



**Minutes of West Hagbourne Parish Council Meeting
held at Hagbourne Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 at 7:30pm.**

Present: Cllrs M. Butler, H. Lewis, M. Telford, O. Doogue and Mr. A. Wise (Clerk)

	MB opened the meeting at 19:30 hrs via Zoom Video Conferencing	
21/505 Apologies	T. Baldasera, Cllrs S. Clarke, J. Murphy, and A.M. Simpson	
21/506 Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	
21/507 Report on OCC and SODC activities	<u>SODC Report</u> – attachment 6 <u>OCC Report</u> – None received	
21/508 Hear representations from members of the public	None	
21/509 Approve the minutes of the meeting of 06.01.2021	It was proposed by MT, seconded MB, that the minutes be signed as a true record. Carried nem con.	
21/510 Consider matters, not take elsewhere, arising from the minutes of the meeting of 06.01.2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All action items had been completed 	
21/511 Receive reports from Parish Councillors and the Clerk	<p>Broadband Update – HL reported that as of the 3rd March, 17 Sign Up Forms had been received and passed onto BT Open Reach to enable an initial ballpark quote. 2 more residents had expressed interest and HL will undertake a door to door sign up campaign once Covid restrictions are lifted. Hopefully, enough residents will sign up to fund the initial costs of connecting fibre from the Cabinet in High Street to each household that has signed up, but he asked the council to consider using some of the CIL Funds to make up any shortfall if required. It was proposed by HL, seconded MB, that if required that the Parish Council would underwrite any shortfall in set up costs to enable Fibre Broadband to be installed to the households that sign up in time to receive their voucher. The voucher scheme is changing in April and details are not known at the moment but we, West Hagbourne, are in area 3 the most deprived rural areas and therefore should still be eligible. If residents have any questions or would just like to register their interest in receiving full fibre broadband to their property, please email westhagbournpc@gmail.com and the clerk will forward your email to Cllr Hugh Lewis.</p>	
21/512 Financial matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of payments. It was proposed MB, seconded MT, and carried nem con that the following invoices be paid: Parish Clerk's wages and PAYE. Current financial situation. AW presented the current financial situation – attachments 2 & 3. Clerk reported that he had completed the annual VAT Return and the funds had been received in the bank account. Clerk reported that he had appointed the same Internal Auditor (EAI) as 	

West Hagbourne Parish Council



	<p>in 2019/2020, to undertake the 2020/2021 Internal Audit, following the receipt of a quote that was for the same fee - £100:00 plus VAT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to contact Grass Cutting Company to obtain 2021 quote and start date for resumption of grass cutting. 	AW
21/513 Planning since the meeting of 06.01.2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AW presented the current planning application situation – attachment 4. 	
21/514 Highways and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
21/515 Risk assessment	MB signed off appropriate parts on the current Risk Assessment Checklist - attachment 5	
21/516 Chairman's Report for Newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair will send a report to Editor Sue Totterdell before the end of the month in time for the next edition of the Village Newsletter. 	
21/517 Respond to Communications as the Chairman may direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
21/518 Attend to any other business at the Chairman's discretion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
21/519 Date of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 5th May 2021 by Zoom Video Conference • Hugh to set up Zoom Meeting and inform Clerk of the logon details for distribution with Agenda 	HL
21/520 Meeting Closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MB declared the meeting closed at 20:10 hrs. 	

Signed:

Date:

Attachments:

1. Agenda
2. Financial Statements
3. Expenditure against Budget 2019-2020
4. Planning Applications
5. Risk Assessment
6. SODC Report



Title	District Councillor's Report
Author	Cllr Anne-Marie Simpson
Parish	West Hagbourne Parish Council
Date	3 March 2021

Councils looking at the possibility of a Joint Plan.

The two district councils in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse are looking into the possibility of developing a joint Local Plan for the area to significantly reduce costs and help the councils meet their ambitious targets for making the two districts carbon neutral.

