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| Present | Mr R Girling | Chair |
| | Dr J A Berry | |
| | Mr F Dumbleton | |
| | Dr M Hansard | |
| | Mr J King | |
| | Mr M Urso-Cale | |
| | Dr D Dewhurst | District Councillor |
| | 8 Members of the public | |
| | Mrs M E Morris | Parish Clerk |

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Mr C Broad, Mr C Clements and Ms S Povolotsky.
2. **Declarations of Interest** None
3. **Minutes of the last Meeting** were signed as a true record.
4. **Area Beat Officers Report**
There had been no reported incidents for Chilton. He noted that PC Sarah Merrit, the Neighbourhood PC had left the Police Force.
5. **Open Forum**
(i) Laura Brearley, the Scout Cub Leader, explained that the Scout Group are decorating a mini Ox which will be part of the 2024 OxTrail. The OxTrail is Oxford's first ever sculpture trail, where life-sized and mini herds of oxen will be grazing throughout the County. When the Trail has finished the mini ox is given back to the Scouts who would like somewhere to display it in the Village. It was agreed to display it on The Green by the pump.
6. **District Council Report**
Prior to the meeting a report was circulated and put on the website. Dr Dewhurst said that the consultation on the Joint Local Plan is now open, comments to be sent to the Vale by 21st February. The Boundary Commission is changing the ward divisions, they are looking at the boundaries for the wards throughout the Vale. The consultation is now open and closes on 18th March.
7. **County Council Report**
Mr Dumbleton said he had emailed Ms Povolotsky re the flooding in The Lane. It is flooding because the springs are flowing and Thames Water have not cleared the culvert. Ms Povolotsky replied that she has forwarded the email on at OCC.
8. **Planning**
(i) **Applications Considered by the Parish Council**
Planning application by Collard Environmental Limited, Chilton Recycling Facility To vary condition 5 of application P22/V1914/CM (MW.0098/22) Chilton Recycling Facility MW.0166/23
Comments
Chilton Parish Council did not have any objections to the application, will the 4.00am start disturb residents at Gore Hill. The Council would like to see the road kept in good condition.
(ii) **Applications Determined by the Vale**
Permission for a new two storey side extension and single storey rear extension, 3 No. roof dormers and insertion of a rooflight. Ardarragh House, South Row P23/V2567/HH

9. Matters Arising

(i) Open Forum

Mr Maughan had raised a query about lighting on Church Path. OCC website says "Unfortunately, our budget is strictly for the maintenance, emergency, and energy costs of our existing assets and not for the repositioning of existing or the addition of new lighting installations. However, if the parish council were prepared to fund the initial installation /servicing costs and pay a commuted sum (this is an upfront sum to cover future maintenance costs) we would look into taking on future energy and maintenance costs for that installation as long as it is installed on the public highway and to our specification."

Mr Maughan is still to send report re Church Hill.

(ii) Play Equipment Working Group

Mr Urso-Cale reported that he had met up with the contractors and there should be a February/March start for the installation of the play equipment. The Clerk has chased up Janette Hinton-Smith as it is now almost 4 weeks since the Full Cabinet agreed to the release of the Sec 106 money. Jupiter have requested the 25% deposit for the play equipment, the Clerk to pay Jupiter from reserves. The Clerk made a formal complaint to Dr Dewhurst, as the District Councillor, regarding the delay in releasing the money.

(iii) Amphitheatre

The Community Room has been booked for 3rd August.

10. Finance

(i) Expenditure

Cheques

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| 49. The Landscape Group - October grass | 204.78 |
| 50. Mrs Morris - December salary, expenses & back pay to 1 st April | 609.06 |
| 51. Friends of The Ridgeway - Annual subscription | 15.00 |
| 52. Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South and Vale - donation | 175.00 |
| 53. CPRE - Annual subscription | 36.00 |
| 54. Mrs Morris - Chron 507 | 132.48 |
| 55. Mrs Morris - Community Room cleaning | 210.00 |
| 56. Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire - donation | 45.00 |
| 57. SLCC - Annual Membership | 112.00 |
| 58. Nurture Landscapes - December POS | 2216.30 |
| 59. Tactical Facilities Management Ltd - December bin emptying | 77.33 |
| 60. Thames Water Utilities Ltd - Lower Road allotments | 55.59 |
| Total | 3888.54 |

Petty Cash

Nil

(ii) Income

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| SA Clothing Bank | 118.08 |
| P Boot | 450.00 |
| | 568.08 |

Balances

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|--------------------|-----------|
| Treasurers Account | 500.00 |
| Instant Access | 63063.52 |
| Business Account | 179090.30 |
| Petty Cash | 50.00 |

(iii) Precept for 2024/25

Prior to the meeting the Budget papers for 2024/25 were circulated, following a discussion the Budget was proposed by Dr Hansard, seconded by Mr Girling and accepted by all that the Precept for 2024/25 should be £24455 giving a figure of £34.86 per Band D house.

- (iv) Dr Hansard reported that Rci Bank does not take council accounts and the Co-op Bank was not answering so alternative accounts have been looked at. The Cambridge and Counties Bank offered a 2 year bond at 5%, also to be considered is a 1 year Bond at 5.26% with Metro Bank. It was proposed by Mr Girling, seconded by Mr King and accepted by all that up to £85k should be invested in a 2 year fixed bond with Cambridge and Counties Bank.
- (v) The paddock rental has been paid again, the Clerk is still chasing Ms Boot regarding the re-instatement of the paddock.

11. VHMC Report

Mr King reported that there had been a meeting on 8th January when finances were reviewed, also discussed were a new door, cctv, bookings and the treasurer. A letter had been received from Dr Moseley asking that the Warm Welcome group should be exempt from paying hire charges as they are a non-profit group run for the benefit of the village. The VHMC and the Parish Council are generally in support of the request and they are going to look at the finances and the running costs of the Hall. There is also to be a review of hire charges for the Hall, this will be carried out when the new booking system is up and running. Once the running costs and the hire charges have been agreed the Group will need to pay a contribution towards the running costs. It is hoped that Toddler group numbers will increase.

12. Play Equipment Inspection

Sawscapes have carried out the quarterly inspection of all the equipment and fitted the two new seats on the rotaplay. Mr Girling has inspected Chilton field equipment. Mr Dumbleton noted that the trees by the tube slide are broken and need attention. Dr Dewhurst said that the Vale is looking at the play areas they own, would the Parish Council want to take over Hill Piece, the Council did not want to.

13. Correspondence

From the previously circulated correspondence it was noted that solicitors have been instructed by the Insurance company to represent the Parish Council with regard to the claim by Miss Olivia Lloyd. The Council do not have to do anything at this time.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm