



OXTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extra Council meeting of Oxted Parish Council held in the Meeting Room, the Community Hall, Church Lane, Oxted on Tuesday 2nd February 2016 at 6:30pm

Mrs Karen Weightman
Mrs Katherine Saunders
Mrs Liz Parker
Mrs Claire Dillon
Mrs Barbara Harling
Mr Terry Dillon
Mr Martin Fisher

Mrs Maureen Gibbins
Clerk to Oxted Parish Council

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for absence:** to receive and accept apologies for absence.
Cllrs. Beverley Connolly, Colin David, David Weightman, Stephen Blunden and Paul Whitehurst
2. **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest:** *To receive any disclosure by members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interests, and whether the member regards the interest to be prejudicial under the terms of the new Code of Conduct. Members are reminded of the need to repeat their declaration immediately prior to the commencement of the item in question. Anyone with a prejudicial interest must, unless an exception applies, or a dispensation has been issued, withdraw from the meeting.*
There was none
3. **Review and approval of Local Plan Comments**
There was general discussion regarding the Tandridge District Council Local Plan Issues and Approaches document. The comments raised and to be submitted to TDC are as follows:

Page 25 Design & Safety/Climate Change
No. 10
The Parish Council has concerns regarding considering high densities, which they feel would be detrimental to life in Tandridge, e.g. removal of green spaces, encourage crime and take away the community feel that is enjoyed. On page 14 mention is made of 5.6% of the population of Tandridge suffering from depression. The Parish Council does have concerns that high density developments could aggravate the situation.
The Approach of 2A is preferred, as it does seem to avoid high density. However, the Parish Council does have some concerns regarding the number of dwellings proposed in Oxted. Residents are already struggling to obtain Doctors' appointments at the Health Centre, local schools are over-subscribed and there are a very limited number of local

shops. Oxted Parish Council does, however, realise that there is a good train and bus services. Commuter parking, however, is a problem in residential roads around the railway station.

General Comments

We strongly urge the Council to do all they can to protect the green belt and AONB and designated open spaces.

To encourage development of small businesses.

To expand the provisions of affordable housing.

To encourage the provision of commuter parking.

12.3.4

Not too sure why specific towns/villages are mentioned in this paragraph. I am sure Woldingham also has built up areas and would have thought just to say rural settlements/green belt settlements/countryside would be sufficient as equally in the next line when mentioning built up areas it is not necessary to mention Oxted as Oxted does contain green belt areas. The Parish Council understands that the housing number is a prescribed number and would expect the final number would be significantly lower bearing in mind the green belt, AONB and character of the town and density of the dwellings.

12.5 FLOODING

Unfortunately, you are unable to devise a Policy that would cover the above at the moment. In view of the winter so far, flooding has become a 'high on the agenda' item. Although in the area covered by Oxted Parish Council we have a few areas of flooding, it is perhaps an area on which comment should be made.

We understand TDC as such is not responsible for flooding, but would hope that any Policy drawn up would encompass the following.

1. To prevent development in flood plains.
2. Planning applications in/near flood areas must provide sustainable drainage systems to mitigate flood risks.
3. Use endeavours to bring pressure on the Environment Agency to fully implement their own policies against flooding.
4. To encourage the Environment Agency to put pressure on land owners to carry out their obligations with regard to clearing ditches as appropriate.

12.6 INFRASTRUCTURE

Again, you are unable to devise a Policy as you have to determine the delivery strategy. The above is causing problems within the Oxted area mainly with the inability to see your own doctor any earlier than the period of 2/3 weeks. To the elderly this does cause distress. Perhaps before preparing suitable policies, the local doctors should again be asked if they feel they are coping.

4. Review of additional working hours for the Clerk

The Clerk had emailed the councillors requesting payment for half of the study hours (20 hours) allocated to the CiLCA qualification. This was agreed.

Date of the next meeting Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 7.30pm

Venue; The Meeting Room, The Community Hall, Church Lane, Oxted

Copies of Parish Council minutes are held by the Clerk and are available on the

Parish Council web-site: www.oxted-pc.org.uk

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