

Minutes of Over Wallop Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 6th May 2021 at 7.00pm using the Zoom App.

Present: Cllr K Dixon – Chairman
Cllr J Taylor Firth – Vice Chairman
Cllr D Boardman
Cllr V Barnard
Cllr C Smith
Cllr I Cleife
Borough Councillors I Jeffrey and D Coole
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Members of the Public – 10

Apologies: Cllr T Burden, Cllr M Glover and Borough Councillor M Flood.

WELCOME. Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

The Parish Council declared an interest in Planning Application 21/01181/FULLN

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.

CHAIRMAN: The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman. Cllr D Boardman proposed Cllr K Dixon as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr J Taylor Firth. There were no other nominations. All agreed. Cllr K Dixon was elected Chairman.

VICE CHAIRMAN: The Clerk asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr K Dixon proposed Cllr J Taylor Firth as Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr C Smith. There were no other nominations. All agreed. Cllr J Taylor Firth was elected Vice Chairman.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING.

The Minutes of the April Meeting were approved as a true record. Proposed by Cllr C Smith and seconded by Cllr I Cleife

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Cheques and Payments issued May 2021

R.N. Waterman	Wages	£500.00
Came and Company	Insurance	£195.85
CFW	Architect Fees	£5,130.00
Planning Portal	Planning Application	£721.00
SSE Contracting	New Street Light	£713.83
Katie Wills	Tennis Net Bars	£23.94
		<u>£7,284.62</u>

INCOME.

½ Precept from TVBC	=	£16,000.00
CIL Development Money	=	£4,990.00
	=	<u>£20,990.00</u>

Bank Account Balances

After above movements:

Current Account = £41,471.24

Premier Account = £10,041.91

Allotments = £ 407.56

£51,920.71

Proposed by Cllr J Taylor Firth and seconded by Cllr D Boardman.

PLANNING

21/00136/TREEN – Tree Works - Roumain Cottage – NO COMMENT

21/00127/TPON – Fell 2 Yew Trees – The Walled Garden, 3 Appleton Close – NO COMMENT

21/01181/FULLN – Demolition and replacement of existing sports pavilion building, extension to parking area, relocation of cricket nets and associated works – Sports Field, Salisbury Lane, Over Wallop. – SUPPORT.

This planning application was submitted by the Parish Council. Therefore, all the Parish Councillors declared an interest.

URGENT ITEMS.

FIBRE TO THE HOME PROJECT – The Chairman asked for a volunteer to join the Nether and Over Wallop working group looking into Fibre to the Home. Mr Chris Sanger stated that he would be interested in representing Over Wallop on the working group. The Chairman thanked Mr Sanger.

DRIFTWAY BRIDLEWAY ISSUE – The Chairman reported that the problem has eased. On the HCC Definitive Map, it has been confirmed that Driftway is indeed a bridleway and the Chairman read the official definition of a bridleway which is not open to motorised vehicles unless they have been given permission (for example to a landowner or farmer, a resident with access from the bridleway or emergency vehicles). No further action from the Parish Council is needed.

REFUSE ISSUE – The Chairman reported that TVBC have identified an issue while emptying the dog bin at the Evans Close play area. Human waste is regularly put in the red dog bin. TVBC offer a clinical waste service and can be contacted in confidence on 01264 368000.

PLANNING APPLICATION 21/00341/FULLN, THE BUNGALOW, CRAYDOWN LANE – Cllr M Glover had requested that the Chairman report back on the Parish Council's response to this planning application at the March Meeting.

The Chairman reported that she had spoken to the Planning Officer and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services at TVBC. The planning application that the Parish Council supported in November 2020 was withdrawn. The planning application presented in March 2021 was judged on the information presented. The Parish Council must look at each planning application afresh and make comment in its limited role as consultee, on the information provided. The decision to object and the comments made at the March 2021 meeting are not challengeable. The Chairman stated that this issue is now closed. All agreed.

The Chairman reported that planning permission has been granted.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN RESOLUTION.

OWPC resolves to appoint Bluestone Consultants to help with the OWPNDP and will apply for the Locality Grant to fund this. All agreed.

SPEED WATCH

The Chairman proposed that Over Wallop partner Nether Wallop in the purchase of secondhand speed monitoring equipment from Tangley Parish Council. The 50% share will cost £500. All agreed.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chairman closed the meeting.

