



Minutes of the Hanborough Annual Parish Meeting

At the Hanborough Annual Parish Meeting held at 7.15pm on Tuesday 21st May 2019 in the Pavilion Main Hall, the following were present:

Mr Peter Brittin, Dr Michael Franklin, Mr Rich Fuller, Miss Penelope Marcus (chair), Mr Steve Page and Ms Kerry Scarlett.

In attendance: Mr Adrian Edwards, Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), Mr Jon Gammage (Clerk), District Councillors Merilyn Davies and Alaa Al-Yousuf.

Apologies for absence were received from Ms Ellen Armitage, Mr Jeff Borer, Mr Niels Chapman, Mr Rod Fraser, Ms Lucy Tritton, County Councillor Liam Walker, PCSO Phil Workman and the Hanborough Welfare Trust.

Members of the public attending: 15 members of the public were present.

1. The Chair opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Report from District & County Councillors.

2.1. County Councillor Liam Walker Report: No report received.

2.2. District Councillor Merilyn Davies reported on her first year in post with diverse work ranging from dog bins to planning where she is on the WODC Planning Committee. Ongoing work in the parish is currently focusing on transport issues and she raised awareness of a possible WhatsApp group for coordinating local travel. Ideas for a community bus are being explored with Blenheim.

2.3. District Councillor Alaa Al-Yousuf reported his work with the Parish Council, the District Council and external organisations. Ongoing interests include cycling and environmental initiatives.

3. Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th April 2018.

Minutes of the meeting of 17th April 2018, were approved and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes: None

5. Parish Council Chair's summary of the years activities.

This evening I am reporting both on projects and events from May last year until now, which the Parish Council and community groups have organised, and on measures the Parish Council is undertaking to enhance life in Hanborough.

What has brought the community together? We have all enjoyed the annual September Hanborough Show, now run by Stuart Mason, the stunning Fireworks display every November, the HPFA get-together, Party at the Pav, that took place last June, and the Christmas tree, so generously provided by Sportif Suzuki Garage – all the result of great community collaboration. Last month, the Parish Council and HPFA organised residents, some as young as six, on Bank Holiday Sunday for a massive clear-up of rubbish and vegetation around the Pavilion, new Play Ground and Pit, to provide a safer and nicer environment for the kids to play in. In a few hours the area was transformed, opening up vistas from the Pavilion down across to the community land below. The Council is further linking the upper to the lower ground by a ramp, which everyone can use, to replace the existing steep wooden steps.

In supporting community groups, we gave grants of £500.00 to Long Hanborough Playgroup, £1000 to Hanborough & District Day Centre, and £100 to Volunteer Link-Up

We started regular and very successful film nights at the Pavilion, last October, and, so far, have shown Finding Your Feet, Swimming with Men, Mamma Mia and Stan and Ollie. Equally popular have been the monthly Sunday village walks which began in May.

Bloor Homes generously sponsored the new Community Notice Board, outside the Co-Op. However, we realised the Parish website could be restructured into an attractive, well-designed Community website, and which would ensure that important Parish and Community information would be more readily available. Work on this is ongoing.

On-going, but hopefully drawing fast to a conclusion, have been the protracted discussions between the Parish Council/HPFA on the one hand and OCC on the other on the 'land-swap', to enable the Manor School to enlarge from one-form entry to one.five form entry. Basically, what and how much land would OCC offer to compensate HPFA for the surrender of the area around MUGA to the school, and then how would the community use that newly acquired land.

Section 106 monies are due from developers to mitigate the impact of the developments on the Parish, and in February the Parish Council invited community groups to apply for S106 grants. Related to this is the very extensive and detailed research we are undertaking into the requirements and interests of Parish residents and community groups, for the function of new community facilities and a community hub, which could be financed by the S106 funds.

We have been concerned to address the health of residents. In addition to the programme of village walks, we have initiated plans for residents' active and healthy travel by taking part in the County's Open Oxfordshire Cycling Infrastructure Evaluation. We have examined the conditions for cycling on roads in the Parish, shall present the findings on the forthcoming website, and apply to OCC for funding where improvements are required.

