Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17th July 2024

at Milton-under-Wychwood Village Hall

Present: Cllr Graham Smith, Chairman
Cllr Glynn Allcock
Cllr Rod Blackman
Cllr Jeff Haine
Cllr John Pratt
Cllr Pat Ward
Vanessa Oliveri, Parish Clerk
Chris Trotman, RFO
County Cllr Liz Leffman
District Cllr Adam Clements
8 members of the public

24/045 Apologies for Absence: had been received from Cllr Peter Rawlins.

24/046 Declarations of Interests: None to report.

24/047 Approval of the PC minutes dated 19th June 2024: Cllr Jeff Haine proposed to approve the PC minutes dated 19th June 2024. Cllr John Pratt seconded the proposal. A unanimous vote was taken of all in favour of the proposal put forward.

24/048 Matters Arising: The PC noted that the burger van's remittance had been received. The PC noted that Playdale's quote to supply a basket swing for the play area was £1,229.00 as previously quoted. The PC agreed to order the part required.

24/049 Public Session: Members of the public stated which areas of grass were not being cut in the village. Cllr G Allcock agreed to look at the areas not being cut.

24/050 To receive the following reports

1. **Chairman's report –** nothing to report which isn't covered by an agenda item.
2. **District Councillor's report –** Cllr A Clements reported on the following: -
    - Publica staff would be coming back into WODC.
    - The planning staff was to become local again.
    - Hive grants up to £10,000.00 were open again for community projects.
3. **County Councillor's report –** Cllr L Leffman reported on the following: -
    - Cllr L Leffman had attended a meeting with Chadlington Parish Council recently to discuss traffic related issues due to Diddly Squat being in close proximity. GCC officers want to mitigate traffic and were looking into the parking issue and were trying their best to remedy this problem.
    - OCC had put a verge policy into effect eighteen months ago and had agreed where it was safe to leave long grass on the road sides they would. Vegetation would be cut at junctions etc where it was required on safety grounds.
    - OALC were launching a Town and Parish Charter on a basis on how we can do better jointly.

24/051 Planning

1. **24/01513/S73** | **Lancut House Lyneham Road Milton Under Wychwood Chipping Norton Oxfordshire OX7 6LW** Variation of conditions 2 and 3 from Planning Permission 21/02633/HHD to allow for amendments to the design of the extensions and materials. The PC noted the changes - changed from a pitch to a flat roof on a small rear extension. The other is to change the steel window frames and the concrete mullions to stone and the windows to wood styled pvc. **COMMENT**: No Objection
2. **24/01529/HHD** | **26 Wychwood Drive Milton Under Wychwood Chipping Norton Oxfordshire OX7 6JA** Partial demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single-storey rear extension. **COMMENT:** No Objection

3. **24/01155/FUL | The Homestead Frog Lane Milton Under Wychwood Chipping Norton Oxfordshire OX7 6JZ** Erection of a single dwelling and detached garage and associated works. **COMMENT:** The PC object to this planning objection and note that this application is for the same area as the previously applied for the Tennis Courts. This is an over development of the site and the increase in traffic using the access road will cause problems with safety concern for the entrance onto the Sands with limited vision.
4. **24/01729/HHD | 6 Woodlands Close Milton Under Wychwood Chipping Norton Oxfordshire OX7 6LS** Conversion of garage into office/utility and erection of first floor side extension above garage.
   COMMENT*: No Objection*
5. The PC agreed to adopt the same approach as previously agreed for planning applications which arrive after the July or November meetings. Namely, if an application is uncontentious with a recommendation of no objection (including no objections from neighbours or members of the public), then we should agree to circulate that application and recommendation by email and, in this instance, include it under the planning item on the agenda.
6. **Notification of Planning Appeal - Appeal Ref: APP/D3125/D/23/330240 - 1, Sunny View MUW Decision:** The appeal was allowed, and planning permission had been granted for the erection of a single storey extension to the existing house and a detached utility building, subject to conditions being applied.
7. **Planning Committee Member:** The PC unanimously agreed for Cllr J Haine to join the planning committee.