The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 3 June 2021 in the Wallops Parish Hall.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOLLOWED THIS MEETING AT 7.30PM.

MINUTES BELOW.

Minutes of Over Wallop Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 6th May 2021 at 7.00pm using the Zoom App.

Present: Cllr K Dixon – Chairman
Cllr J Taylor Firth – Vice Chairman
Cllr D Boardman
Cllr V Barnard
Cllr C Smith
Cllr I Cleife
Borough Councillors I Jeffrey and D Coole
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Members of the Public – 10

Apologies: Cllr T Burden, Cllr M Glover and Borough Councillor M Flood.

WELCOME. Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Good evening. Thank you for joining us for what I hope will be our last Zoom meeting. We have only missed one meeting throughout the pandemic which was in April last year and so we have invited you all here tonight to update you on the Parish Council's progress over the last two years.

Our precept, which is the Parish Council's income from Council Tax has remained at £32,000 since 2016, an average payment of £40.46, representing a reduction of 2.1% this year due to the increase in the number of houses in the Parish. We have a full Parish Council of 8 members, one of whom, Cllr Burden, is unable to be with us tonight on Zoom but is the Councillor for Palestine. Changes in personnel include the resignation of Bob Elliot from the PC in Autumn 2019 and his replacement by Cllr Cleife. In October 2019 the Parish lost Tony Hope who had been a Borough Councillor for 50 years. His widow continues to live in the Parish. Andrew Gibson, who has been our Hampshire County Councillor and retires today from that post, has been extremely supportive and helpful over all the issues we have taken to him and we wish him well and thank him for his help.

The longest running project of the Parish Council is the proposed one year traffic calming trial scheme. This has been beset with many delays and I am sorry to report that we have still made no progress, since the agreement to create a turning circle on Salisbury Lane has been stuck at the legal stage for many months now. We have missed all the proposed start dates but I will report to the Parish Council as soon as Hampshire County Council make any progress with this. I am in constant contact with Jakub Styszynski at HCC and will be, with our new County Councillor who is in the process of being elected today.

Much of the work of the Parish Council is unseen, unglamorous but important. Our clerk Richard Waterman undertakes most of this work, organising grass cutting, reporting on flashing speed reminder signs, updating the website and arranging important maintenance work throughout the year, as well as masterminding the replacement of the parish streetlights as they reach the end of their useful lives. To date 16 have been replaced with modern, lower cost versions and 12 old lights remain, of which we expect one or two to need replacing in the next year.

Every month we look at the Over Wallop planning applications. In the last two years we have commented on around 90 applications, supporting nearly 50%, with no comment or no objection to 45% and objecting to a total of 5. Our role is that of consultee and we can only comment on planning grounds. Parish Councils' influence over planning is limited but I will come on to the NDP later which will give the community a much greater say.

The report from Cllr Burden on Palestine, is that it remains quiet, although the recent road repairs on the junction of Zion Road and Mount Carmel Road are already breaking up and we need to report this to HCC. In early 2020 the Parish Council organised a half day visit to the Army Air Centre with some residents of Palestine who had expressed concerns about overflying helicopters. We were most warmly welcomed and given several presentations, with the underlying message being that the trainee pilots need to practise and whilst they do their best to avoid residential areas, it is not always possible.

In 2019 the Wallops Village Shop was struggling financially. Cllr Boardman joined the Shop Committee, and the Parish Council made a grant of £5,646 to replace all their chillers and freezers. This has brought down running costs and the shop is now on a stronger footing. Cllr Boardman will present his report on Sport and Leisure, including our exciting plans for the Sports Pavilion, along with a fuller shop update.

The Wallops Parish Hall will be reported on by Cllr Taylor Firth. This is jointly owned by Over and Nether Wallop Councils and run by a committee from both parishes. An outstanding access issue was resolved in 2019 and the hall runs very successfully when there is not a global pandemic in the way. Cllr Taylor Firth will also update on the successful restoration of the War Memorial. In May 2020, on VE Day and again in August for VJ Day, parishioners swathed the memorial in flowers, giving us all a much-needed boost by bringing us together whilst we had to remain apart.

