



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ONLINE VIA ZOOM ON
16th MARCH 2021 COMMENCING AT 7.30PM**

Present: Cllrs A McFarlane (Chair), J Coffey, R Coleman, W MacPhee,
J Raw, C Seabrook (from Item 252/20) and P Verdon.

In attendance: Andrea Mann (Parish Clerk) and Sara Jones (Deputy Clerk).

Also present: 1 member of the public.

248/20 To receive and accept apologies for absence
None.

249/20 To receive declarations of interests and requests for dispensation relating to any item on the agenda
None.

250/20 Approval of minutes
RESOLVED
The minutes of the previous extraordinary full Council meeting held on 24th February were agreed as a true record of the meeting, to be signed by the Chair at a later date.
(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr Verdon, 6 in favour).

251//20 Chair's announcements
None.

252/20 Public Session
Mr Champion referred to his email, previously sent to the Council, asking OPC to consider installing additional parking spaces in Recreation Road, on a grass verge at the lower end of the field. Mr Champion explained the benefits of his proposal and suggested this would leave a positive legacy from the current Council.

The Chair suggested forwarding this proposal to the Odiham Village Centre Area Action Plan Steering Group for consideration as part of the Action Plan.

253/20 Previous Committee Minutes
RESOLVED
The following minutes of committee meetings were noted and accepted:

- Planning & Development Committee held on 17th February 2021.
- Amenity Area Committee meeting held on 17th November 2020.
- Traffic & Transport Committee held on 8th December 2020.
- Staffing Committee meeting held on 7th October 2020.



254/20

Matters Arising from the Minutes not elsewhere on the agenda and full Council Action Points List

The action list presented with the agenda was noted.

Cllr Verdon enquired about the status of the outstanding King Street toilet risk assessment and suggested a solution would be to install a key safe on a nearby building then issue the code to the emergency services.

The Chair reminded Councillors who were representatives on outside bodies to report back to full Council, even if there had been no activity.

255/20

Casual Vacancy and Co-option Notice

The Casual Vacancy notice for the RAF Station Ward was noted, as presented with the agenda, and Councillors further

RESOLVED

To call a full Council EGM on 30th March at 7pm to consider applications received for co-option.

(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr Verdon, 6 in favour, 1 abstention).

256/20

Spooktacula

RESOLVED

To formally request Hook & Odiham Lions to start planning for the 2021 event on OPC's behalf on Saturday 30th October at the Beacon Field and utilising the £1,000 grant already approved.

(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr Verdon, all in favour).

257/20

Defibrillator – request from Leapfrogs

Members considered a request from Leapfrogs pre-school asking OPC to install a defibrillator at the Recreation Ground.

RESOLVED

To purchase a defibrillator for the Recreation Ground, affixed to the side of the Leapfrogs building and delegate the arrangements including budget allocation to the Clerk.

(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr Verdon, all in favour).

258/20

Consultation on the Farnham Infrastructure Programme

<https://farnhaminfrastructure.commonplace.is/overview>

RESOLVED

In response to a request to respond to the above consultation, the following response was agreed, as presented with the agenda report including one revision proposed by Cllr MacPhee.



Possible North Farnham Interventions

OPC recognises and supports traffic management measures in the town centre and immediate vicinity which will reduce congestion and improve air quality for people living and working in the town centre.

The A31 is an important strategic route which connects with the A3 at Farnham, providing a direct route to London. Odiham and North Warnborough has direct access to M3 and OPC considers most residents will select this route when travelling to areas north of Farnham such as Farnborough, Camberley and further afield as far as London. OPC notes the A3016 Upper Hale Rd is a popular route for commuters from the parish and surrounding villages travelling to Guildford and destinations along the A3.

Whilst OPC recognises a western bypass as an ambitious, longer term goal which will depend on funding, OPC requests that any assessment of the scheme also considers the potential impact on surrounding areas both on completion and during construction. Odiham and North Warnborough sits between the M3 and A31 and B3349 runs through the parish which is a busy route between the M3 and Alton (B3349) then from Alton to Farnham (on A31) or Alton to Bordon (A325). Any disruption to traffic flow on these main roads may result in increased traffic through smaller, surrounding rural settlements on roads unsuitable for heavy traffic posing a potential negative impact on residents living in these communities.

