

Minutes of the meeting of Uley Parish Council held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019, commencing at 7.00pm at Uley Village Hall.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Carrie Marshall - Clerk  
David Sykes (Footpath Officer)  
Jim Dewey (District Councillor)

ALSO PRESENT: 3 members of the public

APOLOGIES: Mike Griffiths  
Melanie Paraskeva  
Lorraine Patrick (County Councillor)

1/04/2019 To receive any apologies for absence.  
Apologies were received as noted above.

2/04/2019 To receive any declarations of Interest  
None received.

3/04/2019 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)

Jonathan Pape- Item 16  
Debs Paproska- Item 16  
Thoss Shearer- Item 12

4/04/2019 To approve the minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 6 February and 6 March 2019  
The minutes of the previous two meetings was approved and duly signed.

5/04/2019 To consider a solution for the fly-posting issue  
Andy Beamish, the Neighbourhood Warden has clarified that in order to get a license for posters/flyers, every organisation/individual needs to apply for consent from the County Council for each individual sign advertising an event. The Councillors felt that this was not a helpful solution to the problem.

Councillor Wood informed the Council that she and Councillor Martin have walked the length of the village to find some suitable locations for the potential community notice boards. The Council concluded that sensible sites would include beside lower bus stop opposite Fop Street, outside the Village Hall with an additional one in the Village Shop. They noted that the existing ones aren't attractive or large enough therefore by purchasing new notice boards they will have the opportunity to make them more suitable for the village. The Council resolved that the Clerk should contact some local companies to obtain quotes.

6/04/2019

To receive any reports from District and County Councillors

Councillor Dewey reported the following:

- Stroud District Council (SDC) introduced food waste collections in 2016 now has one of the most successful programmes in the country. The food waste is sent to an anaerobic digester and then converted to energy.
- The decision to separate food waste was encouraged by Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) which is keen to reduce the amount of waste going into landfill.
- GCC agreed to pay SDC incentives for collecting food waste as it will save GCC money, but add to SDC's costs (about £900 000 more, i.e. a significant proportion of the budget).
- GCC is now proposing a drastic reduction to this payment of around £275k per year. Cotswold District Council (CDC) will have payments reduced by around £50k per year.
- The proposed changes do not bring any savings to taxpayers because if SDC and CDC can no longer afford the current scheme they will be forced to reroute food waste to landfill, which will cost the County £1M annually.
- The short notice of this decision along with the severe cut to revenue could very well destroy the very successful programme we now have in Stroud.
- GCC claims that this decision is 'carbon neutral', however this assumes that the cuts will have no impact on the food waste scheme. In reality, SDC would likely end up sending food waste to the Javelin Park incinerator where the conversion to energy is far less efficient than anaerobic digestion.

Jim urged residents of Uley as members of the Stroud District to send a letter in support of current funding levels for Stroud's Food Waste Collection Programme which is urgently needed. He asked them to write to :

Cabinet Member [nigel.moor@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.moor@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

Cc: [DemocraticServices@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:DemocraticServices@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

[Wayne.Lewis@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Wayne.Lewis@gloucestershire.gov.uk) (key officer)

[cllr.simon.pickering@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.simon.pickering@stroud.gov.uk)

or by mail to:

Cllr Nigel Moor c/o Democratic Services, Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TG

Letters should be polite and

- Express support for the highly successful food waste collection programme in Stroud District.
- Ask for a delay in cuts to the current incentive payments until at least 2023 when it is expected that food waste collections will be mandatory nationally with at least some funding attached.
- Ask to continue the status quo in the meantime to avoid any damage or reduction to this effective programme.

7/04/2019

To receive the Clerk's report

The Clerk informed the Council that she will be attending Gloucester Archives on the 9<sup>th</sup> April to archive the old minutes. The internal audit has also been booked in for the 29<sup>th</sup> May.

The potentially dangerous wall at 21 The Street, Uley has been reported to the Building Control Department at Stroud District Council.

The Clerk has been in contact with Highways over a couple of matters. Firstly, another member of the public contacted the Clerk regarding the new LED street lighting. An engineer has attended to reduce the brightness of the lamppost. Paul Helbrow, the Highways Manager covering Uley has been in contact to inform us that the railing that needs repainting on The Street on the approach to the church is on the list of items to be dealt with. This type of work would have been carried out by the Lengthsman scheme, but until Highways receive confirmation from elected members about what the Lengthsman format will be for 2019/20, they can only collect requests. Councillor Martin requested that the railings further down The Street (opposite the former Kings Head) be added to this list as they were in a similar condition.

A student has also been in touch asking to carry out a wildlife survey in the area. The Council are happy to hear that a study of this kind is taking place and decided it would be best for the student to liaise with the Joint Woodland Committee.

