

Minutes of Oddington Parish Extraordinary Meeting
Oddington Village Green
Thursday 6th August 2020 at 7pm

1. Apologies for absence were received from Jennie Drewett, Neil Grantham.

Apologies, and Proxies in favour of the Chair of the Meeting, were received from Lesley & Gerry Johnson, Claire & Kevin Vickers, Ann & Brian Baker, Francesca & Michael Heaney, Linda Franklin.

Present: Adrian & Sarah Young, Glenys Edwards, Anthony Miller, Margaret & Nigel Lambert, Rebecca Ashfield, Anita Franklin, Julie & Mark Goodall, Karen & Mark Stanley-Price, Julie Howkins, Celia & Mark Warde-Aldam, Emily & Peter Tarrega, Juliette Bostwick, Susan Gosling, Heidi & Jonathan Smith, Ian Kay, Julia Burchill, Shane Rooney, Vicky Robinson.

2. To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 26th April 2019.

Proposed Adrian Young, seconded Mark Stanley-Price, passed unopposed.

3. (i) To approve the annual accounts for the year 1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020 and

(ii) To approve individual payments made during the year

The Chair briefly presented the details of the accounts to the Meeting, indicating our income and its source from a 'grass cutting grant', the receipt of which is made possible by residents voluntarily cutting areas of grass adjoining the road in front of their properties. Expenditure was confined to three items; a contractor (Russell Lambert) cutting the grass on the village green, the cost of hiring the church for village meetings, and a subscription to the Green Belt Network (see below). The meeting had a shortfall of income versus expenditure in the region of £129 for the year, but currently has reserves of £2,613, so unless outgoings increase markedly no parish precept is expected to be charged in the near future.

Approval of both items proposed by Adrian Young, seconded Anita Franklin, passed unopposed.

4. (i) To receive and note the Internal Audit Report

(ii) To approve the Annual Governance Statement – Section 1

(iii) To approve the Accounting Statements – Section 2

(iv) To approve the Certificate of Exemption from limited assurance review

The Chair presented these documents to the Meeting. He thanked Ed Boanas for kindly completing our internal audit, thereby saving the Meeting the cost of a 'professional' assessment. The Chair explained the items featuring on the Annual Governance statement, in which all the responses were affirmative. The Accounting Statements contain the same figures as our annual accounts, plus the corresponding figures for the previous year. The Chair explained the importance of the Certificate of Exemption (from limited assurance review) and the need for the Meeting to approve this.

Approval of all four items proposed by Adrian Young, Seconded Ian Kay, passed unopposed.

5. Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040

The Chair explained the terms of reference of this recently-received document, of which he had a hard copy. It is also available online. He encouraged residents to read this, although changes to planning

controls just proposed by central government might mean that Cherwell's plan would become less relevant; time will tell.

6. Oxford Green Belt Network.

The Chair explained the purpose of the Network in seeking to protect the Green Belt surrounding Oxford. The cost of the annual subscription to this is just £15 per year. The Chair indicated he was in favour of continuing our membership, as was Gerry Johnson, our Treasurer. These recommendations were accepted by the Meeting.

7. Elections of Chair and Treasurer. Adrian Young as Chair, and Gerry Johnson as Treasurer were willing to remain in office until the next Annual Meeting. They were elected unopposed.

8. Any other business.

Mark Stanley-Price felt we should make an effort to examine the Cherwell Local Plan Review and submit comments to Cherwell District Council. He, together with Rebecca Ashfield and Jonathan Smith, kindly undertook to do this, and will later meet with the Chair who will pass any response to Cherwell D.C.

Ian Kay noted the damaged road sign at the foot of the road; the Chair has already reported this.

Mark Stanley-Price proposed a vote of thanks to the two officers of the Meeting, which is appreciated.

Nigel Lambert gave a brief update on renovations to our church; work on the tower costing in the order of £85,000 will begin very shortly; this and other works undertaken in the past few years will total about £250,000. Celia Warde-Aldam proposed a vote of thanks to Nigel and to Mark Stanley-Price for the huge amount of work they have done raising these enormous sums and organising the work. Without their efforts we would almost certainly now have no functioning church in the village. As our only public building it serves many purposes beyond the religious; in effect we use it as others might a village hall. Without it a vital resource of the village would be lost. Our grateful thanks to Nigel and to Mark.

The Meeting closed at 7.40 pm.