

LITTLEMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting Tuesday 12th July, 2016

7pm at Edith Kempson House, Littlemore, OX4 4BQ

Clerk: Paul Isaacs, 11 Thame Road, Great Milton, Oxon., OX44 7HY

Attendees	Cllr. Lynda Comber (LC - Chair), Cllr. Dorian Hancock (DHan - Vice-Chair), Cllr. Sue Stewart (SS), Cllr. John Tanner (JT- City & County), Cllr. David Henwood (DHen-City), Cllr. Macer Wicker (MW), Cllr. Tina Hill (TH - Finance), Cllr. Richard Wilkins (RW), Cllr. Mashhuda Glencross (MG), Cllr. Vijaaratne Karunaratne (VK), Cllr. Matthew Hutton (MH), Cllr. Maggie Willis (MagW), Cllr. Sorcha Lanham (SL), Paul Isaacs (Clerk), Judith Godslan (JG - Littlemore Local),
Apologies	Cllr. Gill Sanders (GS - City & County), Cllr. Michael Evans (ME), Cllr. Kim Wicker (KW).

Ref	Item	Notes	Action
3003/16	Welcome	The Chair, Cllr. Lynda Comber, welcomed those in attendance.	LC
3004/16	Declarations of Interest	No declarations of interest were received.	For info.
3005/16	Minutes of last meeting	The minutes of the Littlemore Parish Council meeting held on June 14 th 2016 were confirmed, approved and signed by the Chair.	For info. Approved
3006/16	Matters Arising	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan presentation</u> - Cllr. Henwood reported that the presentation to introduce the benefits of adopting a Neighbourhood Plan for Littlemore has been deferred according to the availability of Fiona Mullins from Oxfordshire Community First.</p> <p><u>Community Fun Day</u> - Cllr. Hancock reported that the Fun Day at the Community Centre on Saturday 18/6/16 went extremely well with over 300 people attending. Dorian was congratulated for his excellent efforts in obtaining raffle / fundraising prizes. Thanks were also given to the groundmen, Ken Barrett and Richard Broadway, for cutting and strimming around the community centre in preparation for the Fun Day.</p> <p><u>Leaving Do for Anne and Fred Mogridge</u> - this took place at the Community Centre on Thursday June 30th and went very well. Thanks were given to Cllr. Stewart for her hard work in organising the event.</p> <p><u>Changes to Bus Services</u> - with OCC bus subsidies ending on 20/7/16 the Thames Travel T2 is to be discontinued. A new 3A service running between the Oxford Science Park, through Sandford, Littlemore and Iffley Road to Speedwell Street every half-hour will begin. The 16 service run by Stagecoach will continue to provide a service to Cowley Centre before it goes on to the city centre. Cllr. Tanner has sent a letter to Oxford Bus Co. and to Stagecoach to thank them for maintaining services to and from Littlemore in difficult financial circumstances.</p>	<p>DHen For info.</p> <p>DHan For info.</p> <p>For info.</p> <p>SS For info.</p> <p>JT</p>
3007/16	Open Forum	<p><u>Littlemore Broadband</u> - Cllr. Hutton questioned the status of fibre optic broadband provision for Littlemore. It is officially classified as 'super-fast' by the County Council and there is due to be a further upgrade following the completion of the initial county rollout programme (scheduled for completion by the end of 2017).</p> <p><u>Social Media</u> - following discussions regarding the Littlemore PC facebook page there was an agreement that there needs to be more control / editing / proof reading. Cllr. Glencross will give a presentation at the October meeting (she is in Brisbane getting married in September) and will then form a sub-committee with Cllr. Hutton and Cllr. Wilkins. Proposed by DHan, seconded by JT.</p>	<p>MH For info.</p> <p>For info.</p> <p>MG</p> <p>MH / RW Approved</p>
3008/16	Chair's Update	LC reported that she represented the PC at the launch of the new 3A bus service and was invited to be one of the passengers on the first bus to use the new route.	LC For info.

