

MINUTES OF A PARISH MEETING

Held at
St Nicholas Church, Nether Winchendon
On Monday 6 January 2020 at 8.00pm

	<p>Those present: Nigel and Anne Cox, Gill Jones, Sarah Evans, Mark Skold, Rory and Victoria Duncan, Gladys Arnott, Matthew Hall, Lynne Roberts, Becky Skingle, Mike Wagner, Simon and Pam Fletcher, Jill Bostell, Tim Reading, Alistair Jackson, Katharine Cook, Caroline and Joe Cobb, Vanessa Howe, John Belton, Ben Crowther</p>																														
1.	<p>Apologies: David Cook, Simon Evans, Phil and Maeve Youell, Della Hill, April Hall, Jim Bostell, Nicola Bullock, Alan Jones, Pete Roberts.</p>																														
2.	<p>Acceptance of minutes: There was one correction to the previous minutes – under item 10 (Village projects; plants), Anne Cox was due to meet a representative from Savills and not Shields.</p> <p>The minutes of the Meeting held on 7 October 2019 were unanimously accepted.</p>																														
3.	<p>Matters arising:</p> <p>a. Voneus There are still problems with the broadband supplied by Voneus and Phil Youell is continuing to negotiate with them. It was noted that Voneus seem to have underestimated the impact of the trees in the village.</p> <p>b. Bonfires Fewer bonfires have been reported but villagers still need to be vigilant.</p>																														
4.	<p>Election Of Officers: The following officers of the Parish Meeting were duly elected:</p> <table><tr><td>Chairman</td><td>Nigel Cox</td></tr><tr><td>Vice Chairman</td><td>Caroline Cobb</td></tr><tr><td>Secretary</td><td>Gill Jones</td></tr><tr><td>Correspondent</td><td>Matthew Hall</td></tr><tr><td>Treasurer</td><td>Alistair Jackson</td></tr></table> <p>Village Trust Trustees</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>Bryan Davies</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Mike Wagner</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Nigel Cox (as Chair of Parish Meeting)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>April Hall (as Church Warden)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Robert Spencer Bernard (as owner of Nether Winchendon House)</td></tr></table> <p>Environmental sub-committee</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>Rory Duncan</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Mike Wagner</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Richard Skingle</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Vanessa Howe</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Bryan Davies</td></tr></table>	Chairman	Nigel Cox	Vice Chairman	Caroline Cobb	Secretary	Gill Jones	Correspondent	Matthew Hall	Treasurer	Alistair Jackson		Bryan Davies		Mike Wagner		Nigel Cox (as Chair of Parish Meeting)		April Hall (as Church Warden)		Robert Spencer Bernard (as owner of Nether Winchendon House)		Rory Duncan		Mike Wagner		Richard Skingle		Vanessa Howe		Bryan Davies
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5.	<p>Correspondence: The list of correspondence was available via emails sent from the secretary and on the village notice board.</p>																														
6.	<p>Treasurer's report:</p> <p>a. The bank balance in the Parish Meeting account was approximately £12,000, reflecting the activity in 2019 including the proceeds of the village fete and precept contribution.</p> <p>b. The bank balance in the Village Trust account was approximately £17,000. It was noted that Phil Youell needs to be reimbursed for the fete gazebo; approximately £550. This expenditure was approved unanimously.</p> <p>The churchyard mowing had cost less in 2019 compared to the prior year, mainly due to drier weather and fewer weddings. It was unanimously agreed that the Precept should be kept at the same level as the last 2 years.</p>																														

