Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 20th February 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:
DCllr Haine (JH), Cllrs John Pratt (JP), Rawlins (PR), Saxby (CS), Chairman Trotman (CT), Young (PY).
Parish Clerk: J. Miller. 9 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence: PW

2. Declaration of Interests
JH declared an interest in item 13 and item 16.3 Village Hall.

3. Proposal to approve the minutes of the January meeting.
It was moved to approve the January minutes. Vote taken. All in favour; motion carried. CT signed the minutes.

4. Matters arising from the January meeting
The Sands lighting: CS met with Alan Cockbill from OCC Streetlighting and now awaiting costings from OCC for installing a streetlamp; quotes will be exchanged for cost of solar lighting columns.
Play equipment repairs: Clerk to check works have been carried out.

5. Public session for all items related to this Agenda
Woodland walk budget: Query about the cost and expenditure for the woodland walk. CT confirmed it is cost neutral to the PC. 5m spacing of Woodland Walk trees to avoid heavy maintenance work in future.
PC Budget: Query about increase in insurance costs in 2020-21 however the figures were from a previous budget which has since been updated. Clerk to post current budget on PC website.

6. To receive the following reports:

6.1 Chairman's Report (CT)
Church Wall: Archdeacon has given approval to proceed with notice of works to be given prior to works commencing.
SGN gas works in High Street: No notice was given in November as required of road closures in High Street. CT and PY met with SGN regarding the lack of notice to residents of High Street and other villagers and the need to do the work when previously SGN had said it was not necessary. Due to safety requirements of the gas works involved, the road does need to be closed to through traffic. It will remain open for 'access only'. SGN plan to notify the High Street householders of works progress, which will be closed in 50m sections. They guarantee that access to Jubilee Lane, The Terrace and Poplar Farm Close will always have access to their properties.
Woodland Walk: Thus far, the contractors have regraded the bank, installed the coir matting and the gravel path is being laid. Stabilising of the bank and tree planting will take place shortly.

6.2 District Councillor's Report (JH)
Corporate Peer challenge: JH shared a press release detailing how a report produced by a team of corporate executives and leaders from local authorities across the country praised WODC across many service areas. WODC were advised to ensure staff are fully engaged with new modes of operation as well as engaging residents in major projects.

6.3 County Councillor's Report (LL)
LL said that OCC will undergo a similar peer review to that which JH described in March.
OCC budget: Enormous pressure on funding of adult social care and services for vulnerable adults. This service will receive an 1.9% increase in funding - the maximum increase without a referendum. Road

services budget will also receive a boost. CT suggested that each Councillor report potholes to LL in their given area.
Cherwell District Council and County Council collaboration: Services across the two Councils are working together to improve the working practices eg. Fire service is working with building control. This is proving successful so far.

7. Proposal to co-opt Glynn Allcock as a new councillor to the Parish Council (CT)
It was proposed to co-opt Glynn Allcock onto the PC. Vote taken. All in favour; motion carried.

8. Weed spray tender (CT)
It was proposed to accept the quote for Village Green spray from Complete Weed Control. Vote taken. All in favour; motion carried. David Knight continues on a 3 year contract for the Village pavement spray.

9. Littlestock Brook flood alleviation phase 2: Proposal to formalise Woodland Walk arrangement (CT)
This was deferred to next month's meeting and documentation will be presented then.

10. Neighbourhood Plan Update (JP/PW/PY)
PY reported that a new CFO consultant has been appointed and policies are now being developed. The village will be consulted about these policies prior to being finalised.
JP explained that due to slippage in committed neighbourhood planning activities that still need to be undertaken, NPSG requires deferral of £4,600 + VAT of the current year's budget to the year 2019 – 2020, in order to enable all the necessary tasks to be completed. The sum required does not increase the PC's £18,000 overall budget for this activity. It was proposed to accept this deferral of £4,600 + VAT. Vote taken. All in favour; motion carried.

11. Proposal to review PC Financial Regulations, item 4.1 Budgetary control and authority to spend (CT)
It was proposed to amend item 4.1 of the PC Financial Regulations to be in line with the Model Regulations. Vote taken; all in favour. Motion carried. Clerk to update Financial Regulations accordingly.

12. Proposal to review Clerk and Lengthperson salaries in line with NALC National salary award

12.1 Clerk
It was proposed that Clerk salary remains on point 18 of the new NALC salary scale and increase will apply from 1st April 2019. Vote taken. All in favour; motion carried.