Cllr Glover will make his report on the Brownjohn Allotments and Councillor Barnard on administration and risk assessments. Cllr Cleife holds responsibility for Pound Road and is working on a resilience plan for the parish in the event of a disaster such as a helicopter crash or flooding. Cllr Smith works on the leisure and trees portfolio with Cllr Boardman and also holds responsibility for footpaths which he manages with help from the Hampshire funded Lengthsman scheme.

Over Wallop was of course affected by the Covid-19 Pandemic. A call from the Parish Council for volunteers had a magnificent response of over 40 volunteers and whilst there was relatively little call on their time, the project was generously organised by the Wallops Good Neighbours who have gained an extra 21 full volunteers. Over Wallop PC gave the WGN a grant of £500 alongside a Covid grant from Test Valley of another £500. This has now been spent on funding 84 drives, including several trips to vaccination centres. The WGN has sent us their thanks, but it is we who should thank them for managing the significant extra administrative burden and helping us without hesitation. Spurred on by the difficulty of communicating effectively and fast with the whole parish at the beginning of the pandemic, we have launched the Hub, an email system created and managed by the editor of the Parish News and other kind parishioners. May I encourage you all to join the 223 people already signed up, to what is proving to be an effective means of engagement with the parish. Details are on overwallopparishcouncil.org.

The Hub has been a valuable resource along with the website, the Parish Magazine and NextDoor.com, in communicating the Safer Travel Survey, a joint project with NWPC. This was open in December 2020 and was an opportunity for parishioners to have a full

and detailed say on their views about traffic, cycling and walking through the Parish. 164 responses were received, and the results are published in full on the Parish Council website. The working group has made recommendations which are being followed through with Hampshire County Council and the parish councils. One of these is the creation of a speed watch group, for which we already have around 16 volunteers. The councils are buying speed watch equipment from Tangley, liaising with the police and shortly will be out on the road trying it out.

Perhaps the biggest project to be undertaken by Over Wallop Parish Council, in concert with many other parishes across the country, is the creation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan. This is a government run initiative to give planning influence back to local areas through a rigorous and prescribed process of consultation, engagement and discussion with the parish. Once complete and approved by Test Valley Borough Council, the parish will vote on the plan and if accepted, it will be incorporated into the Test Valley Local Plan, giving it statutory weight and Over Wallop a 25% share of all CIL money instead of the current 15%. This is the Community Infrastructure Levy paid by developers to Test Valley for the benefit of the community. We launched the NDP in the WPH in October with a presentation of the process involved, maps of the parish and the Parish Profile. 32 parishioners attended and 16 volunteered to get involved. A steering group sub committee and working groups have been formed – over 20 people are involved at this stage and we are currently analysing the results of the first survey which was put through every door in the parish over the weekend of 10/11 April. 227 responses were collected. Full updates are available on OWparishNDP.uk which is the new website for the NDP, linked both to and from the OWPC website. Please do get involved with the surveys and the process – it's an invaluable opportunity for your voice to be heard and for your views to count.

New projects to be considered by the Parish Council include a FTTH (Fibre to the Home) initiative run by a resident of Nether Wallop. The proposal is to form a working party from both parishes to progress this exciting opportunity. We will consider a request from Wilder Wallops for No Mow May – something we have just received and will be discussing over email and reporting back at the next PC meeting. We are also planning a parish party, initially intended to celebrate the rededication of our War Memorial and then the end of Lockdown but now under review for 2022 when I hope we can all gather and meet old friends whilst making new ones.

Thank you all in Over Wallop for your support for and encouragement of the Parish Council – it is greatly appreciated. Richard Waterman, our indispensable clerk without whom nothing could happen, will now take us through the end of year financial report, before we hear the individual councillors' reports and our Borough Councillors' reports. We will then open the floor for the most important part of the evening which is to listen to your questions and comments. Thank you.

FINANCE – END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS.

OVER WALLOP PARISH COUNCIL

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021.

