

# Maugersbury Parish Council

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## Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 7 March 2022 starting at 6.30pm At Stow Youth Centre, Fosseway, Stow on the Wold, GL54 1DW

### MINUTES

**Present:** Cllr A Root (Acting Chairman), Cllr M Lutman, Cllr H Totham, Cllr R Warmington, and Liz Sajewicz (Clerk).

**In attendance:** Ward County Cllr M MacKenzie-Charrington, District Cllr D Neill and 9 members of the public.

**1. Election of Chairman**

Cllr Root was elected Acting Chairman to chair the meeting.

**2. Apologies**

Cllr R Boyens, Mr & Mrs P Hughes.

**3. Declarations of interest**

None.

**4. Minutes**

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 6 December 2021 were confirmed as an accurate record and approved to be signed by the Chairman.

**5. County Councillor's report (Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington)**

Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington's report had been circulated. He made the following additional points:

Road closure of the B4068 had been planned for two weeks but was shortened to one week to avoid Cheltenham Cup week. Another closure might be needed if the work was not able to be completed this week.

Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington had a small amount remaining in his Highways budget, and there would be another £30,000 available in the new financial year.

He had been able to assist Stow Motor Club via the Build Back Better Fund to purchase items that will be of long term benefit to the community, and there were some funds still available.

A resident asked about the junction of the A436 and Pound Lane. Cllr Root read out an email from GCC Highways local area manager who said that draft designs should be ready by the end of this month for parish consultation. A resident asked Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington to check that this was on track.

A resident asked about the proposed public footpath diversion at Heath Hill Farm which had been consulted on last year. Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington was asked to check that it was progressing.

Cllr Totham asked for an update about the Adlestrop Bridge weight restriction. Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington said the weight restriction was temporary and GCC was obliged to remove the signage at the end of the period. The weight restriction was set up to coincide with the Burford Bridge temporary restriction. GCC carried out regular surveys during the period and found that there had been an increase in HGV traffic in some surrounding villages. He said GCC wants to review this holistically for the wider area.

The bridge over the Evenlode between Bledington and Kingham Station needs replacing and this work is planned for 2022-23. It is the responsibility of West Oxfordshire.

Adlestrop Bridge – there is a depression in the road on the exit from the bridge heading towards Chipping Norton. This is on GCC's list for the next financial year.

Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington was thanked for his attendance and report.

## 6. District Councillor's report (Cllr Neill)

Cllr Neill's written report had been circulated. She made the following additional points: CDC is committed to engaging with residents. There were more than 400 responses to the budget consultation. This is increasing year on year but still a tiny percentage of residents. There were opposing views in some areas, e.g. climate change spending. She encouraged residents to give their views on the Local Plan Update Options consultation by 20 March. Clerk to send a reminder to residents.

A resident asked whether the crowdfunding platform could be used for the Church. Cllr Neill said if it would benefit the community it could be put forward, and she offered to pass on any enquiry to the appropriate person.

Cllr Lutman suggested the next Stow Fair pre meeting be set up, and said that speaking to the field owners would be helpful.

Cllr Neill was thanked for her attendance and report.

## 7. Parish Environment

### a) To note road closure notices received (for installation of fibre optic equipment by Gigaclear)

#### i) Chapel Street – from 03/03/22 to 09/03/22

Cllr Lutman said the notices of closure don't always coincide with what happens. He understood from talking to the contractors that they would be working on the area between the triangle and down towards Sarsden and then would be finished in Maugersbury.

### b) To consider whether any repairs to verges etc should be requested following Gigaclear's work in the village

It was noted that some areas had been left in good condition but some less so, and the triangles were no longer triangles. It was hoped they would naturally recover.

It was agreed to write to the contractors/Gigaclear to flag up the issue and say that if the verges did not recover over the next few months MPC would be looking to Gigaclear to repair them. Clerk and Cllr Lutman to draft letter.

Cllr Lutman said the tubes had been installed. Nothing was in them yet but it meant properties could have one or more fibres connected. The connections were more durable than those installed by the previous contractors.

### c) To receive an update on Highways works, lengthsman projects and any other work in the parish including the annual litter pick

Cllr Root said the December litter pick and leaf clearance had gone well.

Clerk was asked to report to GCC Highways that a granite sett has come out of the kerb before the bollards on Maugersbury Road.

## 8. Planning

### a) To note that there are no current planning applications open for comment in the parish

Noted.

### b) To note decision notices received for the following planning applications:

Application	Address	Description	MPC Comments	CDC Decision
21/03141/FUL	Sycamore Barn, Maugersbury	Single storey extension, other minor amendments	No objections	Permit

Application	Address	Description	MPC Comments	CDC Decision
21/03142/LBC	Sycamore Barn, Maugersbury	Single storey extension, other minor amendments	Council believes CDC is best placed to determine the effect on listing	Permit

**c) To receive update on Rowan Gate appeal**

Cllr Totham reported that the appeal by the owner against the breach of planning control decision had been decided. The appeal had been partially upheld, to the extent that the rear dormer had been allowed. However the requirement to remove the three front dormers within 6 months had been upheld.

