

Minutes of the Offley Parish Council Meeting

Incorporating Offley – Cockernhoe – Tea Green – Mangrove Green

Wednesday 6th September 2023
Cockernhoe Memorial Hall 7.30pm

Present: Cllr. R. Piepenstock – Chair
Cllr. Mrs P. Cowley
Cllr. Mrs B. Dyer
Cllr. Mrs S Miller
Cllr. Mrs J. Willis

In attendance: Cllr David Barnard
Members of the Public
David Sample – Clerk

Minutes

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Roberts - Cllr Jay – Cllr Gallagher – Cllr Patmore – Cllr Strong	
2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST Any Councillor required to make a declaration of interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted in September 2021 must declare such interest at the start of the meeting.	ALL
3	APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING It was proposed and resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 th July 2023 are approved as an accurate record of the meeting. <i>The minutes were approved.</i>	
4	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA none	CLERK
5	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT The Chairman was absent due to prior commitments	
6	URGENT ITEMS	
7	Public Questions	
7.1	Agility Dog Group – see Offley	
7.2	Request for Funding – see Finance	
7.3	Offley Place – Fencing - see item 14 Highways ROW	
7.4	Offley a Scruffy Village – see Highways item 13	
8	HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY Cllr Barnard made a short report	DB
9	NORTH HERTS COUNCIL Cllr Barnard made a short report	CS
10	PLANNING - NEW	
10.1	23/01616/FPH at 13 School Lane Offley	
10.2	23/01950/FP at The Old Vicarage Other planning applications – Current	Clerk
10.3	22/02064/FP Land South of West Lane – now approved	
10.4	23/01230/FP at Offley Stores Luton Road - Approved Planning Applications - Ongoing	
10.5	23/01029/FP at Cockernhoe Farm Luton Road	
10.6	22/03231/FP at Land North East Of Wandon End – Solar Farm	
10.7	22/02904/FP at Land East and West Of Luton Road Cockernhoe	
10.8	22/01657/FUL – LBC Two applications as the project covers into LBC area	

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10.9	Local Plan – EOL	
11	<u>FINANCE</u>	
11.1	Payments and Income All payments are up to date.	
11.2	S137 Grants for 2023 The following grants were requested and approved	
11.2.2	OPCC Offley Parochial Church Council £2500.00	
11.2.3	Lilley & Offley Childrens Halloween Party – Cassel Hall £150.00	
11.2.4	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £50.00	
11.3	2024.2025 Budget The clerk announced that he was starting to prepare for the 2024.25 Budget. Were there any projects that should be considered and budgeted for.	
12	<u>CURRENT PROJECTS</u>	
	<u>OFFLEY</u>	
12.1	OFFLEY RECREATION CENTRE (ORC)	Clerk
12.1.1	Offley Community Space – Formally known as the Warm Hub	
12.1.2	Offley Village Hall – nothing to report	
12.2.3	The Old Football Field – Warehill Dog Agility Group made a short presentation as they wish to rent time at the Old Football Field. The clerk then announced that Offley Riding Club who currently use the field for show days were looking to pass the running of the club onto someone more local. It was felt that both groups could use the field in harmony with Offley Riding Club having preference for show Saturdays. It was agreed by all present that this would be good for the village and use of the field was approved. The clerk to write and confirm.	Clerk
12.2	<u>COCKERNHOE – MANGROVE – TEA GREEN</u>	
12.2.1	Cockernhoe School Track – Residents who live along the track joined the meeting to see what updates had been received. Cllr Barnard offered to write to HCC Education as the situation was now becoming urgent. Unless a solution can be found the PC may have to consider closing the track to all traffic and foot pedestrians.	
12.2.2	Dancote Development update given Request to deregister a strip of village green is work in progress	
12.3	<u>GENERAL</u>	
12.3.1	Police Report – Published in the Village Voice	
12.3.2	Police Surgeries – Published in the Village Voice The clerk reported that he would again liase with PCSO Heather.	
12.3.3	Offley Oriental – The clerk has requested that the Planning Enforcement team place a section 215 order on the site	
12.3.4	Buses through the Village. The clerk has started a dialogue with ARRIVA to see how the bus service can be improved.	
13	<u>HERTS Highways.</u> A local resident has submitted a question to the PC as to the scruffy village we live in. The two empty properties and the state of the hedging and gutters when entering the village from Lilley. The clerk has asked NHC Planning to place a S125 order on Offley Oriental to have the site cleaned up and made secure. Planning have said they will write to the owners requesting action be taken. Pilkington’s have been requested to cut the hedge along Luton Road by the New allotments.	CLERK
14	Rights of WAY (ROW) Still waiting for the FP12 to go public.	
14.1	Offley Place and Fencing A member of the Public made a short presentation on the problem with Offley Place erecting a fence around	

	their curtilage. He asked that the PC should complete the application to invoke section 31 of the 1980 Highways act. At a closed section of the meeting the councillors declined and have advised by e- mail that the resident should contact HCC ROW and submit the application and witness statements directly.	
15	Clerks Report	
15.1	Village Voice – Copy Date for the October edition will be 15 th September 2023	CLERK
15.2	.Childrens Play Areas in the Parish – The clerk reported that all the damage reported in the play areas has been rectified.	
17	ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA none requested	CLERK
18	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 11 th October 2023 Offley Village Hall 7.30pm	
19	The meeting closed at 9.30hrs	

	MONTH	Transaction Date	Company	Payments & Receipts for Authorisation			Payment Date
				Nominal	Outgoing	Income	
1	31/08/2023	Mrs M Fairbanks	5200	£ 84.00		31/08/2023	
2	31/08/2023	Mrs J Johnson	5200	£ 84.00		31/08/2023	
3	31/08/2023	Mrs H Ayres	5200	£ 36.00		31/08/2023	
4	31/08/2023	G Crick	5550	£ 84.00		31/08/2023	
5	31/08/2023	Clerks Salary	2220	£ 795.70		31/08/2023	
6	31/08/2023	Clerks Tax	2210	£ 198.80		31/08/2023	
7	31/08/2023	EMPLOYERS NHI	various	£ 32.64		31/08/2023	
8	31/08/2023	Clerks Expenses		£ 97.16		04/09/2023	
9	01/08/2023	J C Agriculture + Hemlock	4431	£ 950.40		31/08/2023	
11	15/08/2023	Wicksteeds Spares Elmtree	822605	£ 17.02		31/08/2023	
12	18/08/2023	Jones & Son	spikes	£ 176.40		31/08/2023	
13	21/08/2023	Tudor Environmental	172202	£ 212.40		31/08/2023	
14	21/08/2023	Gary Crick - Gosling Play Area	Spikes	£ 50.00		31/08/2023	
15	30/08/2023	MRS M P JENKINS	warm H	£ 140.52		31/08/2023	
16	30/08/2023	Gallagher Insurance 2023/4		£ 2,485.67		31/08/2023	
17	30/08/2023	M J DILLEY		£ 225.00		31/08/2023	
18	01/09/2023	JC Agriculture	4500	£ 888.00		04/09/2023	