The Clerk asked the signatories of the new bank account to sign the required forms for the application. Councillor Paraskeva wasn't in attendance however as one of the signatories so the Clerk will arrange for her to sign the documents at the nearest available date.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be taking place on the 17<sup>th</sup> April and the Clerk and Chairman have been making sure arrangements are in place. The PCSO was asked to attend however responded saying that she and all other members of staff covering the Uley area will be unavailable. Councillor Martin suggested Iain Dunbar from the Stroud District Road Safety Group might be willing to attend. It was agreed he would contact Mr Dunbar to check his availability.

The Clerk also informed members that Stroud District Council have decided to extend the options available to residents for replacement containers. Recycling boxes, food waste caddies, food waste bins and recycling bags (for eligible properties) will be available for collection, free of charge, from the council offices at Ebley Mill. This is in addition to the existing option of delivery for which a £10 charge still applies (apart from food waste containers).

The Clerk requested permission to take holiday on the following dates which was approved:

- June 10<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>
- August 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>

Finally, the Clerk asked permission to take on a summer job for 15 hours per week which the Council also authorised.

8/04/2019

To receive any reports regarding footpaths / highways

David Sykes reported that the stile which was reported broken at the previous meeting has now been repaired. A new public footpath route has also been created known as the 'Dursley Cotswold Gateway Figure 8 Loop' which wraps around Uley.

The issue of flooding on Lampern hill is persisting. Paul Helbrow is aware that there is a problem however Councillor Martin commented that we should make it clear that there are two separate problems with flooding on the road as it is not from one source.

Councillor Wood reported that the railing opposite the lower bus stop is broken and in need of repair. The broken part is currently lying in the undergrowth. The Clerk will report this to Highways.

9/04/2019

To receive any playground reports

The Council noted Councillor Griffiths report in his absence as follows:

'I met with a member of the public and their family in the playground on Saturday. They had several good ideas that we discussed, and I think a number of them are promising and could be carried out within a reasonable budget. We could also explore obtaining materials, if not labour, from local merchants. Perhaps we could also apply to the Community Stores for one of their grants.'

This is a "heads up" to say that it looks as though we can realistically put together a project that will produce a significant improvement to the playground. In any case I intend in the next couple of months to repaint some of the equipment, which will be a good start.'

Councillor Wood requested that the Clerk contact Uley Valley Contractors to cut the grass in the play area.

10/04/2019 To consider Stroud District Road Safety Group's Rural Multi-Site Traffic Regulation Order

Concern raised by villagers has identified The Street in Uley as a potential site for a speed limit reduction from 30mph to 20mph. The Council discussed that to progress this matter and to justify any speed reduction evidence would be required. The consensus was that there is a problem with speeding, especially at either end of the village and that by moving forward with the proposed Rural Multi-Site Traffic Regulation Order in conjunction with other parishes it would provide the Council with the opportunity to prove this. It would also have financial benefits; with the costs of making the application shared between all parishes. Also, through its membership of the SDRSG it would have the opportunity to utilise shared mobile VAS equipment, if this is acquired by Group. This equipment could be used to both collect the necessary data and help enforce the speed limit. The Council resolved to move forward with the order with all in favour.

11/04/2019 To consider a quote for repairing damaged guttering on the lower bus stop

The Council received a quote from D A Hill Building Services to repair the guttering to the rear of the lower bus shelter. Councillor Wood questioned whether the quote included repainting the guttering which it does not. The Council decided to proceed with the quote with all in favour.

12/04/2019 To consider designing a Conservation Area Statement

Thoss Shearer informed the Council that a Conservation Area Statement is intended to capture the unique and special characteristics of the Conservation Area and what makes it important. If adopted it can add weight to comments made by the Parish Council on planning applications. Councillors Wood, Browne, Martin and Griffiths have all volunteered to be involved in the process of creating a statement for Uley with a potential meeting taking place in April.

13/04/2019 To consider the Stroud District Council's Draft Housing Strategy 2019-2024

The Council considered the document but has no comments regarding Stroud District Council's Draft Housing Strategy 2019-2024.

14/04/2019 To consider the following Planning Applications

- S.19/0496/VAR- Land at 9 The Knoll, Uley- increase the height of the house, alter roof tiles, window style and position.  
The Council are concerned that this could set a precedent in the Village, especially as it has happened before. They feel as though this should have been picked up by the Building Control Department whilst it was being built. The house is in a prominent position and is now over-bearing.
- S.19/0531/HHOLD- 5 Green Close, Uley- Demolition of garage and construction of two storey side extension.  
No observations.
- S.19/0631/HHOLD- 27 South Street, Uley- Loft conversion and single-story extension.  
The Council object on the premise of the design. They believe there is excessive cladding and glazing with the extension also being out of proportion with the existing property.

