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

Present:
DCllr Haine (JH), Cllrs Glynn Allcock (GA), John Pratt (JP), Rawlins (PR), Chairman Trotman (CT).
Parish Clerk: J. Miller. 2 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence
CS and PY.

2. Declaration of Interests
JH declared an interest in Planning matters.

3. Proposal to approve the minutes of the February meeting.
It was moved to approve the February minutes. Vote taken; all in favour. Motion carried. CT signed the minutes.

4. Matters arising from the February meeting
Councillor resignation: CT requested that should it arise, Councillors should please resign in writing to the PC.

5. Public session for all items related to this Agenda
Play equipment: Request that it might be cleaned.
Bruern fingerpost sign: Request that it be replaced.

6. To receive the following reports:

6.1 Chairman's Report (CT)
Church Wall: Faculty approval is expected to be finalised shortly.
SGN gas works in High Street: Works are being slightly delayed by tarmac deliveries.
Woodland Walk: 70 members of the village were involved in the tree planting day on Saturday and around 200 were planted. Spiling will be completed through Wild Oxfordshire.
Double yellow lines: Previous enquiries have resulted in decision not to pursue the yellow lines since they require a traffic warden to police them which is not realistic in the village. Without adequate 'policing' OCC are unlikely to grant the request. White lines might be preferable and the PC will wait on Cllr Liz Leffman enquiries into painting these when other white lines are upgraded around the village in future and if this is an option, she will arrange a meeting between the PC and a member of the OCC Highways team to discuss potential locations for white lines.
Churchyard trees pruning: Minor works required.
New Road damage: Following HGV use recently witnessed, the road has been deteriorating. Members of the public are asked to note vehicle details and registration numbers, contractors etc for reporting to the PC.

6.2 District Councillor's Report (JH)
Council tax: WODC has levied a 5% increase which is the cheapest in the County and second cheapest in the country.
Planning site visit at the Tews: JH will attend a visit to the site of a large scale tourist development proposed which includes accommodation which will significantly increase the volume of traffic in the area and the character of the villages.

6.2 County Councillor's Report (LL)

Gigaclear broadband upgrade works: Road closure might impact on farm traffic around Bruern. GA from the PC is also meeting with Gigaclear this week.

Peer review: Currently in process with feedback being delivered on Friday.

7. Littlestock Brook flood alleviation phase 2: Woodland Walk arrangement (CT)

7.1 Proposal to formalise the Woodland Walk arrangement

Originally, ToE were to be source of funding but proved to be insufficient to cover the proposals. A large grant from Thames Water was sought instead and spending adjusted to ensure the project was covered by the grant. The grant needed to be spent by the end of April. Progress report is nearing completion and a Beneficial review will be completed in the coming weeks. With the exception of 2 negative responses, the PC has received an overwhelmingly positive feedback. CT sought approval for spiling, tree stock, tree planting equipment. Wild Oxfordshire has signed off the contractor work. CT also sought approval for payment of 95% of the total figure, around £20,000. Vote taken; all in favour. Motion carried. Payments will be made in the next financial year. JP wished to commend CT for his commitment to the project which has taken a considerable amount of time over the past year.

8. Neighbourhood Plan update (JP/PW)

The NPSG approved payment of the last CFO invoice of the financial year which uses all of the remaining grant funds. The next grant, available from 1st April may now be sought.

9. Consideration of grass cutting tenders (CT)

Two grass cutting tenders have been received and were considered at the PC meeting. It was moved to approve one based on quality of work in evidence and locality. Vote taken; 5 votes in favour, 1 abstention. Motion carried. Clerk to inform contractors of the decision.

10. Fuel allotment charity accounts

10.1 Proposal to separate Charity accounts from PC accounts

Clerk is in contact with the Charity Commission about the reason for continuing or closing the Charity. This decision will be postponed until definitive advice is received from the CC. The PC is the sole trustee and the Charity is required to be administered by a governing body which should include the PC as trustee as well as others. The objectives of both the PC and the Charity are now so similar that it could be argued that there is no need to maintain the Charity as a separate entity.

10.2 Proposal to redraft budget 2019-20 resulting from charity account separation and in the event of the Charity accounts not being separated.

It was proposed to approve both budgets with the decision to be taken about which will be adopted once advice is received from the Charity Commission, with just one amendment to the Village Green Maintenance budget to allow for the delayed pipe works – this amounts to £2000 from £200. Vote taken; all in favour. Motion carried.

11. Proposal to increase 'Wychwoods Together' budget

It was moved to budget a further £30 for the meeting refreshments in April. Vote taken; all in favour. Motion passed.

12. Correspondence

No comments.

13. Village Green
No comments.

14. Accounts

14.1 To approve the March Payments and bank reconciliation

The March payments and February receipts, bank reconciliation were approved. Vote taken; all in favour. Motion carried. Total bank balances at 28/02/19 is : **£110,300.47**

February Receipts	
No receipts.	
TOTAL	**£0.00**
March Payments	
dog waste bags	69.65
lengthperson salary	206.84
lengthperson materials	3.51
Play area gate repairs	10.33
Play area gate repairs	0.50
clerk salary + 4.5 hrs overtime (minus pension)	419.98
Photocopies	9.25
printer ink	19.95
Employee pension contribution	45.27
Employer pension contribution	27.16
CFO NP support	2,376.00
Defibrillator pads replacement	86.22
TOTAL	**3,274.66**

14.2 To sign February bank statements (CT)

The bank statements were checked and signed.

15. Public session for non-Agenda items

Milton Volunteers: The PC was informed of the planned works on The Sands field bridge, Lancut stile accessibility improvements and Lancut bridge improvements. Clerk to contact OCC about work on the public footpaths.

16. AOB.

The Tews planning proposals: PR wished to express his concern about the proposals.
Wychwood Forest open day walk: 14th April 2019
Annual Parish Meeting: APM will take place on 1st May for members of the public to hear from the local organisations who have received support from the PC over the past year. Clerk will send invites.
All-weather sports pitch at Primary School: Query about the completion of the project. Clerk understands that the School have the donor letters in hand.

CT closed the meeting at 8.44pm.