

WEST HANNEY VIRTUAL PARISH MEETING

Held on Tuesday 3rd November 2020

At 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs David Corps (Chairman), Graham Garner, Eddie Wilkinson, Peter Packham, Trevor Brettell and Barbara Martin (Parish Clerk)

ATTENDEES: J Stagg

APOLOGIES: None

74/20 Declaration of Interest

None

75/20 Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and the Chairman agreed to sign the minutes of the last meeting as a true copy.

76/20 Matters Arising from Minutes of Meeting Held on 22nd September 2020

1. The Clerk is to pass Wayleave paperwork to the chairman.
2. The Waste bin attached to the bus shelter by the village green is emptied fortnightly by the VWHDC refuse truck and a new blue rubbish bag is placed in the bin for litter. One problem appears to be that household rubbish and dog poo bags are being deposited in this bin, and filling it to overflowing, before it is emptied. Perhaps a notice attached to the side of the bus shelter that the bin is attached to, stating that the bin is for litter only might help?
3. The clerk is to contact Guy Langton clerk for EHPC to ask if he knows who is responsible for the repair and maintenance of the bus shelter now that the bus service to West Hanney is no more.
4. With regards to the Unadopted Road to the south of the Buttercross, at the joint meeting of the parish councils, Parish Clerk for EHPC reported the he had seen a map showing that this road is due for repair by OCC Highways.
5. The Hanney Winter Festival – Walking Tour of Lights is still going ahead over weekend of 20-21 November. An invoice for the printing of the flyers circulated in the Hanney News has been passed to the clerk for payment. EHPC are going to fund the battery-operated tea lights being given to school age children.

77/20 Chairman's Announcements

Remembrance Sunday – Covid-19 restrictions prevent the proposed remembrance service being held at St James the Great. The Chairman will lay a wreath from WHPC at the War Memorial in St James the Great on Sunday 8th November by arrangement with the Church Wardens. Residents of the parish will be able to visit the memorial for their own personal acts of remembrance in accordance with the Covid-19 regulations for private prayer at a place of worship.

Following the road flooding caused by Storm Alex on the Hyde Road (Denchworth Road) on Monday 5th October 2020 leading to at least 3 cars becoming stranded, the Chairman arranged to meet Gordon Kelman (GL) OCC Highways & Drainage at Botney Bridge on Friday 9th October. GL subsequently surveyed the road level and found the road would flood to a depth of 30cm when

the level of the water in Childrey Brook indicates a level of 62.8m above sea level. This is sufficient to cause flood damage to vehicles using the flooded road if they ignore the flood warning signs. It may be possible for additional flood level indicator poles to be positioned for motorists to see. Botney Bridge itself is not an obstruction to the flow of water, rather the gradient of the drainage channel of the Childrey Brook as it runs to Gallows Bridge is very slight with the adjacent fields acting as a flood plan. The longer-term aspiration is for the level of the road to be raised by approximately 30cm between West Hanney and Botney Bridge. GL will seek estimates for the work involved and investigate how it could be funded. Meanwhile WHPC with the assistance of Cllrs and residents will continue to position road closed signs and road flooded signs to warn motorists when the road is severely flooded. The chairman also expressed thanks to Chris Surman , Graham Garner and Graham Young for their help during this period.

The Chairman continues to attend fortnightly Zoom meetings of the Hanney Covid-19 Community Response Team, and ad hoc Zoom meetings of the Hanney Festival of Lights Working Party.

78/20 Financial Report

The Financial Report was accepted as published.

79/20 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Garner reported that he and Cllr Wilkinson are going to meet with Tom from the CFO about changes to the neighbourhood plan, that are needed, to get the plan passed by VWHDC and the Inspector. Cllr Garner proposed that removing the map and defining the built up area in words would be more acceptable. The council accepted this proposal and agreed that the proposed Neighbourhood Plan could then be submitted to VWHDC.

80/20 Planning

P19/V2480/HH - Retrospective change of use of Garage – Cllr Packham stated that drawings have been approved. Work to the garage should be finished by 6th March 2021. The drawings show the placement of the Bird Box and Swallow Loft.

P16/V0637/FUL - The Orchard –Cllr Peter Packham is to have a conversation with the Planning Officer. Cllr David Corps reported that he had sent an e-mail and photos to the enforcement team. He had received a reply from Zoe Spring, which he had copied to Matt Barber, as this has now been going on for over a year. The chairman is contemplating contacting our MP, so he will draft a remit to the MP and also lease with Jim Stagg about getting something put in the Hanney News about this matter.

The council had no objections to the improvements planned for 6 Elderberry Close.

With regards to the Parking at St James the Great Church, Cllr Peter Packham told the meeting that he had submitted a standard form, to see if we needed to apply for planning permission for the work needed to make the parking better at a cost of approximately £5k. Cllr Packham is to get two more quotes for the work required.

