

**Horton-cum-Studley Parish Council**  
**Annual Parish Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday 14 June 2018 at 8.00pm**  
**In the Millennium Hall**

**Present:** Sarah Foxcroft (Chair), Colin Badger, Cllr David Hughes (District Councillor), David Slingo and Alexia Lewis (Clerk)

1. **Apologies** were received from Barbara Jewell, Andrew Payne, Richard & Rachel Hawes.
2. **Public Participation:** 27 members of the public attended.
3. **Minutes** of the last meeting 10 June 2017 were approved.
4. **Guest Speakers:** David England and Andy Long from South Oxfordshire Ambulance Service (SOAS)

Mr England is responsible for the First Responders' Team and the defibrillators located throughout Oxfordshire.

Mr England and Mr Long outlined the procedure for using a defibrillator.

If you witness a cardiac arrest (or any medical emergency), you should call 999 and ask for an ambulance. The control centre will ask whether the patient is breathing and conscious. If they are, the control centre will explain what you need to do over the phone. If they are not, you will be advised to start 500 chest compressions straight away. If you are with another person, the control room will tell you where the nearest defibrillator is situated and will give you the combination to open the locked cabinet. In Horton cum Studley, the defibrillator will be located in the old phone box at the bottom of Horton Hill. The control centre will remain on the telephone line while you are with the patient, until the ambulance arrives. The defibrillator will also talk you through the procedure and you cannot cause any harm to a patient as it decides if/when to shock the patient. Members of the public are protected by the Good Samaritan Law which stipulated that nobody will be prosecuted for trying to save someone's life.

Mr England advised that a person in cardiac arrest needs a defibrillator within the first 10-15 minutes of collapsing.

He also reported that 20% of cardiac arrests happen in a public place and 80% happen at home.

There is only a 7% chance of survival for cardiac arrest in the UK compared to a 70% chance in Norway. He explained this was helped by the fact that children in Norway are trained to use a defibrillator at the age of 7 years old. He thought that in the near future there will be a defibrillator located in every home as standard and his objective is to have defibrillators located every 200 metres within the city of Oxford. Defibrillators are located in GP surgeries and dentists by law and soon will be located at every fire station. Every fire engine in Oxfordshire has a defibrillator on board.

Mr England's key message was that defibrillators save lives and once the defibrillator is installed in the village, a training session will be arranged for parishioners. Please email [hortoncumstudleyparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hortoncumstudleyparishcouncil@gmail.com) if you would like to attend the training session.

The Chair thanked Mr England and Mr Long for their informative presentation.

5. **Cllr David Hughes, Cherwell District Councillor**

Cllr David Hughes explained that there are 3 councillors (Cllr Hughes, Cllr Hallchurch and Cllr Holland)

who share the Otmoor area. Cllr Hughes is also the Chair of Cherwell Planning Committee and will become the Chair of Cherwell District Council next year.

He explained that the Joint working initiative with South Northants District Council had made a reduction in costs of between £1-2 million a year, unfortunately however this joint working arrangement will be coming to an end. Cllr Hughes advised that there is a possibility of teaming up with Oxfordshire County Council to continue making savings. He noted however that there is some concern that this could result in the formation of a unitary council. He explained that Cherwell had initiated discussions with Stratford District Council but they had pulled out of negotiations. An approach to Aylesbury Vale District Council was not successful as they have decided to become a unitary council. Cllr Hughes advised that working with Oxfordshire County Council would help with planning and road issues as communication would be improved. The Chief Executive of Cherwell District Council would head up the joint working team.

#### **6. Cllr Dan Sames, Oxfordshire County Council Otmoor Division**

Cllr Sames reported that he spends a lot of time dealing with local road issues and the potential threat of the OxCam expressway. He noted that it took 2 years of emails and telephone calls to get Bucks County Council to resurface Brill Road last week, and he is continually reporting potholes to Oxfordshire Highways. He reported that Horton Hill is due to be resurfaced during late summer 2018.

Cllr Sames explained the road marking systems for repairing potholes. A white circle means a pothole is due to be repaired within 28 days; a red circle within 24-48 hours and a yellow circle means a temporary patch.

Cllr Sames stated that he will do all he can to safeguard Otmoor from the threat of the OxCam Expressway.

Cllr Sames explained that the proposed joint working with Cherwell District Council would not be a merger and that there would still be two distinct councils. The County Council is looking to make some substantial savings by sharing services. He advised that all services will be reviewed to see where the best cost savings can be made. He explained that social care received the largest proportion of county funding.

Cllr Sames also advised that the County Council is responsible for education in Oxfordshire and each councillor has a £15 k priority fund for the next 2 years. Cllr Sames has allocated £1K to each primary school to apply for something they need.

Cllr Sames reported that the deer warning signs in and out of the village were due to be replaced soon.

7.

#### **Chairman's Report, Cllr Sarah Foxcroft**

The Chairman thanked all the Parish Councillors for their work and commitment over the last year. In particular, she gave special thanks to Cllr David Prosser who after many years of service has stepped down from the Parish Council. Cllr Foxcroft explained that Cllr Prosser had a vast knowledge of the village and its history and was also open to change and would listen to all points of view. He was particularly helpful to Cllr Foxcroft when she first joined the Parish Council, and remained very supportive when she took over as Chair.

