



MINSTER LOVELL PARISH COUNCIL

www.minsterlovell-pc.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Debra Rouget
24 Abbey Road, Witney, Oxon OX28 5LE
Email: info@minsterlovell-pc.gov.uk
Tel: 07712 705865

Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 21 April 2023 at St Kenelm's Hall in Minster Lovell.

1. Welcome/Members present and apologies for absence

Present: Cllr Stowell (Chair) Cllr Bicker, Cllr Williams, Councillor Layt. 11 residents
Apologies: Cllr Dingwall (WODC) Cllr King

2. Declaration of interest in agenda items

Cllr Stowell – A Trustee of Wash Meadow
Cllrs Williams and Layt – Coffee and Chat group
Cllr Bicker W.I.

3. To receive the Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting dated 11 April 2022

The minutes will be agreed and signed at the next Parish Council meeting on 22nd May 2023

4. Chairman's report - Cllr Stowell

Discussion points –

It was reported that Jane Johnson from The Society for the Protection of Minster Lovell may be helping to coordinate transport to the Lowlands Planning Committee meeting on 30th May 2023.

A discussion took place around possible moving and siting of the village hall and it was felt that planning permission and possible S106 funds from a further successful development may have some effect on plans. The success of future planning applications may be altered by a reduction in planning targets.

The Chair reported that activity on the field which is the subject of outline planning is currently subject to an archaeological dig. He also confirmed that the current roadworks on the Brize Norton road were related to rebuilding drains.

5. To hear presentations and reports of community interest:

Trustees of Wash Meadow

Cllr Stowell

Cllr Stowell reported that Trustees were very grateful for the annual grant, with large spends being insurance and grass cutting. Although these costs are no longer fully covered due to high inflation. In the course of last year, the Trust provided new guttering for the Pavilion to address issues with the gutter overflow. He reported that the Trust continues to be responsible for the external condition of the Pavilion and that reserves would be used in the next year for exceptional items.

Minster Lovell Playing Fields Trust

David Haley

Cllr Stowell read a report received which highlighted continued maintenance and management of the tennis court, playground and car park to the rear of St. Kenelm's Hall, including an annual programme of grass cutting, hedge and tree work, with Trustees undertaking other maintenance work. The Trustees had addressed minor points made in a ROSPA annual inspection and a broken slide had been replaced. The playground and tennis court had been well used by some adults and young people, especially during school holidays. It also served as an 'overflow' car park and for stalls at the St. Kenelm's Church fun day.



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Two new benches were being created by students at Burford School following an offer from a governor, Mr. Stewart Norridge. One to replace an existing bench that was rotting alongside the tennis court and one to be positioned in the play area.

Following the resignation of Mrs. Katherine Doughty, the Trust had asked the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to appoint a replacement. The constitution of the Trust stipulates that two Trustees should be appointed by the Parish Council and two by the PCC

The Trustees were very grateful for the on-going financial support from the Parish Council. Future projects included re-surfacing the tennis court, replacement of sections of the chain link fencing and replacement gates to the tennis court and play area. Decisions to be taken in the context of discussions and decisions about the provision of a new Village Hall. It was anticipated that white lining will take place in the next month.

Trish McAllier confirmed she had been appointed as a new Trustee.

Community Counts

A report had been sent with the treasurer noting thanks to the Council for their continued support. The treasurer reported that the Saturday morning café is open to everyone, and it has been good to see new faces over the last few months, everyone enjoys the friendship that is shown. There was rota of people helping run events and make delicious homemade cakes. The average number attending most Saturdays is 20 and currently up to three dogs. The Precept received goes towards the general running costs, and with the continued increase in electricity the running costs are increasing.

Library and Coffee and chat group

Cllr Williams

The group began as a result of covid lockdowns for residents to enjoy refreshments and the company of others from the village in an informal setting. With the volunteers who run it being very aware of the need for warm and safe spaces since the cost of heating soared, they decided to combine the fortnightly village library with Coffee and Chat and from the beginning of 2023 the weekly session began on a trial basis. This was such a success; it was decided to make it a permanent venture. It is funded by donations for the refreshments on offer and is open Wednesdays from 10 until 12 noon.

Rivers

Report from fishing bailiff

A report had been sent. There had been 50 new permits to date. The bailiff is an active member of WASP opposing raw sewage getting into the River Windrush below Bourton on the water. The River at present was looking better. The bailiff attended a WASP meeting in March and heard a presentation from professor Peter Hammond detailing figures of sewage releases of pollution into our Rivers. The bailiff regularly clears dog fouling along the edge the River Bank

WI

Apologies sent

The WI had previously reported high member numbers and a thriving group.

History Group - Graham Kew

It was reported that the club was solvent with 30 to 60 people attending to hear speeches and other activities. The group was the instigator of the river scheme and for putting up pictorial panels at St Kenelm's Hall.



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Regular tours of the churches took place and a suit of armour had recently been donated by a benefactor. The group requested a contribution of £300 to pay for gravel and a waterproof membrane create two levels at the river to create steps. They would also try to get fund-raising for railway sleepers and advice and physical help. The area would be a natural resource so no upkeep would be needed and the environment agency was supporting the process. **Action:** Clerk to send a grant application form.

Minster Lovell Village Trust - Report from Trustees

Four people run the Trust but an issue had arisen around outlets for guidebooks since local tourist information shops closed.

The Trust reported that in 2022 the group funded mugs and prizes for the Platinum Jubilee and supported the history society. £4472 was left in the account at year end with all proceeds from the sale of guidebooks going back into the parish.

6. Closing remarks

Cllr Stowell commended all groups for their hard work and dedication.