

**Minutes of the Meeting of Caversfield Parish Council
held on Wednesday 18 January 2017 at 7.30pm at Fringford Village Hall**

- Present:** Cllr Eleanor Booth-Davey, Cllr June Nisbet (Vice-Chairman),
Cllr Roger Shipway, Cllr Glenice Sutcliffe
- In attendance:** John Sutcliffe (Springfield Road Management Company), Cllr
Nicholas Mawer (CDC) Cllr Lawrie Stratford (OCC) (until 8.30pm),
Mrs Jane Olds (Parish Clerk)
- Apologies:** Cllr Esther Bannister, Cllr John Gilmore (Chairman), Cllrs Lynn Pratt and
Jason Slaymaker (CDC)

1. Apologies

The Councillors accepted Cllr Bannister and Gilmore's apologies due to ill health.

2. Requests for Dispensations, Declarations of interest, gifts and hospitality

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

3. Public Participation

One member of the public attended the meeting but had nothing to discuss.

4. To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 November 2016 and the additional planning meeting on 14 December

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chairman of the meeting. Appended to the minutes was the response to CDC's consultation on Local Plan Part 1 review of Oxford's unmet housing need.

5. Update on progress from the Minutes

a. Dog Bin Emptying in the Park

The Clerk had been informed that the MoD had started a contract with a new contractor – Interserve – for the emptying of the bins. The agreement was that the bins would now be emptied once a week (as opposed to the agreement with CDC when they were emptied twice a week in the summer and once a week in winter) and that the bins were for the use of the MoD personnel.

b. A4421 Road Crossing and speed reduction

The Clerk had been in contact with the Police and OCC Highways about the potential crossing and had been informed by OCC that the likely cost was in the region of £80,000 for a pedestrian 'lighted' crossing. The overall costs of a speed reduction to 40mph would be about £10,000.

The Clerk would be investigating passenger numbers and usage from the bus company as further evidence and Cllr Stratford agreed he would promote the need.

6. Reports from District and County Councillors and Police

District Councillor

Cllr Mawer reported that the budget setting process for the District had been started with the proposal that there would not be an increase and no frontline cuts to services.

The further Local Plan Part 1 consultation to discuss Oxford's unmet housing need had now closed.

Concerns had been raised about South Oxfordshire District Council's refusal to co-operate with the housing numbers. Cllr Mawer informed the meeting that CDC's opinion was that the Council had a statutory duty to co-operate and the Planning Inspector might not look kindly on a refusal. However, many of the responses which had been received had been of the opinion that Oxford should do more to accommodate its own housing.

County Councillor

The Clerk had circulated Cllr Stratford's written report.

Cllr Stratford highlighted a number of County-wide points including the plans to combine the Adoption Service with six other County Councils which Oxfordshire would administer under the aegis of a Regional Adoption Agency for the Thames Valley; the launch of a new online flooding toolkit; the announcement that adult social care within the county was now above the national average; the home library volunteer service and the sign-up for the new library newsletter; and, the awarding of funding for the Children's Services which would include the Courtyard in Bicester, but the likely closure of the Heyford, Glory Farm and Brookside sites.

The County Council budget had been discussed and the Council Tax increase was likely to be 4.9% which would cost a Band D household an additional £1.30 per week. This was primarily to cover the expanding social care budget.

Regarding Caversfield, the County Councillors for the area had also responded to CDC's Local Plan Consultation expressing their serious concerns about whether 4,400 homes was an appropriate response, whether the areas of search identified should have included Bicester as the area was already close to saturation point with further development making it increasingly difficult to maintain a sense of community.

Cllr Stratford also had concerns about the new planning application for Himley Village which would form part of the Eco Town as County Councillors believed that no more permissions should be granted until Howes Lane is re-aligned and the road under the railway line was completed.

7. Reports from the Village Management Companies

Mr Sutcliffe from Springfield Road Management Company had nothing to report.

Cllr Booth-Davey reported on behalf of Stratton Fields Management Limited that the only matter raised recently had been the issue of the dog bins in the park.

8. Finance

a. To receive the monthly financial report

As at 5 January, the Accounts stood at:

Co-op Current Account	£6,583.02
NS&I Account	£2,337.35

There were no outstanding cheques.

The Standing Order of £109.44 to pay the Clerk cleared on 17 November and 19 December.

The Clerk provided the meeting with a printout of the Current Account status and the monthly sheet for information.

b. To consider and approve the budget for 2017/18

The Clerk presented the meeting with draft budget which the Councillors considered.

The Clerk had itemised the level of expenditure for each budget heading explaining the increases / decreases as necessary.

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the budget of £8,268.

The Reserves for 2017/18 would be agreed at the March meeting once the final invoices for the year had been received.

c. To consider and agree the setting of the Precept level for 2017/18 following the confirmation of the Tax Base and CTRS Figures from CDC

CDC had informed the Parish that the estimated Tax Base for 2017/18 would be 539.5 (last year it was 529.7).

The CTRS Grant was likely to be £77.27 provided that CDC resolved to agree the grants for all parishes.