**d) To note Cotswold District Local Plan Partial Update: Regulation 18 'Issues and Options' Consultation open for public comment until 20 March 2022**

Cllr Totham said she would attend CDC's forum for councillors this week. The consultation seemed to be written for personal responses and it was difficult to respond as a council. Cllr Neill said a letter of response would be acceptable. Cllr Totham will draft a response and hopes to circulate key points for feedback.

A resident said there appeared to be work going on at the barn at the corner of Pound Lane. It was suggested that Gigaclear contractors were using it for equipment parking. To be watched.

**e) To receive update on alleged use of land off Fosseyway for scrap metal business**

Cllr Neill said she had spoken with the Enforcement Officer. An enforcement notice had been issued and the owners had appealed against it.

Cllr Neill also gave an update on **Spring Bank**, saying the Enforcement Officer had driven past and confirmed planning permission was needed for the mobile home and it would be dealt with accordingly.

**Planning Application 22/00140/FUL – Grafters, Fosseyway, Lower Slaughter GL54 2EY – Change of use of existing dwelling and erection of extensions to create 40 bedroom hotel and associated works**

This was not on the agenda and had previously been circulated to residents as an application to be considered between meetings, but the deadline date for comments had been extended to 10 March. Cllr Totham described the background to this application and the fact that planning permission had been granted on appeal for an electric vehicle charging station on the site, but the applicants were now saying it was bigger than needed so they want to use half of it for hotel parking. This avoided the requirement to do a traffic study and ignored the fact that EV charging station parking was permitted during daytime only and limited to electric vehicles. It was noted there was a separate planning application for relocating the scrap metal yard to the other side of the road, resulting in three vehicle entrances on this section of the A429. Other concerns raised were the inappropriate location in the middle of the countryside, effects of noise and light in the AONB and the lack of safe pedestrian/cycle access. It was agreed MPC would object to the application for these reasons.

A resident asked about **Richborough Estates**, saying at the moment the Local Plan provided protection and could that change? Cllr Totham noted that in the latest update of the SHELAA that site had the same comments on it as before. Cllr Neill said that any application that came forward would be unlikely to be considered as the site was outside the development boundary.

## 9. Finance

### a) To approve payments as per the payment schedule

Payments were approved as per the payment schedule: GAPTC membership fee £40.49, E Sajewicz clerk's salary £535.00; E Sajewicz reimburse website renewal expenses £61.81, Centre 67 Youth Club hire of hall £10.00.  
There were no receipts during the period.

Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington left the meeting as he had another meeting to attend.

### b) To receive update on arrangements for independent audit

Cllr Warmington reported that the independent auditor had been engaged at a fee of £100 and would conduct a postal audit. The clerk said his list of requirements had been received and would be sent in April after the end of the financial year.

### c) To note that parish and town councils will have to pay election charges from next year with charges to be phased in over 4 years

The clerk said CDC had advised that election costs would be phased in as follows:

For contested 4-yearly elections at a rate of 50% in 2023 and 100% in 2027.

For contested by-elections at the following rates from 1 April each year:

2024 = 50%

2025 = 75%

2026 = 100%

For MPC the estimated cost of elections (at 100%) is:

Contested 4-yearly elections = £1000

Contested by-elections = £1800

CDC would be providing more accurate costs in October in time for them to be considered when setting the budget for 2023/24.

Cllr Neill said CDC has been the exception in paying election costs for town and parish councils and this change brings it into line with other councils in the county.

It was noted that for a small parish like Mangersbury the impact on the precept requirement will be significant but that the cost is ultimately paid by council tax payers irrespective of which council pays.

### d) To consider any suggestions for how to make use of expected Community Infrastructure Levy contribution of approx. £7,500 from the Carmel, Wyck Hill, development

Suggestions from residents and councillors were: tree planting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, improvements to the Pound Lane junction, and put towards crowd funding for a highway project if that was possible. Cllr Neill said she would send details of the officer who could advise on what would qualify.

## 10. Meeting dates for 2022-23

The following dates were confirmed:

Monday 6 June 2022

Monday 5 September 2022

Monday 5 December 2022

Monday 6 March 2023

## 11. Questions from members of the public

A resident asked about trees overhanging the highway on the right going towards Stow. Cllr Root said he had an address for the land owner who had been approached before with no result. He offered to make another attempt at contact and if no response MPC could ask GCC Highways to take action.

## 12. Date of next meeting: Monday 6 June 2022

The meeting closed at 7.43 pm.

Signed by Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_