

Northmoor Parish Council

**Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 8 June 2022**

Parish Council Members taking part

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

Mr M Ryan (Clerk)

Councillors and Public who joined the meeting. County Councillor Dan Levy, District Councillors Lysette Nicholls and Charlie Maynard, Mr B Sparrowhawk and Mr D Bint.

Apologies. None

Declarations of Interest. The Chairman, Graham Shelton, declared an interest in the Planning Application for two dwellings at Northmoor Park.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on the 11 May 2022 had been previously circulated to Parish Councillors. The Minutes were accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising not covered in the current agenda

Item 4. Reports from Councillors.

County Councillor Dan Levy's written report started with the news that Dan is now the Council's Cycling, Walking and Active Travel Champion.

Food poverty, particularly in these days of rising prices, has become a focal priority, looking to reduce food poverty and diet ill-health by strengthening food supply chains and improving institutional catering.

Another important focus is to work towards reducing carbon emissions ahead of the national targets.

Within Dan's remit of Active Travel is news that OCC has won another government bid of £10.4M and a large piece of this money will go towards improving Witney High Street.

Lastly Dan warned of the ever-increasing costs of funding adult social care that outstrips the monies allocated from Central Government.

District Councillor Lysette Nicholls reported on the Council's £150 Energy Rebate Discretionary scheme that had just gone live at WODC, and the need for those who felt they might be entitled to this payment to apply asap.

District Councillor Charlie Maynard reported that he had had two meetings with Mr Barry Sparrowhawk regarding the Brook that has currently dried up, and met with David Elvin at Brook Farm where a sluice funnels water both to the village and also to fields to the South of Standlake Road. It appeared that there did not appear to be a barrier from the sluice gate in water passing towards the village, but the watercourse was heavily silted up.

Charlie had also looked at the concerns expressed by Mr Sparrowhawk about the Windrush riverbank that is higher than the surrounding fields, and in a state of flooding could burst and direct the waters into Northmoor village.

Our District Councillor will continue to pursue some resolution to these problems.

Parish Councillor Maureen Sears spoke of the loss of Peter Winder from the computer club, in the near future, as Peter is moving from the Village.

Parish Councillor Neil Reeves spoke of his frustration at trying to get potholes repaired and the signpost by Moreton Lane repaired.

Parish Councillor Valerie Ryan expressed concern over the speed of traffic on Standlake Road, and called on the County Council to designate all single-track roads leading into small rural communities to be classified as 30 mph maximum speed.

This led to a general discussion on the problem, not only on Standlake Road but on Moreton Lane and Bablock Road.

Parish Councillor Carrie Berry on the proposed Village Survey and that positive meetings had taken place.

Carrie also expressed concern over the increase in road parking on Moreton Lane close to the Rose Revived. This road is very narrow and parking makes it difficult to pass the obstructing cars.

The Clerk, Michael Ryan, reported that Peter had explained how to place Minutes on the Website, and these were now up to date.

With regard to the purchase of a commemorative bench for the Queen's Jubilee Michael showed a bench from the Frost Group that cost £575. It was agreed to purchase this bench.

Lastly an update on the field in Moreton Lane the Lands and Planning Manager (South) – Hanson UK has indicated that Hanson may be prepared to gift the field to the Parish Council.

Item 5. Update on Issues for consideration and actions

The issue of the loss of water in the Brook was covered in the District Councillor's report.

Item 6 Open item for Parishioners. There were no items raised by parishioners.

Item 7. Finance

The Council approved applying for a Certificate of Exemption for the Annual Accounts. The Council approved the Accounting Statements 2021/22

The Council confirmed payments to: -
 Scott Gillam invoice for grass cutting and work on the Playing Field £755
 Oxford Association of Local Councils £150

Item 8. Planning.

22/01218/FUL. Mr C. Bull. Erection of two dwellings at Northmoor Park.

Dr Shelton vacated the Chair, following his declaration of interest and Val Ryan chaired this item. Mr Bull explained that he already had consent for five dwellings on this site and there had been consent for another dwelling adjacent to the five from another stakeholder that had expired.

Mr Bull wished to combine this lapsed consent into the plan for the other five dwellings and this was the reason for the new application.

There were a number of questions raised, in particular the S106 payment to Northmoor Village Hall of £25,000.

The S106 deed said that the money would be paid to WODC who would pass it to Northmoor Parish Council to distribute to the Village Hall for repairs of and improvements to the village hall.

The Clerk as responsible finance officer for the Parish Council said he would much prefer the monies paid direct to the Village Hall as the Hall was controlled by a charitable body that was independent of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council had no objection to the Application. *Clerk to contact WODC*

Item 9 Correspondence

OCC Transport. Meeting on 7&8 June to talk about transport plans.

OALC. Fraud in Parish Councils. This arose from a report of fraudulent stealing of monies in an Oxfordshire Parish Council. There was a general discussion on this issue, with the Council stating they were satisfied that there were checks in place to prevent this happening.

Item 9. Any Other Business.

There was no other business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed..... Date ...13 July 2022