

Minutes of the meeting of Uley Parish Council held on Wednesday 6th February, commencing at 7.00pm at Uley Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors Jonathan Dembrey (Chairman)
Janet Wood (Vice-Chair)
Mike Griffiths
Juliet Browne
Tim Martin
Melanie Paraskeva
Jo Dee

IN ATTENDANCE: Carrie Marshall - Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: Jim Dewey (District Councillor)
2 members of the public

APOLOGIES: None Received

1/02/2019 To receive any apologies for absence.
None received

2/02/2019 To receive any declarations of Interest
None received

3/02/2019 To receive any representation from members of the public (*Members of the public wishing to speak on agenda items should indicate this to the Chairman and confirm whether or not their names can be recorded in the minutes of the meeting*)

David Longley introduced himself to the Council. He had noted that some of the telegraph poles around the village have become saturated with staples from flyers and he offered to volunteer his time to remove the staples. The Council considered his offer and decided they were happy for him to proceed bearing in mind Mr Longley would adhere to obvious health and safety measures.

Thoss Shearer was in attendance regarding Minute number 14/02/2019.

4/02/2019 To approve the minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 2 January 2019
The minutes of the previous meeting was approved and duly signed.

5/02/2019 To receive any reports from District and County Councillors
Councillor Dewey informed the Council that the Local Plan- Emerging Strategy Consultation period closed on the 18th January. The opposition Conservative Group have put forward an alternative proposal which proposed to reduce the number of new homes allocated to Cam, Stonehouse and Winsloe, instead allocating them to Whaddon and Moreton Valence.

He made the Parish Council aware of the Stroud Carbon Neutral 2030 commitment which was approved unanimously by Stroud District Council's Environment Committee. He reported that Gloucestershire County Council aim to be Carbon Zero by 2050.

Stroud District Councils Housing Committee is focused on finding housing for the elderly. In order to do this they have set up a 'task and finish group' which will investigate expectations and how attractive sheltered housing is. The Committee are also working to reduce homelessness. Current homeless households are accommodated in travel lodges and B&Bs outside the district. They are in the process of identifying two suitable council properties to accommodate former rough sleepers.

Councillor Dewey reported that Stroud District Council have decided to increase the District Council element of the council tax by 2.99% to £207.52 at Band D.

Stroud District Council have approved the final terms for the transfer of the freehold interest of the Subscription Rooms to Stroud Town Council and the transfer of the business (including staff) to the new Stroud Subscription Rooms Trust. Barring any unexpected problems, the Subscription Rooms will transfer on 28th March 2019.

Following the Car Parking Review 2018 Stroud District Council decided not to proceed with car parking charges in Wotton, Dursley and Nailsworth. Councillors voted to remove the existing parking charges in Stonehouse and Painswick.

Finally, Councillor Dewey informed the Parish Council that the process for allocating the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has been confirmed by District Council. CIL can be spent on strategic infrastructure projects such as education, social infrastructure and transport.

6/02/2019

To receive the Clerk's report

The Clerk confirmed she had attended the training course at GAPTC. There had been some question over whether the minutes on the website should be signed before being put on the website. Due to new Data Protection Laws they do not want signatures on the website, instead only a sentence stating who signed them will suffice.

The Clerk briefed the Council on a meeting at Stroud District Council which Councillor Dembrey also attended. It covered the following subjects:

- Budget

Budget has changed dramatically over the past several years and Central Government have released no new information after the 2019/20 financial year. The only thing that Stroud District Council are clear on is that they will continue to receive money through council tax. In order to deal with this uncertainty Stroud District Council assured us that they have healthy reserves and are identifying new income streams.

- Brexit

Brexit breakfasts are being carried out for Local Businesses. The next Brexit breakfasts are taking place on 22nd Feb, 22nd March and 26th April.

The government originally told Stroud District Council that they were handling Brexit and didn't need assistance however they recently reached out and have told the Local Councils they do need help. Stroud District Council currently haven't been told what they need to do however they have been informed more information is forthcoming along with approximately £35,000.

They key issues for local areas are citizen rights, workforce, trading standards, economy, ports and borders and regulatory reform. The Council are hoping for a deal however are also preparing for a no deal Brexit. There is a Brexit page on Stroud District Council website with more information.

- Local Plan Review

The Council believe the current local plan is successful however must be changed due to standard regulations that state it must be updated. Stroud District Council have been told they need to produce 638 new homes per annum which is a 40% increase on previous figures. They informed us we need roughly 12,800 new homes in a 20-year period as a starting point. Stroud District Council know from the recent local plan review that the biggest concerns are housing distribution, school capacity, traffic and desire for detail. Stroud District Council are proposing two new settlements in Sharpness and Wisloe. The next stage of the review is taking place in Autumn 2019. The Council are going to be focusing on transport modelling, carbon reduction and infrastructure.

