

BECKLEY AND STOWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
ON THURSDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 8.00 PM
via CONFERENCE CALL
MEETING NUMBER 4.02.2021

Present: Cllr David Scott (Chair)
Cllr Chris Cox (Vice Chair)
Cllr Michael Soanes
Cllr Ginette Camps-Walsh
Cllr Vivienne Rust
County Cllr Tim Bearder (from 8.00 pm to 8.10 pm)
Clerk – Sue Cox

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Sarah Gray
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None declared.
3. **Matters raised by Members of the Public:** No members of the public were present.
4. **Minutes from previous meeting:** held on Thursday 14th January 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters arising from previous minutes:** None.
6. **Planning Correspondence Received:**

Planning Applications: None

Planning Decisions:

P20/S4542/LDP

Lower Farm, Otmoor Lane, Beckley, OX3 9TD

Greenhouse.

**Certificate of Lawful Use or Development on 21st
January 2021**

P20/S4444/HH

Park Wall, Otmoor Lane, Beckley, OX3 9TB

Single storey rear extension. Alterations to external finishes. (Variation to approved scheme P20/S1035/HH)

Planning Permission on 19th January 2021

P20/S4530/LDP

The Grange, Woodperry Road, Beckley, Oxfordshire, OX3 9UY

Demolish existing redundant garage and erect a garden office and store

Certificate of Lawful Use or Development on 12th January 2021

7. **To receive a report from County Councillor Tim Bearder:** Cllr Scott had seen the Pothole “Dragon Sprayer” on the New Inn Road and the Dragon has also been down Otmoor Lane but it is very wet at the moment. Cllr Bearder asked for any photos of the works still needed to be sent to him. **Action: Cllr Scott.** Cllr Bearder had attended the LnBB meeting along with Cllr Camps-Walsh this evening. A new bus service, the H5 bus runs from Bicester to the JR Hospital via Islip and the Bayswater Road. The Beckley and Stanton St John Parish Transport Reps and others, have asked Stagecoach about a diversion but this can’t be done at the moment. The route has already been changed and the schedules will be looked at again. Meetings to talk about bus stops cannot take place at present. A big bus is being used for social distancing purposes but this bus may be too big to go into villages. There is water everywhere including on the land at Bayswater Brook. Flooding is a problem and needs to be considered as part of any planning permission. Cllr Soanes has seen sandy water running down the hill on Woodperry Road but unsure if it is a burst or natural water? Cllr Bearder left the meeting.
8. **To receive a report from District Councillor Sarah Gray:** No report received due to Cllr Gray’s absence.
9. **Correspondence Received:**

For Action/Response:

- Denise Watson – State of Otmoor Lane – *a one-off sweep of the road has been done but both entrances to the building sites are muddy again. The ditches have been cleaned out along Lower Farm boundary, and this has allowed the road surface to dry up a bit. Cllrs Scott and Soanes hope to contact the other landowners to discuss keeping their ditches in working order. Cllr Rust to speak to owners of Beckley Meadows on Monday evening. OCC website has some information about ditch responsibility. The ditches on the right-hand side going down Otmoor Lane need most attention. Cllr Cox to speak to the land agent about the ditches.*
- Brian Westbury – Woodperry Road - road surface depressions – *The PC would ask Mr Westbury to highlight outside which properties these problems have occurred and confirm this to the Parish Council and County Cllr Tim Bearder.*

For Info:

- OALC, NALC, SODC, OCC, Oxfordshire All In, Citizen's Advice, Healthwatch Oxfordshire, Police and Crime Commissioner, Rural Services Network
- SODC – Climate Action Update – respond with any projects
- Mike Hobbs / Clare Marsh – Beckley Litter Pick 2021 – *discussed, SODC does not currently recommend group Litter Picks, community encouraged to pick up litter when out for daily exercise. MH to write an article for the newsletter, thank you Mike*
- *Thanks to Vivienne and Stewart Rust for dealing with old nails found on field.*
- ONPA January Mailing - circulated
- OALC – Military Covenant – Zoom meeting on 3rd February – circulated
- Beckley Newsletter March edition – *to include information about the Census*

10. Payments and Accounts: cheques/DD to be considered for payment:

04.02.21	NEST Pension	£23.26	DD
28.01.21	Clerk – January wages and expenses	£857.85	chq
04.02.21	HMRC – PAYE – due 19 th February	£11.84	chq
04.02.21	David Scott – reimburse padlocks for playing field gates	£62.99	chq

11. To discuss the draft Website Accessibility Statement and Versantus:

- Versantus – next steps – *on hold*
- Draft Website Accessibility Statement prepared by the Clerk – circulated – *Cllr Rust researched South Oxfordshire PCs, not many have an accessibility statement on their websites. There is a “Demystifying Digital Accessibility with GDS” Webinar on 25th February to help Cllrs understand what is required for our website. Cllr Scott to distribute the Webinar recording link to the PC, and to Bethany Soanes who has kindly offered to share her experience. The PC agreed for a website Accessibility Statement to be published before the June 2021 deadline. We don't have audio on our website, and we believe we can deal with any historic documents as necessary with the help of AH. Proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Rust and agreed by the PC. **Action: Cllrs Scott and Rust.***

12. To receive any updates from Fix My Street:

- The Blossoms – uneven surface to the pavement – reported again 22.01.21. Response from Fix My Street: This report has been closed. However, the issue has been passed to the relevant team for consideration for future programmed works, in the meantime we will continue to monitor this area and if anything reaches our investigatory levels action will be taken.
- Woodperry Road – sunken road – report closed – intervention criteria not met
- Otmoor Lane – photographs have been submitted recently to FMS and some repairs have been done.