3009/16	Local Transport and Road Safety Issues	<p>Cllr. Lanham reported that a recent fatal accident had occurred along Sandy Lane West and that safety problems were an increasing issue along Oxford Road in spite (or maybe because of) the chicanes and poor visibility due to parked cars.</p> <p>Cllr. Tanner noted that the ongoing and onerous financial cuts being imposed on the County Council by Central Government mean that the only local road works being undertaken are emergency pothole repairs. Major traffic schemes such as the Cutteslowe and Wolvercote A40 improvements are funded nationally but these funds are not available for local schemes. Therefore if communities / parishes want to make local traffic changes and improvements they need to raise their own funds. Fortunately Littlemore PC is likely to benefit from CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money contributed by local housing development over the next few years so Cllrs. Tanner and Henwood suggested that we begin to make plans and a priority list as to how we will invest such funds as and when they become available. Any priority list will still require the consent of the City and County Councils so the following was agreed:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that Littlemore PC re-instate a transport sub-committee (based on the still active Oxford Road working group). The make-up of the sub-committee will be confirmed at the September meeting; 2. that the newly formed sub-committee draw up a list of local road safety priorities by the end of the year; 3. that the newly formed sub-committee then meet with the City Council (c/o David Toll) and with the County Council (c/o Mark Francis) to discuss such local traffic improvements and to find out what can be achieved. 	<p>SL For info.</p> <p>JT</p> <p>JT / DHen</p> <p>Action Plan</p>
3010/16	Amenities Update	<p>It was reported that the groundsmen are removing as much graffiti as possible from both recreation grounds but that it often reappears as quickly as it is removed.</p> <p>New dog bins have been purchased to replace the burnt out bins at the two entrances to the Herschel Crescent recreation ground.</p> <p>Repairs have been made to the large sit-on Toro grass mower and to the main hedge cutter. In addition, supplies of red diesel and white line marking have been purchased ready for the fast approaching new football season (Littlemore Boys FC).</p>	<p>For info.</p> <p>For info.</p> <p>For info.</p>
3011/16	Planning Update	<p>Cllr. Stewart, Chair of Planning, reported that a further ten applications had been processed since the June meeting (14/6/16). The list of applications is appended.</p>	<p>SS For info.</p>
3012/16	Financial Update	<p>It was reported that the 2015/16 accounts are still with the external auditors, BDO LLP, having been submitted by the independent internal auditor, Brian Coombes. The previous Clerk, Pauline Jones, has responsibility for concluding the 2015/16 accounts.</p> <p>The delay in getting the 2015/16 accounts signed off is frustrating but will hopefully be resolved shortly. In the meantime the RFO will meet with the financial officer, Cllr. Hill, on 1/8/16 to review the 2016/17 finances to date.</p>	<p>For info.</p>
3013/16	Oxford County Council Update	<p><u>Mobile Library Service Closure</u> - it was reported that the County mobile library service will end on 16/9/16 as part of the ongoing financial cuts. The County will try to compensate for this loss with an expansion of a home delivery service for the elderly.</p> <p><u>Adult and child social</u> - the costs of these services continue to increase and now accounts for nearly half the council's budget. Added pressure has been added by OCC's compulsory obligation to assist with unaccompanied young asylum seekers.</p> <p><u>Grass verge cutting</u> - financial pressures have forced OCC to reduce its overall verge mowing to just one general cut a year across the whole of the road network. The verges cutting programme started on 20/6/16. Visibility splays (to a distance 1m back from the kerb at junctions) have been dealt with earlier if reported or observed by inspectors.</p>	<p>For info.</p> <p>For info.</p> <p>For info.</p>

3014/16	Oxford City Council Update	<p>Cllr. Tanner reported that a study through the Oxford Transport Strategy (part of LTP 4) recommends that up to 5 new park and ride sites be built to serve Oxfordshire. The OTS also proposes a network of “Rapid Transit” public transport routes linking the proposed new sites at Eynsham, Cumnor, Lodge Hill, Sandford and Oxford Airport and the city’s “Eastern Arc” (broadly speaking the Headington / Cowley area). The sites would be phased in over the next 15 years.</p> <p>JT also reported a distressing rise in assaults on foreigners in the City following the EU referendum ‘Brexit’ vote. The City actually voted 70.3% to remain and the City Council is determined that Oxford continues to be a welcoming and cosmopolitan internationally renowned city.</p>	<p>JT For info.</p> <p>For info.</p>
3015/16	Littlemore Local	Judith Godsland reminded all present that the copy deadline for the August/September edition of the Littlemore Local is Friday July 15 th and that it will be available for distribution from Monday July 25 th .	JG For info.
3016/16	Clerk’s Update	<u>Unitary status</u> - the County, City and District Councils continue to put forward their proposals for local government reorganisation in the County. OCC held 10 workshops throughout June and argue that a County unitary authority would support economic growth, protect the most vulnerable and drive efficiency in public services.	For info.
3017/16	Correspondence	It was reported that the alley between Dudgeon Drive and Sandford Road has become overgrown and difficult for pedestrians to use. In the past this area has been kept clear by the City Council but they, too, are subject to financial cutbacks. The Clerk to arrange for the parish groundsmen to keep this area fit for pedestrian use.	For info.
3018/16	Any Other Business	Cllr. SS raised the issue of recognising the importance of historical archeological sites that are located in Littlemore. It will be important to pay due attention to such sites when future planning applications for residential and light industrial developments are received.	For info.
3019/16	Remaining 2016 Meetings	<p>Tuesday September 13th, 2016 Tuesday October 11th, 2016 Tuesday November 8th, 2016 Tuesday December 13th, 2016.</p> <p>All meetings, 7pm at Edith Kempson House. The Chair closed the meeting at 8.56pm.</p>	For info.