

CURBRIDGE AND LEW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Parish Hall, Curbridge, Monday 11th September 2023, 6pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Glenn Gannon (Chair), Mark Wilson, Phil Boddington, Angela Boddington, Patrick Foley.

IN ATTENDANCE: Howard Higgins (Clerk & RFO), Ted Fenton (County Cllr), Adrian Walsh (District Cllr), 3 members of the public.

48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Jenny O'Sullivan.

49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None.

50. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th August 2023, which had previously been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

51. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

52. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

- Main Road traffic speed & Speedwatch. A survey has been distributed by the Parish Council to Main Road houses and the findings to date favour 20mph and a traffic build-out. More time to be given for responses given this only just over a week old. Discussion about Speedwatch and volunteers have come forward to help with the scheme. RESOLVED: Speedwatch signs to be ordered.
- Concerns expressed about traffic speed along both Main Road and Well Lane. Reports of near misses with pedestrians along Well Lane and the need to address Well Lane being used as a 'rat run'. ACTION POINT: Ted to contact Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) highways for possible next steps.
- Downs Road traffic speed. No updates in respect of request to provide more roundels to help reduce traffic speed long Downs Road. ACTION POINT: Ted to pursue. Also due to the non-availability of S106 funds for a speed indicator device an application to be made to the County Councillor Priority Fund to see if funding available.
- Clerk has received confirmation from OCC that Colwell Green will become a 20mph area by the time OCC adopt the roads. There is no definitive date provided.
- Alleviation ponds update. Despite the request for a guard rail to stop the possibility of cars crashing through from the A40 into the pond this will not be provided by the developers as it is not within the remit agreed between them and OCC. Boundary fencing yet to be repaired, which is the responsibility of the developers.
- Ted provided an update on OCC matters. Free electric blanket testing is available and details available on the [OCC website](#). Charges for DIY non-household waste at recycling centres (Dix pit for this area) are due to be dropped but is not yet known from what date this will apply.
- Adrian provided an update on the need for improved fencing between the Colwell Green play area and a balancing pond. Adrian will continue to pursue this matter.

Ted and Adrian let the meeting.

53. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None received.

54. FINANCE

Payments: Litter bin emptying (£261.14); Electricity (£203.56); Wages (£360, £50); Parish Hall various (£1,750, £134.77, £48.79); Hedgecutting (£168); External audit (£252); Play area RoSPA (£94.20); Grass cut (£412.20 x 2, £68.40 x 2). Bank balance as at 1st September 2023 = £18,611.94.

External audit completed and certificate received for 2022/23.

55. WELL LANE PLAY AREA AND PLAYING FIELD

September inspection signed by Chairman. RoSPA inspection findings reported. Contractor has agreed to action RoSPA recommendations. This to be carried out with previously agreed works and improvements (including the provision of refurbished roundabout and improvements to the multi-play unit).

Still some thistles around. RESOLVED: Phil to remove the thistles.

56. SUNDRY NOTICES

- Monthly checklist for Parish Hall. Some amendments to draft made by Glenn. RESOLVED: Mark to check final draft.
- Parish Hall improvements and repairs.
 - A quote received by Glenn for a drainage pipe to rear of the Parish Hall whilst works were in progress at the neighbouring property. This was received with insufficient time for the Parish Council to approve and also required further quotes to comply with the financial regulations.
 - Front door quotes discussed. Agreement to keep a wooden door in keeping with the building. RESOLVED: Contractor selected and Clerk to apply for S106 funds.
 - RESOLVED: Agreed that a ramp should be built to the front door to have the same entrance for all. Quote to be obtained from the same contractor to be used for the front door.
 - Some woodworm treatment required. RESOLVED: Glenn to arrange.
- Parish notice board (Well Lane). Clerk has not had time to progress this matter. RESOLVED: Decision made to also replace the noticeboard on the Parish Hall.
- Hedgecutting along the A4095 from Main Road to the A40 bridge have been carried out at the cost to the Parish Council due to the failure of OCC to address this issue despite being reported on Fixmystreet. Thanks have been expressed by individuals using this path and cycleway.
- Discussion about allocated Parish Council emails accounts and the non-use by Parish Councillors (not found to be practical). RESOLVED: Not considered effective to retain anything other than the general email address for the Parish Council. Other accounts to be closed but retained email address to be increased in capacity (overall cost is similar).

Meeting closed at 6.40 p.m.

Next Meeting - Monday 9th October.

Glenn Gannon, Chair of the Council
Signed 9th October 2023