2019/2020		2020/2021
£	RECEIPTS	£
32,000.00	Precept	32,000.00
5.50	Bank Interest	2.61

29,901.55	Parish Hall / War Memorial Project	83,997.49
850.00	Grants Parish Hall insurance	850.00
Nil	Sports Field Lettings	95.00
10,032.64	VAT Refund	16,992.47
2,889.81	Refunds	146.83
156.07	Allotments	370.00
	TVBC Covid-19 Grant	500.00
<u>75,835.57</u>		<u>134,954.40</u>
	PAYMENTS	
970.15	Administration and Web Site	823.62
5,580.00	Staffing Costs	6,000.00
875.00	Audit Charges	1,045.00
36.00	Subscriptions	36.00
2,316.00	Insurance	1,175.10
20,857.34	Village Hall	145.23
510.74	Flashing Speed Signs	473.78
11,340.35	Street Lighting	3,423.80
120.00	Storage	120.00
144.00	Play Area	
2,544.47	Pavilion	2,615.41
3,097.00	Sports Field - Grass/Maintenance	1,047.24
6,717.96	- Trees	
1,504.72	Village Clock	
320.00	Defibrillator Batteries	
50.00	Section 137 Payments - School Prize	50.00
5,646.00	- Wallops Shop	
1,000.00	- Wallop Good Neigh	
1,007.08	War Memorial	75,381.04
2,905.00	Village Maintenance/Footpaths	6,019.00
9,251.12	VAT on Payments	16,492.62
2,250.94	Dog Bins	
376.00	Allotments	281.36
232.50	Cricket Club Grant / NDP Admin	42.00
<u>79,652.36</u>		<u>115,172.20</u>
27,319.83	Opening Balance 1 st April 2020	23,503.04
75,835.57	Plus Income	134,954.40
<u>103,155.40</u>		<u>158,457.44</u>
79,652.36	Less Expenditure	115,172.20
<u>23,503.04</u>		<u>43,285.24</u>

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020/2021

The Clerk read out the Annual Governance Statement 2020/2021 ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statement.

The Annual Governance Statement was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr J Taylor Firth and seconded by Cllr V Barnard. All Agreed. The Chairman and the Clerk will sign the relevant paperwork.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2020/2021

The Annual Accounting Statement 2020/2021 was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr J Taylor Firth and seconded by Cllr D Boardman. All agreed. The Chairman and Clerk will sign the relevant paperwork.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.

CLLR J TAYLOR FIRTH – Gave an up-date on the Parish Hall during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Parish Hall has been shut for most of the time during the Covid -19 Pandemic, opening when Government Guidelines allowed.

CLLR V BARNARD – Reported that she has reviewed all the Parish Council's legal documents and up-dated where necessary. All are available to view on the parish Council Website. Cllr V Barnard reported that she has also carried out full hire and Fire Risk assessments on the Pavilion.

CLLR C SMITH – Reported that the footpaths are all clear and walkable.

CLLR D BOARDMAN - The Covid pandemic did make 2020 difficult, both in enabling sporting activities and in maintenance of the facilities due to various restrictions being in place, most of the year from end of March 2020, but here are the highlights:

- Pezzaz Soccer Training for kids – this did take place in 2019 and 2020, and has commenced again in 2021. This is twice a week on Mondays and Thursday from April to September.
- Cricket – a partial extended season was completed in 2020 and the cricket will recommence in late April 2021 with a full fixture list for 2021.
- Tennis coaching – we did achieve this in August, and unlike the Croquet World Cup even had a reserve day for rain, so fulfilled all 3 days in 2020, and plan to run 2 event in the summer holidays for 2021.
- Tree Survey – as a PC we are obliged to undertake a Tree Survey of all large trees (trunk over 300mm in diameter) every 18 months, and previous one was in September 2019 and the current one, scheduled for April 19th 2021, is now completed. I will produce a summary of actions recommended for the Parish Council this month, May, to be reviewed at the next PC meeting in June.
- Tree Removal – sadly due to various diseases 22 large trees have been removed in the last 5 years from the AEMG. A sapling survey indicated that we have 30 saplings of large trees of a variety of species that have taken root - sycamore, beech, maple and walnut. We do plan a replanting program this autumn for some specific areas where the tree cover has been significantly depleted.
- Tree Removal 2021 – We sadly had to remove 6 large trees in 2019 and early 2020. If any large trees have to be removed for safety reasons this year I will need to take a different approach to removing tree trunks as someone took a chain saw up there and dismembered tree trunks. This is not allowed for health & safety reasons.
- MUGA – this has been cleaned and all moss and weeds removed this year, in March. A maintenance program, specifically targeted at moss prevention will be put in place from October this year to preserve the playing surface for as long as possible.
- Evans Close Children's Play Area – the protective surface surroundings for the swings were replaced with a lifetime recycled product to prevent tripping.
- Evans Close Hedges – one hedge was drastically cut as was imposing on 25 Evans Close and the significant amount of cuttings debris was removed by myself and Charles Bromley Gardener – big thanks to him!

