

**MINUTES OF OCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
THURSDAY 6th MAY 2021
held remotely on Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions
Commenced at 8.00 PM**

PRESENT: Dr Aish (Chair) Mrs Jamieson (Vice Chair) Miss Lofthouse Mr Walton Mrs Walton	In attendance: Mrs Blackwell (Parish Clerk) 4 Local Residents SCC Cllr Iles
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1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Dr Aish Chaired the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Waldman and GBC Cllr Cross

2. Approve Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 9th April 2019.

The Minutes were approved. There was no Annual Parish Meeting held in 2020 due to Covid - 19 restrictions

3. Chair's Annual report of the Parish Council 2020-21.

Dr Aish presented the Annual report. Summary of the year included:

- Meetings of OPC from April 2020 were all held on Zoom. Councillors soon became accustomed to this type of meeting. However after 7th May 2021 OPC will be obliged to return to physical meetings in the Church, taking care to comply with COVID regulations at the time.
- Three Farms Meadows was acquired in March 2020 by Taylor Wimpey, who have spent the last year trying to progress the development of the site, following the allocation as a Strategic Site in the 2019 GBC Local Plan. TW invited neighbouring Parish Councils and others to form a Community Liaison Group, and the Chair participated in 10 such meetings, which were held on Zoom. It has been an excellent opportunity to hear of TW plans and their difficulties, with support from other local participants. A major obstacle continues to be the difficulty in finding safe cycle routes to Horsley, Effingham Junction and other stations. As Chair I wrote two letters to Parishioners describing what was happening, and TW attended 4 meetings of the Council on Zoom. A neighbourhood meeting was set up by TW but the Webinars were not popular because the TW PR team filtered the questions.
- Applications were submitted for a Stub Road and for preliminary work for the northern SANGS, and OPC, with help from WAG, submitted very detailed objections. These applications were linked to the application to the Secretary of State by Highways England for a Development Control Order for the M25/J10 works; the DCO application had also received extensive objections and the SoS decision has been deferred to 12th May.
- OPC joined with Ripley and Wisley to complete the Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan. It needed careful wording to recognise the widespread objection to the TFM development with the requirement that the LNP could not be inconsistent with the GBC Local Plan. The lengthy process producing the LNP should come to an end with the referendum taking place today.
- The neighbourhood continued to suffer from racing motorcycles on the old runway. This was reduced with the help of SCC Councillor Julie Iles who met with police to get a Dispersal Order. Though successful it only lasts six months and the motorcycles do return from time to time. TW have also been helpful by introducing a security guard to patrol the airfield.
- During the year OPC regularly discussed the prospects for saving the Parish Rooms,

with one parishioner claiming that a viable Business Plan had been submitted to the Trustees without response. The Council listened to the questions and, not being in a position to answer them, promised to pass them on to the Trustees. No other action was considered by the Council.

- OPC purchased two Vehicle Activated Road signs with matched funding from GBC to try to reduce the speed of traffic through the village. The poles have been installed and the Council is waiting for the SCC contractor to fix the Signs in place. Councillor Garry Walton organised the purchase of the signs and has worked with SCC officer Bahram Assadi to make progress and to bring to his attention a project for traffic calming at Church End on the corner with Guilehill Lane.
- Councillor Imogen Jamieson has kept OPC up to date on Planning Applications in the Parish and written many letters of objection. She has also reviewed possibilities for managing Ockham Village Green. A long-standing problem at Brick Kiln Farm has been brought to a head with the Enforcement team at GBC with considerable encouragement from SCC Councillor Julie Iles.
- Councillor Cathy Walton has taken on the task of keeping OPC briefed on Climate Change, attending meetings with others in the Borough.
- Thank Councillor Jan Lofthouse for her attendance in the face of very critical comments.
- Councillor Simon Waldman has hosted all our Zoom meetings. He is also planning to get help with our website having received a grant towards this from the SCC Members Allowance. Parishioner Tony Forrest is hoping to get enough subscribers for a new faster broadband connection in the village.
- Thank our enthusiastic and knowledgeable Clerk who has laboured hard to keep OPC in compliance with regulations.

4. Questions from Parishioners

Q1: Update shared with the Resident who joined the meeting on the statement recently issued by the Trustees of Ockham Parish Rooms on the decision to sell the Parish Rooms. Residents expressed their concerns about the decision and that there has been no forum to speak to the Trustees. Residents wanted to know where the £750K from the sale is going.

A: Dr Aish agreed to pass on the requests to the Trustees of the Parish Rooms for copies of the Minutes of the Meeting which records the decision making process to sell the Parish Rooms, Minutes of Meetings at which the Management Committee of 7 was operating and Accounts for the year ended March 2020 and March 2021.

Q2: Mrs Walton asked Cllr Iles for an update on the request to repair the pavements in Ockham.

A: Cllr Iles advised it is part of the Horizon programme and they will look at what is programmed and viable.

Q3: Update on other SCC matters

A: Cllr Iles updated on the tree planting, under the current administration they have made a commitment to tree planting and investment of £5.2 million over 5 years as part of climate change.

Sustainable cycle routes need to be revisited by Taylor Wimpey. Cllr Iles has been invited to as transport review group.

The Chair thanked Cllr Iles for all her work in supporting OPC during the year.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.25pm

Alyson Blackwell, Clerk to Ockham Parish Council