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to a 2% increase on the Precept (from £5,160) to £5,263. The annual cost to a Band D household would be £9.76, an increase (per Band D house) of £0.01 for the year.

The Clerk would inform CDC of the decision.

d. To consider invoices for payment itemised on the payment schedule

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the following invoices for payment:

Cheque no:	Payee and reason	Budget	Amount
200101	Fringford Village Hall for hire of hall on 18 January	Hall Hire	£18.00

Cheque no:	Payee and reason	Budget	Amount
200102	Information Commissioner Annual Renewal	Information Commissioner	£35.00
200103	JMC Olds for CrashPlan Cloud Backup (shared with 2 other parishes)	Admin Costs	£16.75
200104	I Black for Old School Close Grass Cutting	Grass Cutting	£240.00

9. Planning Applications

- a. **To consider all recent Applications received** from Cherwell District Council detailed below and any other Planning Applications submitted between the circulation of this Agenda and the meeting.

No applications had been received for discussion.

b. To note Notices of Decision

The following notices of decision had been received:

- i. **16/01888/F** – Mrs D Ford, 2 Springfield Road, OX27 8TT, Two storey side extension: Permission for development subject to conditions
The Clerk had queried the proposal text which the Councillors believed should have included the rear development with the Planning Officer and was told that it was likely that it was due to the fact that the rear extension had been given approval at a previous application and it was very close to ‘Permitted Development’.
- ii. **16/01495/F** – Mr and Mrs Harland, 45 Fairhaven Road, OX27 8TY, change of use from amenity land to residential curtilage for the two storey side extension which had already been applied for.
- iii. **16/02265/F** – Mr Barry Busby, 41 Elderfield Road, OX27 8UE, Single storey rear extension: Permission for development subject to conditions.

c. Appeal against Refusal

14/01675/OUT – Albion Land Ltd, OS Parcel 4200 Adjoining And North East Of A4095 And Adjoining And South West Of Howes Lane Bicester, re OUTLINE - Erection of up to 53,000 sqm of floor space to be for B8 and B2 with ancillary B1 (use classes) employment provision within two employment zones covering an area of 9.45ha; parking and service areas to serve the employment zones; a new access off the Middleton Stoney Road (B4030); temporary access of Howes Lane pending the delivery of the realigned Howes Lane; 4.5ha of residential land; internal roads, paths and cycleways; landscaping including strategic green infrastructure (G1); provision of sustainable urban systems (suds) incorporating landscaped areas with balancing ponds and swales. Associated utilities and infrastructure.

10. To consider the proposal to include Parish and Town Councils in the Public Service Ombudsman Bill

OALC had informed the Parish that the Cabinet Office had published a Bill – the Public Service Ombudsman Bill with a plan for a new Public Service Ombudsman which would abolish the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman and the Local Government Ombudsman. The town and parish sector was not previously covered by the Local Government Ombudsman.

The Councillors considered the proposal and **RESOLVED** to agree to include parish and town councils in the new Public Service Ombudsman remit.

11. Parish Matters

a. To consider the adoption of the proposed bicycle racks outside the bus stops on the A4421

The Councillors considered CDC's suggestion that the Parish adopt the bicycle racks which were to be installed at both of the bus stops at the Caversfield Turn on the A4421 by CDC, but **RESOLVED** not to take up CDC's offer at the present time. The Parish would be prepared to review the request in due course.

12. Reports from Meetings

No meetings had been attended.

13. Correspondence received

The Clerk presented the meeting with a list of correspondence received which included:

- a. NALC Survey** on dependents carers allowance. The Clerk had responded saying yes, there should be an allowance to support Councillors who had caring responsibilities.
- b. CDC – re Parish Allowances.** CDC added in the dependents carers allowance to the Parish Remuneration Panel allowances a few years ago and the Parish had agreed to this. However, following the NALC survey (above), it turned out that they shouldn't have done as it was not possible currently for Parish Councillors to receive this allowance.
- c. OCC – re acknowledgement of updated website domain name.**
- d. OALC – re Training Programme.** The Councillors noted the training, but had no requirements at present.
- e. CDC – Electoral Register update**
- f. Community First Oxfordshire –Autumn/ Winter Newsletter**
- g. OCC – re Local Government reorganisation**
- h. OALC – re no capping of Precepts next year**
- i. CDC – re adoption of Planning Policy documents**
- j. CDC – re Spring Clean dates.** The Councillors agreed to discuss the May date at the March meeting.

14. Items for information or next Agenda only

a. Agenda items

The Clerk requested that all items for the next agenda should be submitted by Thursday 2 March.

b. Bicester Heritage next Scramble – on 23 April

c. E1 Elmsbrook Bus

Cllr Shipway had been informed by the bus driver that when Gagle Brook School opens in due course, there will be adequate turning space in front of the school which will mean that the bus route will not go through Caversfield. The bus is starting to become more popular with 28 regular passengers, many of whom are from the village.

The Clerk would write to A2 Dominion (copying in the District and County Councillors) requesting that the current route be kept once the school is open to enable more passengers to use the facility.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree that the Parish Council meeting would take place on Wednesday 15 March 2017 in the Chinnery Room of Fringford Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed

Dated