- Common Road Junction – pothole and inspection cover – due to be fixed within 24 hrs (27.1.21 email)

13. To receive an update from Cllr Ginette Camps-Walsh on:

- The Neighbourhood Development Plan for Beckley and Stowood – the NDP is finished and is with the Team to look over and then send on to PC when the comments have been received.
- Land North of Bayswater Brook - Enquiry by Design Feedback Workshops. There have been five meetings organised within three weeks, in total lasting 10 hours. There have been workshops about the roads, hydrology and the SSSI. A report submitted into the SODC Local Plan process questions the financial viability of the LnBB development. Oxfordshire County Council is very concerned about the transport infrastructure. It is very likely that some alleviation for the ring road and Headington roundabout will be required eg, a Link Road but these schemes are very expensive and the developers would need to pay for it and do not want to do so. The developers seem unbothered about traffic and other problems such as building close to the SSSI. There may be cycleways? Cllr Camps-Walsh is confident the group can stop what the developers propose to build, and make sure the infrastructure is correct. A legal challenge has been lodged in the High Court via Bioabundance, chaired by Cllr Sue Roberts, which has raised £10,000 and is now aiming for £25,000 to stop the Local Plan. The Chairman asked where do Bioabundance want the houses built if not at LnBB? ie, the infrastructure is already on the edge of the city and better supports new housing? Cllr Camps-Walsh responded that the housing numbers have been greatly inflated and are at least 5-8,000 above the need for South Oxfordshire, including their portion of alleged 'unmet housing need for Oxford. Additional sites were included as there was concern that the only non-Green Belt Chalgrove may not be found sound, but it was. In fact, none of the sites around the edge of Oxford in the Green Belt is needed. LnBB will adversely affect our Parish, the 20% of our parishioners at Wick Farm and Lower Farm and all local roads, which are already over capacity at peak times (in non-COVID times). The Chairman asked if we build on all the existing business space instead, where does the business expansion go if we want to expand Oxford? The response from Cllr Camps-Walsh was that a number of business/employment sites in Oxford zoned for business have been left empty for many years e.g., the Royal Mail site at Cowley next to a housing estate and housing can be added above business premises e.g., in the Botley Road. Cllr Camps-Walsh gave evidence on this at the Oxford City Local Plan Examination in Public. The Elsfeld Road and Bayswater Road are very busy in rush hour and additional traffic of at least 1,100 cars (one per household as at Barton and other neighbouring communities) will grid lock local roads. There will be a

Masterplan to comment on, in late spring, which will incorporate the new modelling for the 'low car policy', which is being overseen by OCC.

- SODC Local Plan – nothing to add.

14. To receive and discuss:

- Visual Playground Inspection Report from Cllr Scott – *the playground is not being used very much but everything looks neat and tidy.*
- Playground Facilities – work due to start on 12th February – Access – *car park gate code to be confirmed to the Clerk and Cllr Rust.*
- Table Tennis tables – SODC hope to submit an application at the end of January for a grant funded permanent table for Beckley – *Clerk to circulate an email received today to the Cllrs about the Terms and Conditions.*
- Quote for securing table tennis table to ground – *postpone to next meeting*
- Goal Post foundation sockets and security fence posts – update on progress – *waiting for weather to improve before work can go ahead.*
- Tennis Court – *the court is not locked, but play is not permitted at the moment. A dog had been left unattended in the court and the gate closed. Dogs are not permitted on the tennis court at any time. The surface of the court is free of weeds.*
- RSPB and parking Otmoor Lane – feedback from Cllrs Scott and Rust – *the RSPB website says the reserve is shut due to COVID-19, and it is very wet underfoot.*
- H5 Bus Service from Bicester to JR Hospital via Islip – feedback – *discussed at item 7.*
- Snow and ice – feedback – *Cox Farms had de-iced the village roads on Sunday following bad weather.*
- Fireworks – Saturday 6th November 2021 – *Clerk to book Fireworks and First Aid if there are no financial penalties for cancellations due to another lockdown. Bonfire to be discussed again, if the event can take place in November.*

15. Dates of Meetings in 2021:

- Dates for 2021 – usually first Thursday of the month – tbc before each meeting
- Thursday 4th March 2021 at 8.00 pm by Conference Call
- Thursday 1st April 2021 – PC meeting moved to Thursday 8th April 2021 due to Easter holidays.
- Thu 6th May 2021 – Local Elections? – PC meeting moved to Wed 5th May 2021
- Annual Open Parish Meeting (1 March to 1 June) – date tbc

16. **Meeting closed:** at 9.15 pm.

17. **Circulation:** Parish Cllrs, County and District Cllrs and Village Website:

www.beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk