

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF BERINSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 4th January 2021 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT : Councillor S. Scott-Ely - Chairman
Councillor P. Bridge
Councillor I. Bunyan
Councillor K. Chrisp
Councillor S. Crawford
Councillor B. Fearneyhough
Councillor Mrs. A. Jones
Councillor S. Perkins
Councillor D. Smith
Councillor Mrs. R. Stockford

The following people were present for part of the meeting :-

District Councillor Robin Bennett
County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
Ms. Emily Cockle, Interim Head of Development and Regeneration, SODC

1. **Items raised by members of the public.**

a) **Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks.** Unfortunately Mr. Simon Olliffe, the Customer & Community Advisor from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks was not able to join the meeting. He had delivered leaflets to Councillor Bridge and these were passed to various organisations in the village for distribution to residents.

b) **Berinsfield Garden Village/regeneration** Ms Emily Cockle, Interim Head of Development and Regeneration at South Oxfordshire District Council joined the meeting and introduced herself to Members of the Parish Council. Emily informed the Parish Council that she had been in post since September, 2020 and gave a résumé of her career to date. Emily informed the Parish Council that she would like to be invited to future Council meetings. She informed the Parish Council that she has met with Homes England. She mentioned the Berinsfield Garden Village scheme to them and they would like to offer their support to the project. A further meeting will be arranged with Homes England and Emily would like the Parish Council to be involved in this. South Oxfordshire District Council applied for additional funding from Homes England to create a team to handle the Garden Village schemes and Homes England will make an announcement in 2021 with regard to further revenue funding.

Councillor Bridge informed the meeting that a meeting should be called early in January 2021 as there were projects such as the new Didcot to Golden Balls Road, which has to be completed by 2024, and information regarding the proposed projects in Berinsfield will need to be incorporated into the Didcot to Golden Balls Road scheme. The Chairman, Councillor Scott-Ely asked Emily to liaise with the Clerk and County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale with regard to dates for the proposed meeting. He also asked if South Oxfordshire District Council would be able to assist with communications by possibly creating a website.

The Chairman, Councillor Scott-Ely thanked Emily Cockle for attending the meeting.

c) **Manufacturing odour from Vogue Business Park.** Following a complaint by a resident in 2020 of an odour emanating from the Vogue Business Park, the owner of Williams Jet Tenders was contacted and asked if he was aware of this. He has informed the Parish Council that he has taken the step of monitoring the factory and surrounding area outside for styrene levels and recording the results. The owner has confirmed that he is comfortable that his company is operating

correctly and is actively keeping the open moulding, that they carry out, to a minimum. The owner believes it was a “one off” event a few months ago and is confident that it will not happen again. Councillors noted this information and confirmed that no further reports about an odour had been reported to them.

2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Councillor E. Croft.

3. **Declaration of Interests.** Members were advised to make declarations of personal or prejudicial interest on items under consideration during the meeting.

4. **County Councillor’s Report.** County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale had provided a written report which had been circulated to all Members of the Parish Council prior to the meeting and she also attended the meeting. County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale’s report set out details of the COVID-19 vaccination centres in Oxfordshire and the method as to how the vaccination would be rolled out. Residents should wait to be contacted by their G.P. Surgery about the timing of their vaccination. County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale informed the meeting that information in her report could change subject to the briefing being given by the Prime Minister during the evening of 4th January.

a) Charging points for electric vehicles. Councillor Chrisp asked County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale if the County Council had any plans to install charging points for electric vehicles in Berinsfield. He suggested that suitable locations would be outside the parade of shops opposite the Church and outside the shops at the junction of Chiltern Close and Fane Drive. The Chairman, Councillor Scott-Ely indicated that this could be something that is looked at as part of the Garden Village Scheme.

The Chairman, Councillor Stuart Scott-Ely thanked County Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale for attending the meeting and preparing her report.

5. **District Councillor’s Report.** District Councillor Robin Bennett had prepared a written report which had been circulated to all Members of the Parish Council and was also present at the meeting.

a) South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035. District Councillor Bennett informed the Parish Council that the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 had been adopted by the full South Oxfordshire District Council and that the Garden Village principles were added to the Berinsfield site policy.

b) District Councillor Grants. District Councillor Bennett has a grant fund of £5,000 available and further information can be found at <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/community-support/grants/councillor-community-grants/>

c) Civil Parking Enforcement. South Oxfordshire District Council has agreed to move ahead with taking responsibility for managing on-street civil parking enforcement in collaboration with Oxfordshire County Council. This should take place during 2021.

d) New CIL Spending Strategy. South Oxfordshire District Council approved a new CIL and Section 106 spending strategy which will take effect from April 2021. The Parish allocation will remain at 15%, but Oxfordshire County Council will be able to claim funds to spend on libraries and SEN provision as well as on education and transport, while South Oxfordshire District Council will be able to invest in improvements to cycle networks, provision of electric charging points and access to nature.

The Chairman, Councillor Scott-Ely, thanked District Councillor Bennett for attending the meeting and preparing the report.

6. To receive and approve the Minutes of the virtual Parish Council meeting held on 7th December, 2020.

a) Minute No. 12 a) Proposed additional car parking in Westcroft and Russell Jackson Close. The Chairman, Councillor Stuart Scott-Ely and the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Phil Bridge met with Mr. Richard Barber from SOHA Housing to look at possible sites in the village where additional car parking could be provided in the future. Possible sites include the verge around the allotment site, the area of open space adjacent to the Vicarage in Cherwell Road, the open space area opposite the play area in Lay Avenue and the land at the junction of Fane Drive and Chiltern Close. SOHA Housing will shortly be making planning applications in respect of the sites they have already identified in Westcroft and Russell Jackson Close, Berinsfield.

b) Minute No. 12 b) Berinsfield Parish Council – HIFI Meeting. The Parish Council will contact Oxfordshire County Council with regard to an update on this scheme.

c) Minute No. 12 c) Bus Services. Councillor Mrs. Stockford informed the Parish Council that some residents have asked if the bus to Cowley Centre could also run on a Saturday to enable residents who work during the week to be able to get there. This is something that would have to be taken up with the bus company who run the service. Councillor Fearneyhough, the Parish Council Public Transport Representative informed the meeting that with effect from 4th January bus service No. 95/95B and bus service 45 would go anti-clockwise around the village.

It was AGREED that the Minutes of the virtual meeting of Berinsfield Parish Council held on 7th December, 2020 should be APPROVED.

7. To consider planning applications and planning decisions.

a) Planning Application P20/S4716/HH Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey extension. Magnolia House, 33A Cherwell Road, Berinsfield, OX10 7PB The Parish Council AGREED that South Oxfordshire District Council should be informed that the Parish Council supports this application.

b) Planning Application P20/S4685/HH Ground floor extension to side, front and rear of property. 93 Fane Drive, Berinsfield OX10 7NF The Parish Council AGREED that South Oxfordshire District Council should be informed that the Parish Council supports this application on the condition that South Oxfordshire District Council imposes a condition that the property should remain as a single property and not be divided into two properties or become an house of multiple occupation.

c) Planning Application P20/S4551/HH Loft conversion with associated dormer. 5 Glyme Drive, Berinsfield, OX10 7PD The Parish Council AGREED that South Oxfordshire District Council should be informed that the Parish Council supports this application.

Planning decisions.

d) Planning Application P20/S4053/HH Single storey rear extension and garage conversion. 194 Fane Drive, Berinsfield OX10 7QA The Parish Council noted that planning permission had been granted in respect of this application.

e) Planning Application P20/S2747/HH Two storey side extension (Materials to match existing as amplified by email dated 24th November, 2020). 49 Lodden Avenue, Berinsfield OX10 7PY The Parish Council noted that planning permission had been granted in respect of this application.

f) **Certificate of lawful use or development. P20/S3839/LDP** Roof extension with roof lights. 73 Fane Drive, Berinsfield OX10 7NF The Parish Council noted that South Oxfordshire District Council certified that on 13th October 2020 the undertaking of the above was lawful within the meaning of Section 192 of the T & CP Act 1990 (as amended).

g) **Certificate of lawful use or development. P20/S4238/LDP** Certificate of lawful use for a single storey extension at the rear. 26 Colne Drive, Berinsfield OX10 7PE. The Parish Council noted that South Oxfordshire District Council certified that on 9th November 2020 the undertaking of the above was lawful within the meaning of Section 192 of the T & CP Act (as amended).

8 **Casual Vacancy.** The current casual vacancy is being advertised, but to date no applications have been received. It was AGREED that the casual vacancy should also be advertised on the Spotted Berinsfield facebook page.

9. **South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 – Adoption of the Plan.** The Parish Council noted the information contained in the agenda regarding the method by which any person aggrieved by the adoption of the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 may make an application to the High Court under Section 113 of the Planning Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

10. **Correspondence and Items for Information.**

a) **Oxfordshire County Council Traffic Regulation Notice.** Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Parish Council noted that there would be a temporary road closure at Long Wittenham, Sires Hill and Didcot Road to facilitate carriageway resurfacing and signage improvement starting 24th May until 26th May 2021 between 19.30 and 06.00 each night.

11. **Statement of Accounts for payment in January 2021.** It was AGREED that the statement of accounts for payment in January in the sum of £28,576.73 should be APPROVED.

12. **Items of report to Chairman.**

a) Video for Mr. Ken Hall. Councillor Smith is preparing a video of messages from Parish Councillors to be sent to Mr. Ken Hall's family, who will arrange for it to be played to him. It was noted that this should be completed in the very near future.

b) **20 mph Speed Limit in Oxfordshire.** Councillor Bridge referred to the proposal by Oxfordshire County Council to make a blanket 20 mph speed limit order for villages in Oxfordshire. The Parish Council were supportive of this proposal subject to Oxfordshire County Council providing signage and road markings. The Parish Council was, however, concerned as to how it would be monitored.

c) Berinsfield Neighbourhood Development Plan. The Chairman, Councillor Stuart Scott-Ely informed the meeting that he had received an email from the Consultant appointed by the Parish Council to assist with the production of the Berinsfield Neighbourhood Development Plan to ask if the Parish Council was ready to proceed with the project now that the South Oxfordshire District Council Local Plan 2035 had been approved. The Chairman believes that the Parish Council should proceed with the plan, but the Parish Council was asked for its views on this. Councillor Bridge felt that it might be beneficial for the Parish Council to wait for the first meeting to be held with South Oxfordshire District Council regarding the Garden Village scheme/regeneration before making a decision about the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

13 **Date of next meeting – 1st February, 2021. This will be a virtual meeting unless Government guidelines change.**