- 15/04/2019 To receive any Planning Decisions
- S.19/0309/TCA- 76 The Street, Uley. Goat Willow (T1)- Prune low branches over grave stones, to about 4 meters high to allow people to be able to walk under/sit under tree. Remove deadwood in crown and remove crossing and rubbing branches throughout crown.  
The Council had some discussion over how to respond to this application. They resolved to ask for an extension of time to respond. PERMISSION
  - S.19/0141/FUL- St Giles Church, Uley. Replace lead flat roof with terne-coated stainless steel.  
The Parish Council support this application.
- 16/04/2019 To consider paying towards the Village Hall wall repair work  
Jonathan Pape, Vice Chairman of the Uley Village Hall Committee briefed the Council on the current condition of the Village Hall. Initially they intended to repair the north wall internally and externally however since meeting with a Structural Engineer they have been informed the damage is more extensive than originally thought. Other areas needing work include the west wall and behind the shed. Councillor Browne commented that until a full building survey has been completed and quotes for the full works obtained, it would be difficult for the Council to provide them with a grant. Debs Paraproska, Chairman of Uley Village Hall Committee informed the Council that they are intending to have the building survey done ASAP. The Village Hall Committee are also trying to obtain funding from the National Lottery Fund and other grant giving bodies. It was resolved that the Village Hall Committee will approach the Council again through the Parish Council's Grant Application process by which point they should have accurate quotations.
- 17/04/2019 To consider a grant towards a new tent/marquee that could be used by village organisations  
Councillor Dembrey briefed the Council on the situation. He had previously loaned out his marquee for events in the village however it has now become unusable. A member of the Ewelme Benefice and the Dembrey's have visited Attwoolls to find a suitable alternative. The cost of the new marquee is £655.69 and they have asked the Parish Council to help towards this. Councillor Dee questioned where it would be kept and Councillor Dembrey informed her it was still in discussions. Councillor Browne enquired as to whether they are looking to others to help fund it and Councillor Dembrey responded by informing the Council they are also reaching out to the Uley Community Shop and donations through the Village News. The Council agreed to provide a grant of £100.
- 18/04/2019 To authorise payments  
Cheques were authorised and signed as follows:
- Clerks Salary
  - Clerks Expenses
  - D A Hill Building Services
  - The Ewelme Benefice
- 19/04/2019 To agree and sign the Clerks Contract  
Members considered the Clerk's proposed contract. Councillor Martin queried the pro rata and asked what the full-time hours equate to. The Clerk is employed on a part time basis of 14 hours a week out of a full time equivalent of 37 hours per week. This will be noted in the contract and then signed at the next meeting.
- 20/04/2019 To receive any reports from PC Representatives  
Councillor Wood reported that the Joint Woodlands Committee would receive a grant of £43,000 for the grasslands to help fund their management over the next ten years. She also informed the Council of a horse orienteering event which is likely to take place in August.

Councillor Martin reported on the recent Stroud District Road Safety Group Meeting. The group are currently working on applying for a Rural Multi-Site Road Traffic Order . Twenty-five sites were suggested at the previous meeting where a revised speed limit was thought appropriate. GCC have stated that a Group Traffic Order would be best and cheapest way to progress this (to be termed a Rural Multi-site Traffic Road Safety Order). The next step is to review the 25 sites and check for appropriateness. This would involve each PC or Town Council collecting data (one week's worth is a minimum) to support the application. There are three ways to do this. 1) Observation and recording – not popular; 2) Request to Highways for a data recorder – cost £250 for a week; 3) Use of mobile VAS equipment if obtained by the Group. It was thought that the whole process could take up to two years.

He also gave the Council a VAS Project Update. They are currently awaiting a response from Gloucestershire County Council for matched funding which may be considered in May. It was agreed that all participating Councils will be asked for a contribution of £250. If all twenty-two Councils agree this would be enough to buy one – or two if matched funding is confirmed.

Finally, Councillor Martin summarised a recent survey published on drivers with the most points on their licence. In Gloucestershire the highest number occur in Wotton under Edge with Dursley being 12<sup>th</sup> in the county.

21/04/2019 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:

- Investigating new Community Notice Boards
- Play Days
- Road Safety Order
- Sewerage Issue
- Bonfire Alternatives

22/04/2019 To confirm the time and date of the next meeting

The next meeting of Uley Parish Council will take place on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 at 7:00pm

Actions:

5/04/2019	Contact some local companies to obtain quotes for Community Notice Board.	Clerk
7/04/2019	Meet Councillor Paraskeva to sign the new banking documents at the nearest available date.	Clerk
7/04/2019	Contact Iain Dumbar to ask whether he could	Councillor Martin
8/04/2019	Contact Paul Helbrow regarding the separate issues of flooding on Lampern Hill	Clerk
8/04/2019	Contact Highways regarding broken railing	Clerk

9/04/2019	Contact Uley Valley Contractors to cut grass in the playground	Clerk
11/04/2019	Ask D A Hill to move forward with their quote to fix guttering	Clerk
14/04/2019	Send in planning responses	Clerk
18/04/2019	Send out cheques	Clerk
19/04/2019	Amend Clerks Contract	Clerk
21/04/2019	Write Village News article	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.*