7.	<p>Report from the Environmental Sub Committee: Nothing to report</p>
8.	<p>Report from PCC:</p> <p>a. Church WC and Kitchen Project The PCC had appointed JCA as the Architects for this project. The PCC expressed thanks to all the village residents who had completed the project survey. The aim of the project is to build an extension to the Church incorporating WC, kitchen and meeting room.</p> <p>b. Volunteer Project – proposed by Tim Reading VIY (Volunteer it Yourself) is working with Aylesbury Youth Concern, a charity that supports young people leaving care and at risk of homelessness and long term unemployment. Working with Aylesbury council they have bought a residential 5 bed property in the centre of Aylesbury and VIY are converting it to a 10 bed supported accommodation. Supported accommodation aims to enable people who leave care and don't have anywhere to live to have their own homes, reducing significant risks of homeless. Each of the 10 bedsits will have a sink, there is then a communal kitchen and living space and it is supported by a live-in youth concern worker. Some of the young people who will be working to prepare the site will then become residents. VIY has mentors who work on the site and provide training.</p> <p>Tim suggested key areas where the village could offer support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide food for the builders – for example by providing breakfast once a week for the project or make packed lunches for a week. • Painting and decorating. This could be on a Friday or perhaps for a weekend in Spring. • Furnishings – help would be appreciated from villagers to assist by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. providing old curtains, measuring and sewing up new ones. b. fundraising for electrical goods in the house. c. donation of furnishing items <p>Tim will send an email to provide further information. The meeting expressed positive support for this project.</p>
9.	<p>2019 Poppy Appeal: £535 was raised from the village for the Poppy appeal. Thanks were expressed to all had that contributed.</p>
10.	<p>Village Fete: As usual, the Fete will be held on Saturday 13th June. The Fete Committee had confirmed that they are happy to continue in post for 2020. Gill Jones and Tricia McGinty will be stepping down from running the Fete teas – new volunteers are welcome.</p>
11.	<p>Village Projects</p> <p>a. First Aid and CPR Training There will be 1 daytime and 1 weekend training session run by qualified trainers from Stoke Mandeville hospital. The sessions will be held at Nether Winchendon House Barn. Dates to be confirmed.</p> <p>b. Village Christmas Tree There was a very positive response to the tree and lights. The meeting thanked Ben Crowther for arranging this.</p> <p>c. Phone Box Renovation of the phone box is estimated to cost over £900. More definite costs will be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>d. Village Plants Anne Cox reported that bulbs cannot be planted in the village without gaining permission from NW Estate or their agents, Savills. Caroline Cobb offered to speak to Holly from Savills.</p> <p>e. Village Party Ben Crowther offered an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim was to keep the workload to a minimum. • The village party was being arranged to thank everyone for their hard work over the last few years. • It is due to be held on Friday 8th May (VE Day) from 7.00pm at Della and Steve Hill's house. • It was proposed that the food would be provided by a fish and chip van and/or pizza van. The cost of fish and chips is approximately £600 for approximately 75 people and £800-£900 for 75 pizzas. • Villagers could bring cheese and biscuits. • Lynne Roberts has kindly offered to bake a cake. • The approximate cost is likely to be £2,500 (with a swing band) or £1,500 (without a band). The cost will include a glass of Prosecco and a Barrel of beer.

	<p>The meeting felt generally that £1,000 for a band was excessive.</p> <p>Resolution: <i>“Do you agree that the party committee should be allowed to spend £1,500 on a village party?”</i></p> <p>In favour = 21 Abstention = 1</p> <p>Matthew Hall proposed that the village should consider spending an equivalent amount on a charitable donation, perhaps in relation to Tim Reading’s project detailed above.</p> <p>The following second resolution was put to the vote: <i>“Should the village spend an equivalent amount on a charitable donation?”</i></p> <p>In favour = 17 Against = 1 Abstentions = 4</p>
12.	<p>Village Environmental Project:</p> <p>a. Dialogue with Waddesdon Estate Vanessa Howe and other residents had met with Garth Clarke from Waddesdon Estate and he had outlined the following changes that were being introduced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerative farming which aids carbon absorption • Different composting methods • More ponds • Reducing reliance on subsidies and planting 20 different crops instead of the usual 3 • More tree planting <p>b. Energy saving and generating It was agreed that tips and advice for reducing our carbon footprint would be circulated on the village website. It was suggested that each household could calculate their carbon footprint. The committee could provide a base line and offer strategies for reducing the footprint. A lift share arrangement was suggested. Pam Fletcher is exploring how to facilitate this – perhaps via WhatsApp groups. It was suggested that it may be a good idea to have a separate meeting to discuss the environmental project in greater detail. A proposal to sanction Simon Fletcher and Vanessa Howe to contact the Unitary Authority to declare a Climate Emergency on behalf of the village was put to the vote – 21 agreed and there was 1 abstention.</p>
11.	<p>Any other business: The Friends of St Nicholas are arranging a Quiz night which is due to be held on Friday 31 January. Tickets will cost £10 per ticket. Further details will be circulated by the Friend’s committee.</p>
12.	<p>Date of next meeting: Monday 6 April 2020 at 8.00pm in the Church.</p>