. Clerk and Cllr Booker to check the access points to the Village Green, Folly Field, Woodland owned by PC at Long Toll. An inspection to be carried out and the Clerk to obtain any quotations for the necessary work.

The Vice Chairman pointed out that currently there is not a Councillor representing the PC on the YC Committee. The Chairman asked councillors to consider this and will raise at the next meeting. With the additions suggested and added the PC resolved to agree the Risk Statement document.

9. Finance – Payments Approved

Payments June 3rd 2020

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Detail
26/05/2020	Chiltern Society	888	£30.00	Annual membership
01/06/2020	British Telecom	DD	£101.49	Monthly Line & BB
02/06/2020	Oxit Ltd	DD	£12.00	Monthly cloud backup
			£143.49	

9.1 Quotations/Grants

Grant received from OCC for the grass cutting £1198.73.

10. Reports from Other Village Groups – to receive reports from working groups.

The groups are not physically meeting due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

Village Hall MC – Applied for the Business grant as suggested by District Cllr. Hillier and have received the grant for £10,000.00 This will be used to offset loss of income from hiring the VH which is closed due to the government guidelines during the pandemic.
The Pre School have been allowed to restart and commenced 1st June 2020 in the VH.

Village Green – not met again but have resolved to fully inspect the Play Area prior to any reopening to ensure all equipment is working and safe. The area needs to be fully strimmed back and the weeds sprayed and removed. Clerk to contact the grass maintenance contractor re this work.
Work on the extended paving area to the front of the youth shelter has started.
Cllr. Booth had submitted a project for the use of the remainder of the Section 106 funds under Outdoor Sport for the Olga Mowforth house development. The project is to extend the basketball court area, add a new goal/basket hoop to the other end and use artificial grass around the goal area. The previous project that had gained planning (now expired) as it was tarmac will not be constructed. The balance of funding will be from Co-operative Stores Grant.
The PC resolved to accept this project and the Clerk to send in the Sec 106 application.

NPAG – covered under 6.3 Other planning matters.

Community Project – Cllr. Booker advised that it is now much quieter and all people who have been helped have been contacted.

11. Other Matters for Chairman to consider any matters arising after agenda published.

The Clerk raised the issue of Allotment Plot 36b discussed at the last PC meeting. A new tenant has looked at the plot but the area left to cultivate around the fruit canes/bushes and trees is approximately a 2ft strip which makes this not viable for any new tenant to take over the plot even FOC.
The Plot is not cultivated and has reverted back to nature and has many weeds and grasses.
The Trustees of the Allotments resolved that the existing tenant be advised that they need to clear the plot and bring its condition back to a useable plot, given a timescale of a month. If the tenant cannot carry out this work then 1 months' notice will be given and the Trustees will get the plot cleared.

Cllr Booker referred to her email regarding the security of the Village Green following the incident of Travellers in Goring. The main gates to the green need attention as the gate hangers are incorrect and the gates can be lifted off. The Clerk and Cllr Booker to work together on this and Clerk to obtain quotes for the work to be carried out and liaise with the VGC Chairman.

12. Correspondence.

A phone call followed by an email received from a resident in Oxford Rd regarding the Traffic situation in Woodcote. He had been corresponding with the Vice Chairman who had answered many of his queries. He wished to obtain information about the Traffic Group and offered his services for this group.

The Chairman suggested that the Vice Chairman email the members of the Traffic Group and advise that the group is not disbanded and at some date in the future will reconvene and also invited this resident to join as a member.

13. To note date of the next Virtual Parish Council meeting: Wednesday 17th June 2020.
Meeting closed at 20.38

Signed.....Date.....