81/20 Updating WHPC Website

Cllr Garner stated that all the work to make the website compliant had been completed. There is an Accessibility Statement on the Front Page of the website, which should help visitors to navigate the site. With regards to backdating changes to already published data, there is no requirement to go back beyond September 2018.

Cllr Garner stated that the people who did the work on the website were very good to work with, and that he had passed their invoice onto the clerk for payment, which was approved by the council.

82/20 Joint Meeting with EHPC

The chairman reported it was a constructive joint meeting held with some of the Councillors from EHPC on 20th October 2020, and thanked all of our Councillors and Parish Clerk for taking the time to attend. It is important that we engage with the various working parties to ensure the views of WHPC are represented and that we continue to work together for the benefit of both Parishes. WHPC need to clarify with Guy Langton (Parish Clerk EHPC) as to how the meetings of these working parties are going to be co-ordinated and discussions communicated to both Parish Councils. Cllr Trevor Brettell informed the meeting that he has full access to Zoom

With regards to Car Parking at the HWMH and overflow parking on the West Hanney Playing Field. The chairman had contacted Cllr Aram (EHPC and Chairman of HYFC) allowing overflow parking for Hanney Youth Football Club on the West Hanney Playing Field on Saturday 10th October when the flu clinic was held at HWMH. Any subsequent requests for the use of the West Hanney Playing Field by HYFC need to be submitted to WHPC.

83/20 West Hanney BOAT No 2 – Definitive Map Modification Order

The inspector is now coming to inspect the BOAT in the w/c 21st December 2020.

84/20 Church Farm Meadow

The chairman stated there had been no further progress to report on submitting the grant application to the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE) since the last meeting, although he and Cllr Packham had attended a virtual meeting of the Woodland and Meadow Committee on 15th October 2020.

WHPC will need to consider who is going to cut the Community Woodland rides when Des Thomas is no longer to do this.

When Des Thomas does finish, we need to acknowledge the enormous contribution Des has made to maintaining our Community Woodland over many years. The chairman meeting with Paul Sayers to view the location Paul plans to plant the trees bequeathed by Wenda Reynolds along the northern boundary of our Community Meadow. Paul has deer fencing to go around the container grown trees when they are planted. Winter working parties in the Community Woodland are being arranged by Paul Sayers and will comply with a Covid Secure Risk Assessment. The bird boxes need to be cleaned out and some of the rides may need to be repaired following the work by SSE to replace the electricity poles.

85/20 Renumeration of the Parish Clerk

Following discussions between the Chairman and all Councillors it was resolved to pay the Parish Clerk a rate of pay for a LC1, SCP 7 on the NALC pay scale of £10.44 per hour for 190 hours per annum (10 months of 15 hours and 2 months of 20 hours) equating to an annual salary of £1983.60. It was resolved that this rate of pay is to be backdated to the start of this Tax Year. Her employment is to be registered with HMRC for PAYE. The Chairman is to draw up an employment contract which will include provision for an annual appraisal.

86/20 Noise disturbance from low flying helicopters over and around West Hanney

A resident has contacted RAF Benson to complain about the noise and disturbance caused by the relentless low flying of helicopters in and around West Hanney. He received a reply to his complaint basically saying they could fly anywhere and anytime. The chairman suggested that we approach the Base Commander at RAF Benson, and enquire if there is guidance on how close to

built up areas they can fly at especially at night. We can also ask residents to keep a log of when they are disturbed, and Cllr Garner to get photos if possible. The chairman said he would look into this.

87/20 Projects to enhance the community and environment of West Hanney

Various projects were discussed the main ones as follows:

To improve the surface for car parking outside St James the Great – Cllr Packham to seek additional quotes for this work.

Road Sweeping and Gully Cleaning - Chairman to liaise with Guy Langton, Parish Clerk EHPC to see if we can do this jointly. WHPC resolved to pay up to £1000 for this work.

Repairs and maintenance of the village gates.

Replacement for the Carol Singers Bench overlooking the Buttercross. – To be discussed at next meeting

Rock Salt Container for wall by Old Vicarage – to be discussed further.

Fencing of the northern boundary of the Church Farm Meadow with stock proof fencing – dependent on the outcome of the grant application to TOE to establish a wildflower meadow.

88/20 Ongoing Items

Query with highways re Old Forge – New fence which blocks footpath. Get land registry map showing where boundary is.

Contact Chris Surman to see if he has any documents re the Village gates, Contact highways to see if they will replace 30mph sign on Winter Lane.

Councillors to consider going to bi-monthly meetings – to be discussed at next meeting.

89/20 Date of Next Meetings

Tuesday 15th December – 7.30pm Virtual Meeting – Hosted by the Chairman.

Signed Chairman

Date