24/052 RFO report

a. The PC received and unanimously approved the RFO report. The PC agreed to hold back the grass cutting contractors payment. Cllr R Blackman to arrange a site meeting with the grass cutting contractor to discuss the areas of the contract not being undertaken. The PC noted that a claim for VAT had been submitted.
b. June 2024 Summary – The PC received and unanimously approved the June 2024 summary.

24/053 S106

a. Milton-under-Wychwood Heritage Trail - The PC noted the Milton-under-Wychwood Heritage Trail was now in place, with a QR code to scan to provide information on certain points of the Heritage Trail. This had also been publicised locally via the local Facebook page.
b. Cllr G Smith reported that he was meeting with a WODC representative on Friday 19 June to discuss S106 monies and their potential use for the car park re-surfacing and for Village Hall solar panels. Cllr G Smith would report back to Parish Councillors at the next PC meeting.

24/054 S137 applications

a. WOCT update on application – The PC discussed the grant application received further after additional information had been received to help fund the local 210 mini-bus. Cllr J Haine proposed to award £2,000.00 towards funding the local 210 mini-bus. Cllr J Pratt seconded the proposal. A unanimous vote was taken of all in favour of the proposal put forward.

24/055 Village green

a. Repair to area by toddler swings – Cllr Allcock reported that the area by the toddler swings had been dug out, rubber matting had been put in place and the gaps had been filled with soil. In the Autumn the other half of the area would be repaired.
b. Village Fete report – Cllr G Allcock reported that the Village Fete had been a very successful event and recorded a note of thanks to the committee.
c. Insurance claim update – There was no further update to report at the meeting.
d. Car park re-surfacing – Cllr G Smith would provide an update at the next PC meeting as he had a meeting scheduled later this week with WODC to discuss the car park re-surfacing.
e. Grass cutting contract – Cllr G Allcock planned to go through the grass cutting contract with the contractor in September 2024. The contract will need to be amended to include additional areas of grass to be cut within the village as agreed at the previous PC meeting. The contract site plans need to be clarifying with the contractor.
f. A request had been received from the Baptist Church asking permission if they could use part of the village green for parking whilst they hold their Fun Run on 20th July 2024. The PC noted

that this request had been resolved prior to the meeting, another site had been agreed as the Fun Fair would still be on the village green.

24/056 Biodiversity plan

a. Wild flower planting – Cllr G Smith updated the PC on the planting of the wildflowers and the watering. The PC noted that they wildflowers had survived and were thriving.
b. Actions from Sarah's Meadow walk over – The PC noted at the Annual Parish Meeting Toby Swift from the Wychwood Forest Trust suggested a number of actions which the PC could take in Sarah's Meadow to increase biodiversity. One in particular recommended conducting a survey of existing flora and fauna to inform decisions about which other actions to take. Possibly PC volunteers could undertake this exercise, but this might also be something where the PC could collaborate with the guides/scouts.

24/057 Waste Bins

The PC received an update on the emptying of the waste bins around the village green. The PC unanimously agreed for Cllr G Smith to speak to the PC's employee to empty the village green bins and put the bin bags into the trade waste bin by the pavilion. Cllr G Smith would communicate with WODC on this matter as this would reduce the bin emptying costs down from £4,000.00 per annum to £1,500.00 per annum.

24/058 Public session for non-Agenda items

a. Vegetation covering 20pmh speed limit signs on the Bruern Road and also coming into the village – Cllr L Leffman to contact OCC.
b. Some of the 20mph speed limit signs require moving in the village – Cllr L Leffman would look into this matter.
c. Areas of land had been identified in West Oxfordshire's Local Plan for future development. A suggestion was put forward for the PC to meet the developer to discuss their proposed plans.

24/059 Any Other Business

a. Church Wall – needs to be re-pointed. The Chairman agreed to contact the contractor to get a date of when work can be commenced on the church wall.
b. The PC noted that the Cotswold National Landscapes bid for funding from DEFRA had been successful to carry out work on the Oxfordshire Way.
c. The PC noted the highways re-surfacing works scheduled for the village shortly.

The meeting closed at 20.44pm.