

Northmoor Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 8 February 2023

Parish Council Members taking part

Dr G Shelton - Chairman
 Mrs C Berry
 Mrs V Ryan
 Mr N Reeves
 Dr M Sears

Mr M Ryan (Clerk)

Councillors and Public who joined the meeting. Mr A Grant and Mrs J Williams

Apologies. County Councillor Dan Levy and District Councillors Lysette Nicholls and Charlie Maynard

Declarations of Interest. There were no declarations of interest

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on the 11 January 2023 had been previously circulated to Parish Councillors. The Minutes were accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising. The Clerk reported that he had written to James Hammond, Tree Officer for OCC requesting a survey of the avenue of trees in Church Road. A follow up reply said they had not been surveyed and could it be put on FixMyStreet this has been done.

Mr Hammond is also responsible for the tree planting that will be taking place. The tree is a Maiden Hair Fern, and it will be planted in Church Road in the verge outside Cruck Barn. The choice of Tree and its position was decided by the tree officer.

Reports from Councillors.

County Councillor Dan Levy provided a written report. This included notice that the Budget had been set with great pressure from many services. It will be approved at the next meeting of the Council.

The potholes on our roads are a constant problem that are being fixed as fast as possible.

Date for the closure of Botley Road is still not known. This closure will have a huge effect for all forms of transport that currently access Oxford by this route.

Lastly January saw the completion of the first successful year for our community bus service, First and Last Mile. The service has been invaluable not least for the many pupils who attend Bartholomew School. There is always the need for volunteer drivers.

District Councillor Charlie Maynard also provided a written report that mainly referred to his work with other councillors meeting with Thames Water to lift Standlake STW up from being the worst performer for disposing of sewage in the whole of West Oxfordshire. Charlie is pursuing a "validation Check list" that would

require all developers to check with Thames Water on the capacity status of the relevant sewage treatment works before commencing the development. To seek for a condition that there is the capacity before planning approval is given.

Charlie also spoke of a study he commissioned last year on the hydropower potential of the weirs on the upper Thames, and that this work is being progressed by Standlake parish councillor David Jeffcoat.

Parish Councillor and Chairman Graham Shelton reported that there had been a good response to support the meeting next week, 16 February, on the topic of Mental Health in our Rural Community. To date Graham has secured speakers from Oxfordshire Health, Mind and WODC

Graham also discussed the difficulties of finding someone to fill the Clerk vacancy, but there were some positive leads to follow up.

Lastly Graham said we need to think about what events are being thought of for this year, with particular reference to the coronation of King Charles in May. A meeting to discuss this needs to be arranged.

Parish Councillor Maureen Sears reported that the Brook was again drying up. It was agreed that the problem was between Brook Farm and The Dun Cow. The Clerk to contact James Spicer of the EA.

Parish Councillor Val Ryan reported that those parishioners with allotments are to be contacted, prior to raising invoices.

Parish Councillor Neil Reeves reported that a grant of £200 will be paid to households that do not have a gas supply. Northmoor residents who rely on oil for heating will benefit from this payment.

Item 6. Finance.

The Council approved the following payments.

Castle Water: Water supply to the allotments	£142.35	
Northmoor Village Hall: Charges for meetings held in 2022		£177.0
Community First: Annual subscription	£55.00	
Playsafety Ltd: RoSPA inspection of Play Park apparatus	£302.40	

Item 7. Planning.

22/00045/Appeal. Mr & Mrs Grant, 15 Griffiths Close. Erection of two storey extension and erection of front porch. Mr Grant was present at the meeting and explained the need his family had to properly accommodate their growing family. Members of the Council expressed their support for this Application. *Clerk to write.*

Item 8. Correspondence and Any Other Business.

RoSPA Report on the Play Park. The report highlighted several pieces of apparatus that they considered were needing to be repaired / replaced without delay. These pieces have been taped off whilst decisions on whether they should be replaced are made

James Florey West Oxon Scout Annual Camp 14-16 July. This event was discussed.

WODC. Notice of the need for photo ID at the next local election in May. This requirement was noted. Perhaps a need to send out a message on Village Mail.

OCC Emergency Planning. A request for a copy of Northmoor's Emergency Plan. Councillor Val Ryan said she was needing to update some names and check the document before sending.

Dept of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. A letter relating to the coronation of King Charles. The contents were noted.

Any other business. There was no further business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm

Signed..... Date ...8 March 2023