The Parish Council have set up and contributed funding for equipment for a well-used outdoor gym by the Pavilion, which has been generously sponsored by the Co-Op, OCC and Pye Settlement Trust. There are six pieces of equipment available. Residents on Couch to 5K runs are frequently seen at the weekends.

This last year there have been many road repairs, and re-repairs, on Main Road and Church Road, resulting from either damage to the tarmac outside the developments or from the installation of new gas mains along Main Road, and which have led to protracted delays and lengthy queues the length of the village and beyond. It is expected such work will be finally completed very soon.

But the traffic congestion of the A4095, especially at peak-times, is unacceptable. We are considering what form of pollution monitor is suitable, and we shall be installing monitors to record the type of the number of cars, cycles, lorries that use the road. Once the repairs to the roads are complete, we shall use speed monitors to find ways of dealing with infringements of the speed limits. We shall want to investigate the reduction of the speed limit to 20mph on some parts of the road.

One especially unsafe part of the A4095 is the shared pedestrian/cycle path on one side of the Hanborough Railway Bridge, too narrow for a parent and child to walk side by side, for disabled chair users to want to cross or for the simultaneous use by pedestrians and cyclists. We have been awarded £37,000 by GWR CCCIF fund and £5000 by OCC for a feasibility study for a designated pedestrian/cycle bridge alongside the existing bridge. The study will begin in July.

A serious loss to Hanborough is the demise, in three days' time, of the Stagecoach No.11 bus, which ran from Witney, via Eynsham to Oxford. This will particularly affect six-formers getting to Bartholomew School. The alternative route, a long diversion, is via the 233 to Witney and then the S1 or S2 to Eynsham and Oxford. We shall be looking at the feasibility of a bus or service run by the community.

However, what has been restored is the hedge opposite the Hanborough Gate development, taken out for the construction of the new bus-stop, and creating possibly the longest breach of hedgerow the whole length of the A4095. But recently it has been filled by trees and hedging of seven different species; a fence will prevent people from falling into the ditch, and the precious setting of our countryside is protected again.

Coincidentally, we have also just been approached by an OCC project to register our green spaces, what is in them, and how they are used, as part of a County-wide green space map.

Allied to all of this is that in the coming year we shall be considering what practical measures for dealing with the urgent issues of Climate Change that the Parish can undertake.

While we were delighted that three new members joined the Council in January, in the same month one of the Council's and HPFA's greatest troopers, Michael Rogers, very sadly died. His contribution to the Parish was inestimable. We shall miss the sight of him cycling through and photographing the village and his organisation of the Parade and Service at the Memorial every year on Remembrance Sunday.

Finally, the Council would like to thank Rachel Hemingway for looking after the website, Tom Skelly, for keeping the playground areas litter free, and our officers, Jon Gammage, Clerk, and Adrian Edwards, Responsible Finance Officer, for all they have done to make sure that we can carry out our duties.

Penelope Marcus

6. Finance Report.

The RFO reported that there will be an increase in the precept (including the Parish Grant) from £78,406 (2018/19) to £82,530 this year (2019/20), which, allowing for the increase in the number of households, represents no increase on 2018/19 for Council Tax payers.

The annual accounts show that the Council had a surplus on the budget of £19,459 in the year ended 31st March 2019. This has been set aside for Community Projects.

This is due to the following major factors:

Income from the Cemetery was £8,700 above budget.

Expenses under budget included:

Professional fees (£3,000) and Grants to local organisations (£3,926).

Expenses over budget included:

£4,633 was spent on special projects (Couch to 5k project) but grants were received totalling £4,500 towards this project.

The Council continues to build reserves against any potential major expense, such as major repairs to cemetery walls, and is also setting money aside for the eventual refurbishment of the tennis courts so that the facility can be properly maintained for the community.