- Evans Close Dog Waste Bins – one was moved 20 yds as was outside no.25 Evans Close, and in summer the smell is appalling. Some local residents are now using the waste bin to deposit dog waste from their gardens, as they cannot be bothered to walk the extra 20 yards. This needs to be made unacceptable by the residents of Evans Close, Appleton Mews and the surrounding households.
- New Pavilion – having attempted to refurbish and extend the current pavilion during 2019 and 2020 – we discovered we could not extend it due to mains water pipe and its proximity to the pavilion. We have now engaged CFW architects to redesign the pavilion and hope to progress to planning application was submitted in April. This includes extension and resurfacing of car park and moving the cricket nets.
- Current Pavilion – we intend to complete work on existing boiler and enable the provision of hot water in the pavilion for showers once they are allowed to be used, which is no sooner than June 21st 2021.
- Wallop Shop – I am on the committee for this. In the past year we have seen a significant increase in footfall, and hence turnover, for the shop, due to Covid restrictions. A large proportion of the increased footfall has been retained, and the last set of accounts indicate that the shop has moved from loss-making to break-even. This is also due to cost reductions such as power for refrigeration costs by replacement of display cabinets. The shop committee will continue to focus on the sustainability of this critical village service.
- Post Office – many of you will be aware of the disgraceful behaviour towards sub-post office managers over the past two decades or more regarding the Fujitsu supplied Horizon accounting software application installed by the Post Office from 1999, and the scandalous determination to hold sub-post office managers responsible for the financial inaccuracies generated by this flawed system, flaws which were identified and raised with PO senior management years ago. I am personally delighted that all judicial proceedings regarding our post office have been overturned in the Court of Appeal. I shall follow with interest the legal proceedings against the Post Office and some employees following this abuse of corporate power and the application for restitution of lost earnings and damages.

Many of these activities are taking place under current Covid rules, and these are being vigorously applied in terms of pavilion usage and Covid cleaning before any event. Currently the only facilities that can be used are the toilets.

All sporting activities have taken, and are taking, place under the guidelines issued by the government and relevant national sporting body, the FA, the ECB and the LTA. All of these are now published, though very late in some cases– which did not help in restarting sporting activities in 2020 and 2021.

Dogs - I will make one request. The AEMG is a wonderful area for dog walking, but I still have to monitor the area for dog waste, please remove, and place in the provided bins and please help me police it. If you see someone not taking responsibility for their dog, speak up and help the rest of us.

MUGA – People have been observed using the MUGA as a dog exercise yard, and allowing their dogs to pee and leave waste in there. I put up notices last year stating **No Dogs Allowed** in the MUGA, and these were torn down and thrown away. I do not want to start locking the facility as this will stop casual users and kids playing up there and using it for informal sports, as it should be. Please help us in keeping this facility for its proper use and keeping is safe for children to use. If you see anyone doing this please stop them and notify the Parish Council. I plan to place 2 permanent NO DOGS signs on the entrance to the MUGA.

Finally, the plan currently is for the Annual Veterans Car fair to take place this year, it was cancelled in 2020, and we hope that it can take place this year in 2021. Planning has commenced on this event.

Here is hoping for some form of normality later this year and increased activities for of all us.

CLLR I CLEIFE – Reported that he is working on the Parish Resilience Plan.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR I JEFFERY

Cllr I Jeffery ran through the issues in the latest Mid Test Matters that had been distributed to the Parish Councillors prior to the meeting.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR D COOLE.

Cllr Mr D Colle spoke about the challenging year Test Valley Borough Council have had during the Covid-19 Pandemic. There have been many covid grants available to keep local businesses afloat. Work on the local plan to go carbon natural is underway. The Garden Waste collection now has 18,000 subscribers.

MEMBRS OF THE PUBLIC.

Issues raised included:

Traffic Calming

Neighbourhood Watch

The Royal British Legion celebrations on the 15th May.

Mr Peter Hoped stated that he thought the Parish Council were doing a good job.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.