

ULEY PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday 2nd November 2016 at 6.15pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Jonathan Dembrey (JD) (Chairman), Janet Wood (JW) (Vice-Chairman), Belinda Holley (BH), Juliet Browne (JB), Mike Griffiths (MG).

In attendance: Ashy McKay (AM) (Clerk).

1. Apologies. Melanie Paraskeva (MP), Steve Lydon (SL), David Sykes (DS), Jim Dewey (RJD).
2. Public Representation. 7, Hugo Mander, Tim Martin.
3. Declaration of Interests. None.
4. Precept 2017/18. AM presented a precept for 2017/18 that was showing the same composition as last year, totalling £15,576. This reflected the loss of the Local Council Tax Support Grant that SDC decided not to make and has now tapered to zero. There is scope to increase the precept by 2% or £312. It was agreed that AM and JD should meet to review the Clerk's salary and come back to the next meeting with a recommendation. It was also agreed to wait to see if the Village Hall Committee would like to make a bid for more funds to contribute to the cost of their repairs schedule. MG asked for a budget sheet for 2017/18 that shows the one-off grants including the transparency grant for the new website. AM agreed to find out what the benefits are to Uley residents from the Dursley Good Neighbours scheme. It was agreed to provisionally accept the proposed precept and discuss further at the next meeting.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting of 5th October 2016 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman following correction at the bottom of p.616 "it was agreed to .."
6. Matters Arising. Item 7. JW reported that as requested, the Cam, Dursley & Uley Joint Woodlands Management Committee has agreed to write to Natural England asking for information about applications for Buzzard Hunting Licences.
7. Item 9. The Chairman agreed to bring this item forward. Owlpen Manor Licence application. Hugo Mander was present to represent the applicants. He explained that Owlpen Manor have made an application to extend the current opening hours during the week and at the weekend and to enable them to sell alcohol and have live music. He said that this was necessary to maintain the viability of the business. Currently the licence is for 15 weddings a year and they want to increase to 20 next year. It was proposed that when live music is playing the doors between the Cyder House and the adjoining marquee should be closed and the doors between the marquee and the garden and the windows should also be closed. The intention was also to have a noise monitoring machine and monitoring visits in Uley during events. It was thought that the current provision for applying for temporary extensions for up to 15 events a year was sufficient and that extended licence hours for 20 events a year would cover most of the weekends during the summer. It was thought that the music would be a problem but also associated noise and disturbance including traffic at the end of the events. Although the Parish Council did not have the opportunity to comment formally on the proposals, it was agreed that it's opposition should be minuted.
8. District and County Councillor Reports. Neither SL or RJD were present but SL had circulated a report prior to the meeting.

