**Dorchester Parish Council**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 17th April commencing at 9.15 p.m. after the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting. The Chairman, Cllr Chris Hill, presided; present were Cllrs. Rob Ballantyne, Maurice Day, Viviane Quirke, Mike Rimmer and Mark Williams (Vice-Chairman) with G Russell in attendance.

1/4. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Oliver Margison and Keith Russell, District Cllr John Cotton and County Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale.

2/4 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The Chairman - land at Waterloo and behind 13 Bridge End as before (Minute 3/3/18)

3/4 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 13th March 2019

It was proposed by Cllr Mike Rimmer that the Minutes as circulated should be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Viviane Quirke and carried unanimously. The Chairman signed the Minutes as being a true record.

4/4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

a. The Council noted that much of Bishops Court Farm is now being offered for sale via Knight Frank. The details are available on-line.

b. The Clerk reported that SODC’s Legal and Property team has confirmed that it is investigating the status of the Deed of Grant entered into between the Parish Council of Dorchester-on-Thames and South Oxfordshire District Council dated 22 December 1980 and its impact upon the current property development on the site previously known as Belcher Court.

c. It was agreed to carry forward discussion about repairs to the surface of Cheyney Lane; the purchase of a defibrillator for the phone box in Bridge End; repairs to the High Street bus shelter; and the future organisation of the Speedwatch group.

5/4 Planning

P19/S1076/HH 4 Martins Lane

Proposed single storey extensions and replacement of existing garage with new detached single storey garage/car port. Formation of new vehicular access and stopping up of existing access.

It was proposed by Cllr Viviane Quirke and seconded by Cllr Rob Ballantyne that the Council had No Objections to this Application. This was unanimously agreed.

P19/S0935/FUL Dorchester Pre School Queen Street

Formation of a new pedestrian access gate in existing wall to provide independent access to Dorchester on Thames Pre-School.

It was proposed by Cllr Viviane Quirke and seconded by Cllr Rob Ballantyne that the Council had No Objections to this Application. This was unanimously agreed.

P19/S0767/LB Abbeyford, 14 Rotten Row

Replacement of 7 rotten, soft-wood windows with 'thindows' heritage double-glazed units. The style would match those currently installed.

It was proposed by Cllr Viviane Quirke and seconded by Cllr Rob Ballantyne that the Council had No Objections to this Application. This was unanimously agreed.

P19/S0742/HH & P19/S0743/LB Abbeyford 14 Rotten Row

Removal of existing conservatory and replacement with single storey garden room extension.

It was proposed by Cllr Viviane Quirke and seconded by Cllr Rob Ballantyne that the Council had No Objections to this Application. This was unanimously agreed

P19/S0541/FUL 31 Martins Lane

Construction of a new 3-bedroom detached dwelling on two floors, plus separate garage. The Council noted that this application has been amended by a new site plan and annotated Garage drawing received on 16 March.

ii. Village Hall Development

As Village Hall Treasurer and Trustee, Cllr Mark Williams presented the plans prepared by Oliver Margison and now approved by the Village Hall Trustees. These will be submitted to SODC for approval following which detailed costings will be prepared and the fund-raising campaign will commence. Planning approval is a pre-requisite to obtaining offers of financial support. In answer to a question about the capacity of the newly configured village hall, Mark explained that the Fire Service only issues this figure after the structure has been completed.

iii. New Dwellings at The White Hart P16/S1833/FUL

The Parish Council noted that a resident has reported that the heights of these buildings - both eaves and ridge – are greater than shown on the approved plans

6/4 Finance;

i. Bank balances & payments

Current Account balance at 29th March £28,748.09

Reserve Account balance at 5th April £47,940.03

£76,688.12

It was proposed by Cllr Mike Rimmer that the following payments should be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Viviane Quirke and approved.

Dorchester on Thames Village Hall (Room Hire) 72.00

Wellers Hedleys (legal fees re Bridge End) 549.00

UK Firework and Events Company (deposit) 1,350.00

Q Transport (Oxford) Ltd (Container rental) 92.76

The Landscape Group Oxford (grass cutting) 958.98

Oxfordshire County Council (Flyer 2 months) 187.50

Denis Froud (Pest control (April – July)) 805.00

Zurich Municipal (annual insurance) 2,104.90

South Oxfordshire District Council (Cemetery Business Rates) 184.07

South Oxfordshire District Council (dog bins) 117.86

Castle Water Limited (Pavilion) 103.44

Chris Hill (Wallingford Green Gym donation) 50.00

Oxford Green Belt Network (subscription) 15.00

JRB Enterprises Ltd (dog waste bags) 234.24

Geoff Willis (Village Handyman) 315.00

G Russell (salary) 549.65

Wallingford Volunteer Centre (donation) 150.00

£7,839.40

The Clerk confirmed that the Internal Audit will take place on Monday 3rd June.

7/4 Land Registration: ‘Waterloo’; War Memorial and other areas

The Clerk has supplied details of residents who have offered to be interviewed by the Inspector who has been appointed to examine the Council’s complaint about land being fenced in without planning permission being applied for.

It was agreed that future applications to the Land Registry should be made via the solicitors Wellers Hedleys. This would involve an increase in costs but it was felt that applications made in this way are more likely to be successful.

8/4 Correspondence

a. There have been six successful nominations for the eight places available in the Parish Council Election on 2nd May. Cllrs Rob Ballantyne and Viviane Quirke were both abroad when nominations were invited and unable to submit the papers in the time available. Both of them indicated that they would be available for co-option. b. Cllr Viviane Quirke informed the Council that she has been contacted by the warden of the fishing lake off Drayton Road concerning the poor behaviour of a few people when using the path around the Lake. The Parish Council is keen that public access to the area around the lake should remain open. It will therefore do its best to ensure that visitors understand and respect the fact that the land is private property.

It was agreed that due to the lateness of the hour all other matters on the Agenda should be carried forward and the meeting closed at 10.40 p.m.