**MINUTES OF THE ODDINGTON ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING**

**HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**ON 26 MAY 2022 AT 7PM**

Present: Cllr David Thorpe, Chairman, the Clerk, CDC Cllr Cunningham, GCC Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington, six parish Councillors and three members of the public.

 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Annual Village meeting.

 **Reports**

1. **Report from Oddington Parish Council**

Cllr David Thorpe reported on activities since the last meeting in 2019. He thanked those who looked out for others and during the pandemic and in particular the landlords of the Horse and Groom who helped to keep the community together. The headlines for the last year were planning where the Council grappled with balancing the current with the new and with a system that’s not entirely adequate in so many respects. He said the Council would continue to try to seek a fair and sensible balance between the obvious desire to build and improve but in doing so maintain the character and charm of the village.

The special village meeting to discuss parking at the Fox had been well attended. There were deep concerns about the continued development of the Daylesford empire into the village. Discussions with Daylesford had been sensible, cordial and open. Unfortunately no solution had been found – of the three options put forward none was found to be acceptable.

The Chairman thanked those who took part in the litter pick. He referred to the recent work by Gigaclear. Looking forward, improvements would be made to the children’s playground thanks to some generous donations. He thanked the working group who have put together Oddington’s celebration of Her Majesty’s magnificent reign of 70 years.

The Chairman thanked his fellow councillors and the Clerk who have helped him over the year.

1. **Report from Cotswold District Council**

Cllr Cunningham reported that CDC opened applications for financial support to those most in need of help with their energy bills. The new scheme is for residents who were not eligible for the recent £150 council tax rebate. The Cabinet had recommended a £360,000 investment to improve the council-owned gyms in the Cotswolds. Improvements will be made in the council-owned Cirencester, Bourton-on-the-water, and Chipping Campden leisure centres

Cotswold District Council had launched its Cotswold Climate Investment, Gloucestershire’s first Community Municipal Investment (CMI), meaning local people can now invest directly in a cleaner, greener, healthier future for all.

The latest information about the Council’s response to the situation in Ukraine can be found via the link below.

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/communities-and-leisure/support-for-communities/ukraine-support/>

The Councillor clarified that with planning applications the onus is on the applicant to provide accurate drawings and abide by them. The Council’s responsibility is to undertake an ‘investigation’ if a potential breach were reported and then take appropriate action.

1. **Report from Gloucestershire County Council**

Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington summarised future road closures.

He reported that over 220 guests had now arrived from the Ukraine and children were settling into schools near to their new homes. The County Council continued to assist the settling in process covering such things as banking, registering at surgeries and providing emotional support.

The county had been successful in wining £14.1m from the government towards ‘active travel’ drive to get people out of their cars and to walking and cycling. The funds will go a long way towards building the new 26 mile ‘cycle spine’ between Stroud and Bishops Cleve.

The £600,000 Community Speedwatch Safety Fund has been formally launched with the aim of making roads safer for walkers, cyclists as well as motorists. Parishes can apply for grants towards safety measures within their communities. These will cover Road Safety Officer support, speed surveys, ‘Twenty is Plenty’ wheelie bin stickers, vehicle activated speed signs and Speedwatch cameras. • There has been high level of public support for the major upgrade of J10, M5 which will significantly improve access and egress to west Cheltenham as well as open up land for new housing and business space.

He reminded the meeting of his ‘Build Back Better’ Fund where Councillors have access to £40,000 over the next 4 years to support projects, such as; Nature and Environment Physical and Mental Wellbeing Digital Inclusion Building Connections and Improving Neighbourhoods and also his annual £30,000 Highways Fund has been renewed so please let me know of any schemes that I might be able to contribute to

1. **The Village Hall Committee**

Sara Griffiths reported on behalf of the Village Hall Committee. The Village Hall had received a grant of £10,000 to help offset the effects of COVID and, as a result was in a sound financial position with £38,000 in reserve. Some regular bookings had returned but the numbers attending the coffee morning and Flix in the Stix’s remain low. It was hoped that the Hall would have wifi by September. Ted Miles, the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee sent his thanks to the Parish Council for help given during the pandemic and hoped he would be back to full fitness soon.

1. **Oddington and Adlestrop Charities**

Alan Cox, a Trustee reported on the Charity. The Oddington and Adlestrop United Charities exists to help anyone in sudden need or distress in the two villages. The trustees are authorised to make grants of money or to pay for items, services or facilities which will reduce the need, hardship or distress of such people. Grants are not restricted to the elderly, infirm or those who are eligible for State benefits, but the need must be made clear.

John Gilet long serving trustee resigned and was replaced by Jo Saunders. John sadly died end of last year. Victoria Huxley resigned as she has left the area and Judith Arneil has taken her place. The charity awarded grants of £500 in 2019, £500 in 2020 and £250 in 2021. Details of recipients are confidential but Trustees know how much they are appreciated. £32,862 remains in the account.

1. **Gloucestershire Police**

The Police were unable to attend the meeting but had circulated the following report Crime Comparison Statistics for Parish Council

| **HO Band** | **HO Category** | **Crime01MAY2110MAY22** | **Crime01MAY2010MAY21** | **+/-** | **% Crime Diff** | **Detect01MAY2110MAY22** | **Detect01MAY2010MAY21** | **+/-** | **% Detect Diff** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Violence | Assault with Intent to cause Serious Harm | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% |
| Violence | Assault with injury | 0 | 2 | -2 | 0.00% | 0 | 2 | -2 | 0.00% |
| Violence | Malicious Communications | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Violence | Coercive or Controlling Behaviour | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Violence | Public Fear, Alarm or Distress | 0 | 3 | -3 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Violence | Assault w/o Injury | 0 | 2 | -2 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Sexual offences | Rape of female 16+ | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Burglary | Burglary - Residential | 2 | 3 | -1 | (33.33%) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Theft | Interfering with a Motor Vehicle | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Theft | Theft by employee | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Theft | Theft from vehicle | 3 | 1 | 2 | 200.0% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Theft | Theft | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Theft | Other theft | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Fraud | Other fraud | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Criminal damage | Criminal damage -vehicles | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Criminal damage | Threat / possession w/i -criminal damage | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Drugs | Possession of Drugs(Cannabis) | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0.00% |
| = |   | 9 | 18 | -9 | (50.00%) | 0 | 4 | -4 | 0.00% |

1. **Question and Answer**

Residents expressed concerns about an application for a new premises licence at Berrybank Park. The consultation runs until the 3rd of June.

 In discussion it was agreed that the Council did not object to the application for a licence to sell alcohol but did have concerns about a number of issues:

* the access to the site from the A436 on a bend where visibility is poor.
* possible increase in capacity
* possible noise and light pollution
* events with fireworks

It was noted that a large number of signs had appeared on surrounding highway verges. It is our understanding that these require the approval of highways.

The meeting ended at 7.35 pm.

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