**Present:** Liz Collas (LC) Martin Wise (MW) Hilary Dewey (HD) Peter Dragonetti (PD)

**In attendance:** Amanda Holland (AH Clerk )

1. **Apologies for Absence**: Peter Burdon (PB) Michael Holland (MH) Louise Shearer (LS) It was noted that technical difficulties prevented PB from attending via Zoom.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None
3. **Public Forum:** Cllr Jim O Donohue, Whitchurch on Thames in attendance to observe the meeting.
4. **To Approve the Minutes** of the last meeting of the Council on Tuesday February 14th2023.
5. **Correspondence for Information**.
6. **District Councillors and County Councillors Report.** Received and noted with thanks.
7. **Key areas requiring discussion**:
* **The White Lion Crays Pond.** PB requested this as an agenda item after correspondence was received from parishioners who were concerned at the increasing dereliction of the property. The discussion was referred to the next meeting.
* **Review of Grass and Maintenance Contract.** MW requested that the contract with A and W Grounds be revised to include the maintenance of the verges in front of the parish hall and car park. Agreed.
* **The Fete.** MH and PB have met up to discuss progress. It was noted that PD and MW have secured the BBQ and will be purchasing all the necessary, including more veggie burgers this year. Barry Keen has offered to take on the moving of chairs and tables that was previously done by Mr Nigel Chaffey, and that the bottle stall will be organised by Chris and Sally. The Sun Inn will be providing the bar this year, AH is doing the raffle and MH will organise the races. AH to secure additional parking at BP and deal with Insurance queries. Questions arose about the band and the ferrets and the signage ( is there any in the mortuary?) and will the bunting still go up? It was suggested that PB might circulate an active spreadsheet to answer all questions and allocate tasks if necessary.

**9.**     **Governance matters**

* Finance Report and Bank Statement / Reconciliation. Circulated and approved.
* Final Quarterly Analysis . Circulated.

**10.**  **Goring Heath Maintenance.**

* **Grass and Maintenance.** A and W will be starting annual maintenance this month. The quotation for the one off church hedge ( laurel ) was discussed and approved. The quotation accepted was to be for sides and the top. AH to progress.
* **Footpaths and Rights of Way.** Shirvells Hill footpath LC to progress.
* **Playgrounds.** It was agreed that LC and AH would measure out the proposals to check.

**Crays Pond.** MW reported that a Grant Application to Trust for Oxfordshire Environment can be submitted, the deadline is April 3rd 2023. PB and MW to progress. MW will be meeting the headmaster of the Oratory School to progress the disposal of resultant organic matter to a field behind the pond. LC raised the finances. It was agreed that the lower quotation would include removal of the Island of reedmace and rushes, all the willow trees and at least 50% of Macrophyte. The Oak tree will be strapped to preserve it. Due to the specialist nature of the work, it was agreed that Financial Regulations would apply where all members are responsible for obtaining value for money at all times and that as far as reasonable and practical the best available terms are obtained. The Pond project requires specialist services due to the nature and sensitivity of the works. It was agreed that Financial regulation 11.1 would also apply and that the quotes we had obtained to date were sufficient to meet all requirements. An application for

a grant from TOE could go ahead. The pond is suspected of having a crushed stone base in parts, but as it has been there since 1600s it is an ancient site and we cannot be certain. Work may be scheduled for the end of the summer.

**11.**    **The Newsletter /Website/Social Media.** Comments were made about the latest newsletter, all very positive. AH to feed back to LS. The Coronation Competition was noted. The website was reviewed and it was agreed that it was fit for purpose and no changes were needed.

**12.**     **The Parish Hall.** Nothing to report at the moment.

**13.**     **Planning and Unauthorised Developments.**

[**P23/S0384/FUL**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S0384/FUL) Goffs House Goffs Hill Crays Pond RG8 : a tennis court. No Strong Views

[**P23/S0300/HH**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S0300/HH) Cwmgwyn Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PT:a garage. No Strong Views

[**P23/S0645/T28**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S0645/T28) Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PT Prior notification for proposed installation under telecommunications code system operators of 12 (Twelve) metre wooden poles. The pole will be installed with 9.7m above ground.We are unable to comment as this is essential infrastructure.

[**P23/S0632/DIS**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S0632/DIS) BP Technology Centre Bozedown Drive near Whitchurch Hill RG8 7QR

Discharge of condition 6 (Construction Traffic Management) & 8 (Landscaping) on planning application P19/S4248/FUL (Redevelopment of the site to include demolition of time expired buildings (G, K, M, N, S (all to be fully demolished) and U (part demolition to remove store room) and replacement with a single building (Building H). Refurbishment of existing laboratories (Building D)). - as amended by NMA application PL/P22/S2567/NM. No Strong Views

[**P23/S0380/FUL**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S0380/FUL) Bozedown Windmill Bozedown Drive Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PE

Erection of wind turbine on 15 metre high tower / pole (19.36 metres high including blade). After a vote, a comment of No Strong Views was decided, to be submitted with a lengthy list of questions and requests for further details.

**14.**    **Councillors Reports and Items for future agenda.** In absentia MH requested an item for the April Agenda : Traffic Management and Speeding 20/30mph Progress report.

**To confirm the date of the next meeting**:

Tuesday April 11th 2023 at 7pm Prior to Annual General Meeting at 8pm.