OPC supports a cross boundary approach to the assessment which seeks support and financial contribution from neighbouring authorities where new development will increase traffic movements.

Farnham-wide environmental improvements

OPC supports all proposals which will encourage people to leave their cars at home and promote a change in habits, moving towards a preference for public transport, walking and cycling. Everyone should be playing their part in slowing down climate change and these proposals to reduce traffic movement in and around Farnham will undoubtedly contribute towards environmental improvements in the area.

OPC is particularly interested in connectivity between Odiham and Farnham and keen to be involved in travel link plans which will connect the two areas, eg the creation of a travel app, car clubs and bus service reviews.

The provision of a park and ride/stride on A287 will serve the Odiham and North Warnborough residents who work, shop and socialise in Farnham.

(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr Raw, all in favour).



259/20

Community Committee Chair

RESOLVED

To appoint Cllr McFarlane as Community Committee Chair.

(Proposed by Cllr Verdon, seconded by Cllr Coffey, 6 in favour, 1 abstention).

Financial Matters

260/20

March 2021 Payments

RESOLVED

The payments listing emailed to Councillors before the meeting was approved with two additional payments to The Langtons and Woodside Pest Control Services.

(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr Raw, all in favour).

Cllrs McFarlane and Verdon were appointed to complete the payment process.

261/20

Asset Register

RESOLVED

The updated Asset Register included with the agenda was approved and would be included in the 2020/21 financial year end process. It was noted that a re-valuation of Council properties had been requested and revised values would be applied to the Asset Register if available before the financial year end.

(Proposed by Cllr Seabrook, seconded by Cllr Raw, all in favour).

262/20

Council Contracts and Subscriptions

RESOLVED

The list of Council contracts and subscriptions was revised to include The Bridewell lease then approved.

(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr MacPhee, all in favour).

Councillor Reports

263/20

Meeting reports from Councillors

Cllr Verdon updated Members on the progress of the Conservation Area Character Appraisal update. Cllr Verdon and H Fleming had reviewed the draft Appraisal and made a number of tracked changes. The next step was to research community consultation methods and what was possible during Covid.

Cllr Coleman reported she had been regularly attending the North Warnborough Village Hall meetings which had taken place virtually during lockdown. Cllr Coleman was concerned that the Committee's constitution implied the OPC representative member was classified as a trustee. The Clerk agreed to take advice on this. Cllr Coffey asked whether the same rule also applied to the Leapfrogs pre-school representative?

264/20

Reports from other Councillors

None.



265/20

Date of the next meeting:

An extraordinary meeting would take place on Tuesday 30th March at 7pm and the next scheduled meeting was noted as 20th April at 8pm, following the Finance Committee at 7.30pm.

Confidential Matters

266/20

To exclude the public and press to consider confidential matters

ALL Members unanimously AGREED to pass a resolution to exclude the public and press to consider confidential contractual matters.

(Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960).

(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr MacPhee, all in favour).

Non-OPC members then left the meeting.

267/20

The Bridewell Freehold

Councillors reviewed the papers included with the agenda updating on the progress of the research and correspondence from HCC. Councillors commented that the research had highlighted a number of interesting and informative facts but concluded they did not give OPC enough to make a final decision. The following actions were noted:

- i) The curtilage remained a concern – OPC would follow this up with HCC Estates.
- ii) Community Consultation is necessary as the transfer was likely to have an impact on the precept and budget, at least during the first year.
- iii) OPC would need to consider the cost of commercial rent should HCC decide to dispose of the freehold elsewhere.

268/20

Book Exchange Tenancy at Will

Councillors reviewed the draft Tenancy at Will provided by HCC and discussed concerns that signing would imply OPC will take on The Bridewell freehold. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

To agree the draft Tenancy at Will to secure accommodation for the Book Exchange but on the basis this does not commit to OPC to concluding the transfer of The Bridewell freehold.

(Proposed by Cllr McFarlane, seconded by Cllr Verdon, all in favour).

268/20

Staff Related Matter

The Chair updated Councillors on the current position of an outstanding staff related matter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.47pm.

Signed.....

Date.....