Reserves at 31st March 2019 total around £100,232, ring fenced funds representing around £70,000 of that figure.

The Council has set a balanced budget for 2019/20 after a further £4,809 has been added to ring fenced funds.

Adrian Edwards

7. Garden Village presentation by Andrea Clenton (WODC Garden Village Programme Manager):

A map of the 2200 mixed dwellings planned for the garden village was presented in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework. This is one of fourteen similar projects around the country and is currently in the consultation stage with a plan to build between 2021 and 2031. The 5 themes for the development are protect environmental quality, strong and healthy communities, support economic growth, improve housing availability and affordability, and improve connectivity and movement.

8. Reports from Community Groups & Organisations

8.1. Hanborough Welfare Trust

Hanborough Welfare Trust (HWT) has a balance of £3361.19 in its accounts at end of its financial year, 31 December 2018. The year beforehand was concentrated on ensuring income was received from the 2 farmers who use the fields associated with HWT. This has been done and regular annual income is now received. The Fund is now ensconced within the Eynsham Medical Trust (EMT) and gives representation at its annual Meetings, though it operates separately within it. In addition the Trust has re-established connections with the CCLA (Charities Commission). This ensures recognition by them of the Trust's existence (with a new Charity Number) and right to receive interest on its investments.

Occasional advertising of the Fund has gone in to the Hanborough Herald. In the last quarter 2 requests for help (one as a result of the advert) have been received and actioned on. In addition £2,000 has been donated to Eynsham Medical Trust. The latter donation both enhances the 2 Trusts relationship with each other, and will reduce our balance to an amount with which HWT Trustees are happier operating. The donation will still be focussed directly and solely on the needs of Hanborough residents known to EMT but which come their way rather than to that of HWT.

The Trust is always open to receiving offers for help from the needy in Hanborough, as well as offers of financial help, which will be distributed after consideration at Meetings of the Trustees.

Rev Nigel Knights Johnson

Secretary, Hanborough Welfare Trust

8.2 Hanborough Playing Fields Association:

The chair of the HPFA reported that 2019 has been a good year so far for collaborative projects with the Parish council. To date we have together :-

- Continued our mission to achieve the Land swap with OCC to facilitate the preferred school expansion plan.
- We have helped facilitate the introduction of the couch to 5K fitness equipment and markings around the perimeter of the playing fields.
- Undertook along with HPC and local volunteers the clearance of the shrubbery and undergrowth along the boundary between the pit and the pavilion. This has significantly improved the appearance of the area.
- All of these are excellent examples of how well our two organisations can work together and achieve a great deal for the village.

Working with our local councillor (Merilyn Davies) the HPFA have agreed to allow the construction of a services pathway to link the new Playgroup building and the Pavilion parking. This path will follow our boundary along the edge of the football pitch and bowls green.

The HPFA have submitted an application for an allocation of the S106 monies such that we can undertake further improvements to the Pavilion building. These plans include an enlargement of the kitchen facilities, creation of more storage facilities to support our long term users and several other improvements to our infrastructure.

I must at this point recognise our committee of volunteers who give their time to help keep the Pavilion the excellent facility that it is.

This year our village teams have had a great deal of success, in particular our football teams had an excellent season with the Under 17's winning their championship. It is my understanding that this season looks promising for our cricket team too!

Finally after the success of the Party at the Pav event we will be holding this free to enter event once again this year. It would be nice to think that this could become a permanent fixture in our calendar. So I look forward to seeing you all on the 15th June and if anyone can offer any help on the day your support would be welcome.
Stephen Nicholls

8.3 Hanborough Show organisers:

Stuart Mason reported on good levels of show attendance and entries. It breaks even financially and is considered to be a good platform for local groups to promote activities and fund raise. The event is organised by volunteers and administrating the entire is labour intensive. The opportunity to modernise this with online entries is an ambition of the group and may be necessary for the event to remain viable.

