

MINUTES OF THE NETHER WINCHENDON PARISH MEETING

held at
St Nicholas Church, Nether Winchendon
On Monday 1st July 2019 at 8.00pm

- Those present Vanessa Howe, Claire & Matt Podesta, Katharine Cook, Caroline Cobb, Ben Crowther, Gladys Arnott, Alistair Jackson, Jenny Clarke, Maeve Youell, Nigel Cox.
- 1. Apologies** Richard & Becky Skingle, Jack & Catherine Alexander, Tessa & Bryan Davies, David Cook, Matthew & April Hall, Phil Youell, Lynne & Pete Roberts, Anne Cox, Nicola Bullock, Lesley Crowther, Joe Cobb, Mike Wagner.
- 2. Acceptance of minutes** The minutes of the Meeting held on 9 April 2019 were unanimously accepted.
- 3. Matters arising:**
- Comings and goings Sadly, long-term village resident, Shirley Small died in Stoke Mandeville Hospice in May. Simon and Jacqui Edwards and their four children and Ramsey and Reshma Craine and their three children have left the village. Ismay and Violet Bannerman will be leaving next month. Thanks go to all for their contributions to our community.
- Emil and Lesley Koerner have moved into Hainscroft and Jack and Katherine Alexander with their two daughters into Ash Tree House and Sean Heneghan and Laura Sanchez have just moved into Hilltop Cottage.
- Update on Voneus Voneus have admitted that supplying NW with adequate broadband cover has been more complicated than they had anticipated. The lack of coverage for parts of the village is being addressed. Voneus are now in negotiation with the local PCC, having had approval in principle from the Church of England at a national level. Once they have come to an agreement, they are confident they can service the whole village.
- Chearsley bonfires There have been fewer bonfires over the last few months, but it is unclear whether or not this is still happening overnight. Would residents keep a watchful eye and report bonfires to Ben Crowther.
- 4. Correspondence** This is sent out to the village via email.
- 5. Treasurer's Report** Two gazebos were purchased for the fete at a cost of £579.47. It was agreed that if we need equipment (such as urns, tables and chairs) for next year's fete they should be paid for out of the NW Trust Fund.
- 6. Report from the Environmental Sub-Committee** Vanessa Howe spoke about environmental issues within the village included bee-keeping, the lack of hedgehogs, wildflower verges, orchards, ways to reduce plastics, ways to save or generate energy and farming methods in the fields around the village. She proposed the idea of commissioning advice from an environmental consultant (using village funds) as many village residents are concerned about such issues and our impact on the local environment.
- It was decided that a meeting will be held to discuss these topics, and to put a plan put forward at the next Parish Meeting.
- 7. Report from the PCC** Nothing to report.

8. Report from the Friends of St Nicholas

Nothing to report.

9. 2019 Fete Report

The event was once again incredibly successful. Thanks go to Phil and his committee, the Spencer-Bernard's for allowing the use of their grounds and field, the Skingles for hosting the after-Fete party and everyone who helped in the run up and on the day. The main stalls did very well with most of their takings up on last year. The after party was a great success and could possibly be expanded next year.

The formal report from the Fete Committee is attached with these Minutes.

10. Village spending

Following the questionnaire sent out to the village by Ben Crowther, a number of suggestions have now been accepted as worthy of advancing. Costings for these are attached with these Minutes.

CPR and first aid training: The Chairman will circulate the village to assess the numbers of those interested in taking part and will approach Andrew Money-Kyrle for advice on organising it. A voluntary donation will be paid to the Resuscitation Dept providing the training.

Gardener for the village: Ben Crowther will organise one on an ad-hoc basis.

Christmas tree and lights: lights will need to be battery operated..

Phone box conversion to a book swap. The Chairman will organise for it to be cleaned, painted and for shelves to be installed.

Plants: a planting committee will be set up which will look into the possibilities of wildflowers, fruit trees and bulbs.

Village events: a committee will be formed to organise a village event, possibly in September.

Village chairs, tables, urns, etc. and marquee: These were high on resident's priorities for funding. The marquee is now in a poor state and will need replacing in the near future. Funding for this will need to come from the NW Trust Fund rather than the Parish Meeting Fund.

11. AOB

Claire Podesta will be stepping down as village secretary because of time pressures due to work and family commitments. A volunteer is needed to take her place. The Chairman expressed his thanks for all her efficiency and hard work over the last couple of years.

12. Date of future Meetings

7th October 2019, 6th January 2020 (election of officers)