12.2 Lengthperson
It was proposed to accept the salary rise in line with the National Living Wage increase of 4.9% from 1st April 2019. Vote taken. All in favour, motion carried.

13. Planning (PY/PW)
Please refer to www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning for further details of the following applications.
The following planning applications were considered and votes taken:

13.1 19/00145/FUL Foxdale, The Heath.
Demolition of existing outbuildings. Construction of single storey dwelling. There was concern expressed about the potential for flooding and the EA has advised all properties should be built with flood resilience. **Approved**.

13.2 19/00142/HHD 12 High Street.
Conversion of loft to create additional living space with insertion of dormer. The proposed roofline is out of character with the rest of the area. **Object**.

14. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated. Councillors were asked to respond to WODC invitation.

15. Village Green

15.1 To approve damaged pipe groundworks (PR)

PR informed the PC that contractor will meet the PC at site to look at the route of the proposed works. It was proposed to accept the quote. Vote taken; motion carried.

Christmas Tree: Following a meeting at the Green, it was decided that the Tree would remain outside 1 High Street.

Tennis court area: The basketball backboards in need of replacement may cost around £1,500. PR suggests the PC could reproduce them more cheaply. It was suggested that other sports court lines are marked on the court and patches are repaired on the surface. CT suggests football goal posts could be bolted to fencing.

Gates at play area: Bolts will be fitted to allow gates to open inwards only.

Benches: Two damaged benches on the perimeter of the Green will be replaced with benches which are currently in storage.

16. Discretionary donations

16.1 To approve a donation towards Volunteer Link-Up

It was proposed to donate £100 towards this charity. Vote taken. All in favour; motion carried.

16.2 To approve a donation towards Wychwood Day Centre

It was proposed to donate £500 towards this charity. Vote taken. All in favour; motion carried.

16.3 To approve a second donation towards the Village Hall refurbishment

It was proposed to donate £4000 towards the continued refurbishment. Vote taken. All in favour; motion carried. Vote taken; motion carried.

17. Accounts

17.1 To approve the January Receipts, February Payments and bank reconciliation

Total bank balances at 31/01/19 is : **£117,465.42**

It was proposed to accept the Receipts, Payments and bank reconciliation. Vote taken; all in favour. Motion carried.

January Receipts	
Cemetery	445.00
Chip van rent Oct-Dec 18	75.00
TOTAL	**520.00**
February Payments	
Defibrillator pads for Baptist Church	44.28
Village Green investigations	1,105.20
Weed spray 2018	116.67
Tennis court weed spray (£/hr)	35.00
Lengthperson salary	208.15
Clerk salary	369.74
NEST employee pension contribution	39.69
NEST employer pension contribution	23.82
Volunteer Link-Up donation	100.00
Wychwood Day Centre donation	500.00
Village Hall donation	4,000.00
Lengthperson materials	7.02
Playdale repairs and installation	369.94

CFO annual membership 2019-2020	70.00
Grass cutting adverts x2	157.44
Land registry enquiries x3	18.00
TOTAL	**7,164.95**

17.2 To sign January bank statements (CT)

CT checked banks statements and signed them.

17.3 PC Budget revision 2019-20 (JP)

See item 11.

18. Public session for non-Agenda items

Traffic route plan for Spitfire development during gas works: No heavy vehicles should come through the village and the road closure for the gas works will not coincide with the start of works at The Sands development.

St Jude's Meadow housing: In discussions with CT, MacTaggart & Mickel has confirmed that it will still be building the affordable homes but a housing association will manage the sale/rental of them.

Deterioration of road up to High Lodge Farm: CT confirmed that developers have a reparation agreement to repair the road to the condition it was in prior to building works.

Weed spraying: A resident suggested that the Elm Grove grass requires a weed spray.

Netball: There is appetite for netball facilities and there were queries as to whether the PC could consider providing for girls in the village who would be interested in playing netball in Milton when considering the tennis court refurbishment.

19. AOB.

Milton Volunteers: A list of proposed works has been drawn up for the next year. Suggested works include improving footpath bridges in The Sands field and Lancut path; making the stile at the end of the Lancut path more accessible for frail and dogs; weeding and topping up the play area bark. Costings will be presented to the PC prior for approval.

CT closed the meeting at 9.02pm.