



NOVEMBER 2019

## **MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & WELLBEING COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7.00pm, IN THE NEW SEACOURT HALL, 2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR GRANT THORNTON BUILDING, BOTLEY.**

Present: Councillor Church (Chair) and Councillors, Kay, Blase, Bastin, Dowie, Potter, Jones, and Berrett.

In Attendance: C A Ryde, Clerk to NHPC.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Agreed.
4. **MATTERS ARISING:** as per agenda items.
5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**a). Neighbourhood Plan update.**

Councillor Kay reported the Vale of White Horse District Council were actively reviewing NHPC planning recommendations including amendments those relating to The Brookes University Westminster site and UT2. This would result in an extension to the process that NHPC Council were to be asked to consider and agree.

**b) Oxford – Cambridge Expressway – developments and report.**

Councillor Kay reported that the Public meeting held jointly with Cumnor Parish Council had been well attended by around 150 people. It was reported that if the Government was re-elected; it proposed having a review of the project.

**c) Air Pollution.**

It was reported that The Vale of White Horse District Council was working towards classifying a greater area of Botley/North Hinksey as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) IN 2020 and that if this was achieved it would open prospective funding possibilities

Councillor Jones reported that a bid to Highways England was progressing to fund a scheme to help counteract pollution along Botley Primary Schools boundary with the A34 and that Oxford University were providing help and advice.

A proposal to introduce an anti-idling campaign to the Parish was still under discussion. OxAir had agreed to assist with air pollution monitoring.

**d) Transport issues.**

Councillor Jones undertook to write to Robin Tucker at the Oxford Cycle Network, to request that they ask that Botley be included in the Botley Road improvement Scheme.

Councillors also heard a report concerning parking enforcement issues in Botley and North Hinksey following confirmation that Oxford City Council's Civil enforcement agency was legally responsible. However, the latter was not reflected on their website, such that issues could not be reported. The Botley Traffic Advisory Committee was attempting to resolve the issue.

**e) '20's Plenty' local speed limit.**

Councillor Church spoke to his pre circulated paper outlining the benefits of a "20 is Plenty", campaign which required a formal proposal drawn up by a working group of up to 5 people. It was suggested that the latter include parishioners, the issue raised as an agenda item for the Annual Parish Meeting and that the working group should report to the Environment & Wellbeing Committee.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Church, SECONDED by Councillor Kay and AGREED: that Councillor Bastin would take this forward by informally consulting interested parties and to report back to The Environment and Wellbeing Committee.

**f) Climate Communications.**

Councillors considered a paper tabled by Councillor Church.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Church, SECONDED by Councillor Jones and AGREED (with 1 abstention) that: A proposal be put to NHPC Council for a supplementary bid of £1000 for the current (19/20) financial year to fund communications such as leaflets and posters.

**g) Botley ‘Big Green Day’.**

Councillors considered a paper tabled by Councillor Church.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Berrett, SECONDED by Councillor Potter and AGREED (7 votes for and 1 abstention) that:

- a working group be set up consisting of Councillors Blase, Potter, Church, Kay, Jones and Berrett; to develop plans for the day.
- a supplementary current financial bid be put to NHPC Council of £1500 to fund the 2019/2020 Green Day.

**h) bid for a separate budget to cover expected Environmental Committee costs.**

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Church, SECONDED by Councillor Kay and AGREED by 7 votes for and 1 abstention, that a supplementary bid be put to NHPC Council for 2019/20 of £2500 and a bid for 2020/2021 be put forward of £3000.

**i) Review of NHPC Environmental Performance**

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Potter, SECONDED by Councillor Church and AGREED by 7 votes for (1 abstention), to review the environmental performance of the new Seacourt Hall building once occupied.

**6 ANY OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**a) Oxford Swift Project.**

Councillor Berrett reported that an approach had been made to the Botley Developers /Premier Inn who were interested in placing Swift nest boxes in the development.

**b) Oxfordshire Trees for the Future.** Councillor Church undertook to explore this initiative and report back to a future meeting.

**c) Spare Plants:** Councillor Jones reported that Botley Primary School had some plants to give away. Councillor Potter undertook to contact the Eco Club at Matthew Arnold School.

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** To be agreed by e mail.