9. Item 10. Footpaths, Playground and Bins. (i) Footpaths. DS reported by email that the dog latch at Marling's End has been installed. The footpath behind the Post Office has been partially strimmed. It was agreed to ask Robin Coates to do some more strimming; (ii) MG reported that that RC has weeded the barked area under the multiplay, but noted that the depth of bark here is insufficient as it is only a couple of inches whereas the bark under the rockers is about a foot deep. MG has discussed possible options with Robin Coates to bring this up to safety requirements. One option would be to remove the bark, grass over and lay rubber mats. The frame also needs a repair and refurbishment which will require it to be dismantled and taken off site. It was agreed that MG bring a more detailed and costed report to the next meeting with a view to setting out a repair and maintenance schedule. MG will circulate the report prior to the next meeting. AM to investigate any insurance implications; (iii) Bins. JW reported that the bin at the corner of Fop St. and The Street needs to be replaced. AM to report to SDC.
10. Item 11. Planning. (i) Reported decisions; S.16/2075/TCA Walled Garden. It was agreed between meetings via the email procedure to submit a comment proposed by JB. AM had done this but the decision was to permit removal of the conifer; (ii) S.16/2193/HHOLD 3, Fiery Lane. JB had spoken to the neighbours about the proposed quite substantial 2 storey extension. As it does not overlook anyone and meets the CDS requirements there were no objections; (iii) S.16/1283/TCA 5, The Green. Proposal to fell a pine tree. No objections; (iv) S.16/2241/TCA 10, The Street. Application to fell an apple and a sycamore. No objections; (v) S.16/0594/FUL Land adjacent to Lampern Cottage. This application was refused permission and the applicant has appealed. The Parish Council has an opportunity to submit and comments further to the original objection. It was noted that the appellants claim in their statement that the proposed building would be screened by the hedge on the boundary of the adjacent Lampern Cottage site. Thoss Shearer commented that this was not the case as the hedge is lower than implied and does not provide leaf cover all year. Also, as it is on the adjacent site it could be removed at any time thereby invalidating the claim. It was noted that the appellant tries to argue against The Local Plan. It was agreed that AM submit a further objection regarding the screening claim; It was noted that the application from Dauncey's Mill for a boot room extension has had a minor variation made to it; JB noted that The Knoll House application has also been varied addressing the objection to the proximity to the boundary of the proposed extension.
11. Item 7. Co-option to Casual Vacancy for a Parish Councillor. AM confirmed that SDC had not received a call for an election during the advertised 14-day period and that the Council could proceed to a co-option. Tim Martin and Emily Mattessen had expressed an interest. TM was present at the meeting and circulated a statement setting out his interests and contribution he could make to the PC. EM was unable to attend the meeting. It was agreed to contact EM and co-opt Tim Martin if EM was happy to stand aside on this occasion. AM will contact her and ask if she is interested in the Village News.

12. Highway Matters, Transport and Flooding. JB reported that she had been in contact with SDC regarding the dangerous tree at the bottom of Lampern Hill. This has previously been raised with GCC Highways who do not consider it a threat. It was agreed to forward emails to Steve Lydon; Flooding. It was agreed to invite Guy Blanch the Flood Warden to the next meeting BH reported that the lamppost on the way out of the village to Dursley is malfunctioning.
13. Consultation on decommissioning of BT Telephone boxes. BT are proposing to remove the two telephone boxes in the village unless someone wants to adopt them. It was agreed to object to the proposed removal of the one next to the Village Hall because it is next to the defibrillator that is reliant on a landline connection as there is insufficient mobile phone reception in the village.
14. Finance Report. (i) November Report. AM reported that the remainder of the S.137 grants will be made this month. It was agreed to review the Clerk's salary. It was agreed to authorise the following cheques: A McKay £452.30 monthly salary; HMRC £108.40 PAYE; Grant Thornton £240, external audit fees; Village Hall £51 3 months hall hire; Uley Playing Fields £350 annual grant; Millennium Green £250 annual grant; Stroud CAB £150 Annual grant, Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper £50, Dursley Good Neighbours £100 annual grant. AM agreed to report back on the benefit of the DGN scheme to Uley parishioners.
15. Reports from PC Representatives. Woodlands Committee. JW reported that the Committee has written to Natural England regarding the reintroduction of Buzzard Hunting Licences in its estate; Village Hall Committee. JW reported that Ted Collet will stand down as Chairman of the Committee in April 2017 and that Mike and Margaret Groom are standing down which means that new members are urgently required.
16. Correspondence. None.
17. Parish Website and Newsletter. (i) New Parish website. MG reported that the new website is now up and running. AM will ask Anne Sutcliffe to write a short piece on the Affordable Housing scheme; also, to post the Dursley Police newsletter; JW will contribute a piece on the work of the Woodlands Committee, BH to ask someone to write a piece on the Millennium Green Trust; JD will ask Duff to write on the Uley Playing Fields; Agreed AM to write a letter of thanks to Paul Weeks for all the work he has done on the website in the past. (ii) Village News. Following the resignation of the editor with effect from April, a replacement is needed soon for handover purposes. Agreed to set up a meeting with the Rev. Diana.
18. Urgent Matters. JD reminded councillors about the Remembrance Sunday on 3rd November, and the service at St. Giles Church.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.