Local Plans are used to help determine planning applications and set out how and where new housing developments should take place, along with identifying the infrastructure needed to support them. They also set out policies on what kind of housing is appropriate and acceptable; what the local requirements for affordable housing are; and can even set requirements on the energy-efficiency levels of new developments.

These are all key themes and aspirations that are addressed in both councils recently adopted new Corporate Plans, which set out their visions for their districts. Both councils have also committed to do everything they can to address the climate emergency. According to reports being seen by the councils' Scrutiny Committees next week, the significant consensus on these issues makes this a rare opportunity to create a joint Local Plan. Once they have been discussed at Scrutiny, the reports will then be considered by both the South and Vale Cabinets. Any proposals or recommendations on creating a joint Local Plan would then need to be agreed at full Council meetings. The reports set out the advantages of a joint plan. The Planning issues in the two districts are quite similar, like the need for carbon reduction, issues of affordable housing and the need for infrastructure, and so a joint plan would be able to address these issues in a coordinated way. There would also be significant cost-savings by producing one plan for both districts.

However, a joint plan would also provide new challenges that would need to be overcome, including the councils having separate democratic processes. It would also be important to find a way of retaining a local outlook for a plan working across a bigger area.

Vaccination outreach programme

From next week, some of our council officers will be helping a county-wide project to increase take up of the vaccine. They'll be calling at the addresses of people in the first four priority groups who have not responded to repeated invitations from their GP to book their COVID jab appointment. They are working on this with our partners at the county council, local GPs and the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

There are a range of reasons why people might not have responded to their invitation to arrange a vaccination - from difficulties in booking an appointment or arranging transport, to hesitancy or misunderstandings about the vaccine. Our officers, will be providing the people they speak to with help to book an appointment, arrange transport, or simply offering information and advice in a format



agreed with our NHS colleagues.

Our officers have already been visiting residents who are shielding or self-isolating throughout the pandemic and so are highly experienced. They will be dressed in clearly identifiable clothing, carry an ID, and follow all social distancing guidelines. The lists of residents and their contact details will be provided to us by GP practices, which the [Control of Patient Information Regulations \(COPI\) 2002](#) and GDPR legislation allows where it supports appropriate delivery by council officers. They'll send our officers a new list every two weeks and we'll feedback the kinds of responses we're getting from residents and the outcomes of visits. This information will help build up a detailed picture of why people may be not taking up the opportunity of vaccination.

We hope this outreach programme will be a valuable tool in ensuring that everyone who wants the vaccine can be supported to get it and that nobody gets left behind in the rollout of Oxfordshire's vaccination programme.

New Tree Champions for South Oxfordshire

Following a motion that was passed unanimously by Full Council, SODC has appointed two-member Tree Champions – Cllr Peter Dragonetti (Green) and Cllr Ian Snowdon (Conservative). The remit for this role is to:

- Promote the value of trees and woodlands in tackling the climate and ecological emergencies.
- Encourage people to re-connect with nature and appreciate the importance of trees and woodlands for both environmental and human health and wellbeing.
- Promote woodland protection/conservation and tree growing initiatives in the district.
- Work with officers and members to develop and promote a Tree Policy and Strategy
- Raise awareness of the statutory protections for trees and woodland within local communities, town and parish councils.
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Ecological Emergency Declared

At the same meeting, the Council declared an Ecological Emergency and has now renamed CEAC as the CEEAC – the *Climate and Ecological* Emergencies Advisory Committee. This aligns completely with the top priority Theme in our new Corporate Plan – “Protect and Restore our Natural World” and provides a strong mandate for officers to work on monitoring, measuring and reducing the ecological impact of our activities, particularly in Planning. A new Biodiversity Steering Group will be established, and we will work closely with others (e.g., The Earth Trust) to develop Nature Recovery Networks and a Nature Recovery Strategy for Oxfordshire. A further motion will ban the use of sky lanterns on Council-owned land and advise others against allowing these small hot air balloons which can cause significant damage to land and livestock.