Councillor Dembrey and the Clerk attended a meeting at Dursley Town Council regarding some works to the sewers around Dursley, Cam & Uley. A survey was carried out around the areas reviewing all the sewers and rating them on a scale of 1-5. The most damaged ones are being fixed over the course of a few months in Spring/Summer 2019. Once the Parish Council have the specific information we will update the parishioners.

There has been an ongoing issue with the white lines around Uley, Gloucestershire Highways have informed the Clerk they won't be done until after April due to cold weather. The Doctors Surgery has been put onto the emergency list and will be completed ASAP. Uley has also been added to a list to have the white lines reviewed all over the village

At the January meeting Councillor Wood identified some potholes on the footpath on The Street by the Church. The Clerk spoke to highways who informed her that the works had been put onto a 28 day ticket and should be completed by the 21st February.

The Clerk has been made aware that there are some concerns regarding fly posting in the village. The Council understand that it is frustrating for the organisations involved when their flyers are removed. This item will be on the agenda for discussion at the March meeting.

Finally, the Clerk noted that the Council has received a thank you card from Dursley G N for the grant.

7/02/2019

To receive any reports regarding footpaths / highways

Councillor Paraskeva highlighted that there has been an increase in dog mess in Raglan Way. Councillor Griffiths agreed stating there has also been an increase in dog mess on the footpath by the allotments. Councillor Dewey informed the Council that Stroud District Council are accepting photographic evidence which makes it easier for them to follow up the offender. Councillor Dembrey suggested we include a reminder in the Parish Council news sections of the Village News which was agreed by all.

Councillor Wood highlighted that the railing along the footpath on The Street by the Church is starting to rust and needs addressing. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Gloucestershire County Council.

Councillor Wood also brought to the Councils attention that there is a dry-stone wall along The Street which is potentially dangerous. The Council resolved to have the Clerk contact the owner to ensure they are aware.

- 8/02/2019 To receive any playground reports
Councillor Paraskeva reported that a member of the public has approached her regarding the playground, which they believe needs a revamp. The member of the public has an interest in this area and would be happy to assist the Council in any potential refurbishment plans. It was agreed that she would be put in contact with Councillor Griffiths to have an initial conversation about her ideas.
- 9/02/2019 To consider present banking arrangements and internet banking
The Clerk suggested that the current banking arrangements are unsuitable and causing unnecessary problems. The Council unanimously agreed, and it was resolved that to move forward the Clerk would investigate other options including internet banking. The Council decided should Unity Trust look like a suitable bank choice, the Chairman and Clerk could proceed with opening an account. Councillor Dembrey, Browne and the Clerk will arrange to visit the current bank in order to close the account.
- 10/02/2019 To consider the new grant application form
The Council has received a proposed grant application form in their pre-meeting documents. The Clerk noted the changes the Council would like to make and adjust the form accordingly. Once completed the application form will be available through the Parish Councils Website.
- 11/02/2019 To discuss the new LED street lighting
The Clerk informed the Council that she had spoken with Gloucestershire County Council Highways regarding the street lighting issue. The Highways department assured the Clerk that the lighting is being dimmed between 12am and 5am however that unless specific addresses are highlighted, they won't take action. If the specific street lights are identified they can add a guard or a tilt to them. The Council resolved with all in favour to put an advert in the Village News asking members of the public who are experiencing issues to contact the Clerk with their name and address.
- 12/02/2019 To discuss the Annual Spring Litter Clean
Councillor Wood reported that the Spring Clean did not take place last year. It was decided that the Clerk will contact Stroud District Council and Councillor Dewey to ask whether it is being arranged this year as it was previously carried out as a part of Community Service.
- 13/02/2019 To discuss hosting Play Gloucestershire's Play Days
Councillor Paraskeva is the young person representative on the Council and has been liaising with Councillor Patrick (County Councillor) and Pip Levett from Play Days Gloucestershire to arrange some Play Days in Uley. These will not be funded by Uley but through Councillor Patrick. Councillor Paraskeva has proposed play dates in May half term and in the last week of August. They are meeting at the Millenium Green and Shadwell playing field to discuss further.
- 14/02/2019 To consider the following Planning Applications
- S.19/0048/HHOLD- 6 Crawley Lane, Uley, GL11 5BJ. Modification of existing raised decking to the side of house
No observations.
 - S.19/0007/TCA- 1 Whitecourt Uley Dursley Gloucestershire GL11 5TG. Willow Tree - Pollard 5 metres up from ground level as it is impacting on the house & garage
No observations.

Thoss Shearer suggested that in order to make more impact with future Parish Council comments on Trees in a Conservation Area applications, we might frame these in explicit terms as a request for a Tree Preservation Order. The Council would need to address the elements of the test, which is

whether it appears to the authority that it is “expedient in the interests of amenity to make provision for the protection of trees or woodlands in their area”. Mr Shearer also mentioned that it may be worth the Council creating a Conservation Area Statement. The Councillors were keen to explore this further and the item will be added to March’s agenda.