8.4 Recreation Hall: No report received.

8.5. Churches: No report received.

8.6. Elderberries - Hanborough Day Centre:

Gill Battams reported that the group is thriving with 24 members aged between 72 and 99 years. It is funded by grants and fund raising and works with other locals groups and the school.

8.7. Hanborough Herald:

Chris Kirkham (editor) reported that he will be stepping down by September and they are looking for a replacement. The circulation is expanding as Hanborough grows with 1400 copies printed. They aim to maintain a healthy balance between articles and advertising which is helped by funding from the PC. They welcome contributions from local organisations and are looking for additional people to deliver the newsletter each month.

8.7. Police:

PC Rob Webb and PCSO Helen Keen attended to share contact information and to report that PCSO Phil Workman had retired. Thanks were recorded for his hard work and support locally for many years.

PCSO Phil Workman submitted the following report

Recorded crime figures in Hanborough indicate that Crime and Crime Related Incidents for the 12 month period (01/05/2018 to 30/04/19) has risen slightly to 82 reported incidents (due mainly to a rise in Crime Related Incidents). The main offence was Theft (including Shoplifting and from vehicles). Drug offences have been recorded in the Parish, and the team have received lots of intelligence regarding several persons who are using drugs, as well as locations where it is happening, therefore we are working to crack down on this.

The Woodstock Neighbourhood Police Team is now covered under the umbrella of West Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Police. This means that there are a number of police officers responsible for the community policing side based at Witney Police Station as well as one officer stationed at Chipping Norton. We still have two Police Community Support Officers at Woodstock, Chris Jones and Helen Keen. Helen replaces Phil Workman who is retiring at the end of May.

We are making more use of the Thames Valley Alert system which is a great way that the police can communicate with the public as well as receive messages back. We can send out messages that are relevant only to Hanborough and of interest to different community groups such as Shop watch, Countrywatch, Pubwatch, Business watch etc. – there are many more categories that are on the system which allows us to send out Crime Alerts, Witness Appeals, Crime Prevention Advice and good news stories when they happen! We encourage people to sign up for this and they can do so at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk or speak to one of the officers.

Woodstock Police Station is still being used by the Neighbourhood Team. It is still the intention to move the team into another building in the town, but there is no timescale for this.

We still rely on the community to keep us informed of any current or emerging crime trends. If anything is concerning you, whether it be security advice, suspicious persons or vehicles, concerns for a vulnerable child or adult or any other information you would like to pass us, then we want to know. We can be contacted on 101, or via the online reporting form on the Thames Valley Police website.

The current Local Policing Priorities are Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation, Dwelling Burglaries and the Exploitation of Persons for the supply of drugs. The first two are mainly 'hidden crimes' which mean that they don't come to the public attention as much as the more traditional crimes and this is where the police are concentrating their efforts in reducing the risk to vulnerable children and adults.

Crimes and Crime Related Incidents in the Hanborough area

During the dates 30/04/18 – 01/05/19 (last year's figures in brackets)

Crime Related Incidents (including Missing Persons, Action Fraud, Malicious messages, etc.)		37 (23)
Assaults (with and without injury)	7 (6)	
Burglaries in a dwelling	3 (1)	
Criminal Damage	6 (9)	
Theft	17 (12)	
Offensive weapon	0 (1)	
Burglaries other than in a dwelling	2 (8)	
Unexplained death	2 (1)	
Drug Offences	2 (0)	
Robbery	0 (1)	
Road Traffic Offences (including making off without paying)	4 (10)	
Arson	0 (1)	
Public order	2 (0)	

Notes:

Crime Related Incidents include incidents such as Domestic Incidents, where no Criminal Offences occurred, but details of those spoken to, are recorded in case of future problems. Also Adult/Child Protection Incidents, fall under this category whereby we are informed of vulnerable persons in our community and their details are shared with partner agencies.

9. Any Other Business

A local resident attended to present information about global warming, what we can do and her work with WODC on the matter. Parish Council was asked to consider declaring a climate emergency.

The Chairman. 20th April 2021