15/02/2019

To receive any Planning Decisions

- S.18/2498/HHOLD- 8 Shadwell, Uley: Erection of garden room to replace conservatory and the erection of a carport with storage. PERMISSION
- S.18/2658/TCA- 15 Whitecourt, Uley: Remove Leylandii conifer hedge, replace with manageable beach tree hedge. Reduce by 2m Silver Birch Tree. Remove Ash Tree. Remove Horse Chestnut tree. Remove small unknown tree next to horse chestnut. PERMISSION
- S.18/2359/HHOLD- 1 Angeston Cottages, Uley: Ground floor extension. PERMISSION
- S.18/2480/TCA-The Walled Garden, Lampern Hill, Uley, Trees in a Conservation Area: Weeping Willow x 1. Fell. PERMISSION
- S.18/2331/HHOLD – 10 Shadwell, Uley – Rear extension and new detached garage. PERMISSION

16/02/2019

To authorise payments

Cheques were authorised and signed as follows:

- Clerks Salary
- Clerks Expenses
- CAB Grant
- GAPTC Invoice
- Uley Society (Batteries for defibrillator)

Councillor Paraskeva gave the Clerk a cheque from the Allotment Society.

17/02/2019

To receive any reports from PC Representatives

Councillor Martin reported on Stroud District Road Safety Group’s most recent meeting. The members of the group highlighted that there is a lack of empirical (rather than anecdotal) data on road safety and speed within the District. They believe that safety could be much improved with the enforcement of existing speed limits. A variety of equipment is available which could provide the necessary data and subsequently be used to enforce speed limits. The group is now looking into funding to purchase the equipment, which could then be shared between member councils.

Councillor Martin also informed the Council he has written to the PCSO to request Uley be included in the mobile camera program.

Councillor Browne is the Parish Councils Snow Warden and reported that the recent snow was dealt with sufficiently and that she has requested a new grit bin for Woodstock Terrace. Councillor Wood asked about the costs associated. Councillor Browne informed her that County Council pay for the salt and should pay for the snow ploughing. Robin Coates from Uley Valley Contractors helped to clear the roads and would have had to call the County Council when he started and finished.

Councillor Wood reminded the Council that she will be coming off the Woodland Management Committee in April and that Councillor Dee would be co-opted on at the April meeting.

Councillor Paraskeva had attended the January meeting at Prema. She reported that the organisation is comfortable financially. The reported bookings have been relatively slow and last minute so some of the courses offered have been altered. There is also mention of Andrew Wood hoping to donate his art to PREMA and discussions will be taking place. Finally, Prema are looking for a new minute taker and an intern.

Councillor Dembrey attended the recent meeting for the Uley Playing Field Trust. He said that they have a wedding soon and another potential booking for a cricket match. They are also hoping to book a dog show. The Trust received £350.00 from the Parish Council and £500 from the Hundred Club. The field has been deep-slitted for to assist with drainage. Lastly Councillor Dembrey mentioned that new dog mess signs have been made and put erected.

18/02/2019 To consider articles for the website and newsletter and discuss the upcoming vacancies at the Village News

The Council agreed to include an article regarding the following:

- Defibrillator information.
- Dog mess reminder.
- Information on the new grant application form.
- Issues with street lights.
- Website for Stroud District Road Safety Group
- A thank you for Uley Valley Contractors.

The Council asked the Clerk to contact the Village News to ask whether they are advertising the two editor vacancies at the Village News in this issue. If not, the Council asked the Clerk to include this in the article.

19. /02/2019 To confirm the time and date of the next meeting
The next meeting will take place on March 6th 2019 at 7:00pm

Actions:

6/10/2019	Add issue of fly-posting to the March agenda.	Clerk
7/02/2019	Report railing to Gloucestershire Highways.	Clerk
7/02/2019	Contact Home Owner regarding potentially dangerous dry-stone wall on The Street.	Clerk
8/02/2019	Meet member of the public regarding the playground.	Councillor Griffiths
9/02/2019	Close current bank account and open a new one.	Councillor Dembrey, Councillor Browne, Clerk
10/02/2019	Alter the new grant application form, upload to Uley Parish Council website.	Clerk, Councillor Griffiths
11/02/2019	Liaise with residents regarding the new street lighting.	Clerk

12/02/2019	Contact SDC and Councillor Dewey to enquire about the spring clean.	Clerk
13/02/2019	Arrange Play Days for Uley.	Councillor Paraskeva
14/02/2019	Send in planning responses.	Clerk
14/02/2019	Add Conservation Area Statement to March agenda.	Clerk
16/02/2019	Send out cheques.	Clerk
17/02/2019	Write article for the Village News.	Clerk

Uley Parish Council is opposed to discrimination in any form and at all levels and is committed to take all steps within its power to counteract it. We wish to create an environment where all forms of discriminatory or oppressive behaviour are unacceptable and to provide community leadership in promoting tolerance, understanding and respect. Please note that this meeting may be recorded.