Cllr Foxcroft asked everyone to write a message of thanks to Cllr Prosser in a specially prepared message book and advised that parishioners who wished to could contribute to his thank you gift.

Cllr Foxcroft introduced Cllr David Slingo who joined the Parish Council in May as a replacement for Cllr

Prosser. Cllr Slingo moved into the village last year and had married his wife Julie in St Barnabas Church. Cllr Slingo's first task will be to look into the GDPR legislation and understand how it impacts on the Parish Council.

Cllr Foxcroft thanked Cllr David Hughes who is one of 3 district councillors and is our key contact with Cherwell. She also gave thanks to Cllr Dan Sames our County Councillor. Cllr Sames has been a great help in lobbying Buckinghamshire County Council to repair Brill Road.

Cllr Foxcroft reminded parishioners of the Parish Council's remit. The Parish Council responds to planning applications; facilitates parishioners' requests and adjudicates disputes between neighbours. The Parish Council arranges grass cutting in the summer and reports road repair requests to Oxfordshire Highways. Parishioners are strongly encouraged to report pot holes and road repair requests online individually too, since the more requests logged the more likely that the repair will be prioritised by the Highways Department. Parishioners are encouraged to photograph the potholes, if safe to do so, and to upload the image when logging the complaint.

## **Good news**

### **Otmoor Flyer**

Cllr Foxcroft thanked Jill Meyjes and Barbara Jewell as well as other members of the Otmoor communities for their efforts to keep the Otmoor Flyer bus service. This facility is subsidised by the Parish Council. She reminded parishioners that the more you use the bus, the more likely we get to keep it.

### **Speeding within the Village**

Oxfordshire Highway visited the village in January 2018 and looked at where we should site the two new VAS signs. As a result of this visit the Parish Council has purchased 2 additional VAS sign. These will be Solar powered. Oxfordshire Highways have installed the poles upon which the signs and solar panels will be mounted; one on Brill Road and one on Oakley Road. The current sign on Brill Road will be relocated to Horton Hill.

### **Speed Survey**

A speed survey has also been conducted on The Straight Mile from 19<sup>th</sup> April to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The data shows that there does not appear to be a major issue on the mile or through the woods, but traffic is speeding as it enters the village. The 90 degree bend at the corner of the Village Green does however slow traffic as it enters Horton Hill.

### **Defibrillator**

The Parish Council has purchased a defibrillator for the village which will be installed in the phone box. The equipment requires electricity and the phone box was the only place it could be installed. Training will be provided for using the new defibrillator. Parishioners should sign up after the meeting if they would like to attend.

### **Thanks**

Cllr Foxcroft thanked Claudette Doe for her continued work editing the newsletter, Jenna Zan for her continued work on the newsletter design, and the Hawes for continuing to distribute the newsletters.

She thanked Jill Meynes and the drivers who provide support for the transport scheme, which is

subsidised by the Parish Council.

Cllr Foxcroft also thanked the Otmoor Challenge Committee and everyone involved in organising the fete, Andrew Pennington, Lisa Mynheer who stepped in at last minute, Basil Lyster, Sara Mander, as well as Catherine Lange for the evening do and the WI for the refreshments. Special thanks to Colin Jenkins for setting out the course and organising the marshalls, with the added pressure of a last minute change to the course. She also thanked the numerous parishioners involved in helping with the set up and running of the event on the day.

She thanked the Millennium Hall Committee for keeping the hall up and running, with special thanks to David Russell for managing the booking and revamping the website, Liz Pugh who has been doing a fantastic job of keeping a general eye on the hall, and Pete Whittaker for maintaining the hall.

Cllr Foxcroft thanked Adrian Hampshire for his ongoing work and support with the village website and to Andy Marshall for auditing the PC accounts.

Most recently the Parish Council has received a number of complaints in relation to parking on pavements. Cllr Foxcroft explained again that whilst it is not illegal to park on the street it is anti social, and she urged parishioners to please think of the pedestrians who need to use the pavements. She also reported that dog fouling continues to be an issue and again urged dog owners to please clear up after their pets. The Parish Council provides dog waste bags so please use them!

### **Open Forum**

Cllr Foxcroft asked for opinions of whether to cut the verges in the village, or leave them uncut to encourage biodiversity.

Opinions ranged for preferring the verges to be cut to stop the spread of poisonous weeds such as ragwort; to preferring them cut for safety reasons – particularly visibility at junctions and corners.

Cllr Hughes advised that some parishes plant wild flowers along their verges which encourages biodiversity and is aesthetically pleasing.

Parishioners were asked whether it was still necessary to print and display copies of the minutes of the two village notice boards. Parishioners requested that this continues. One parishioner noted that the Perspex in the noticeboard at the top of the village should be replaced as it has deteriorated with age.

The OxCam Expressway was discussed. Cllr Foxcroft has attended numerous meetings with action groups, MPs and so on and our views have been submitted for consideration. Cllr Foxcroft has complained about the opaqueness of the process and is questioning the legality of not having an environmental assessment before choosing the preferred corridor. She has been informed that the consultation will commence once the corridor has been chosen. We await the outcome during the summer.

Marjorie Perry thanked Cllr Foxcroft for her sterling work supporting the village during the last year as Chair of the Parish Council.

**Any Other Business:** There was no other business and the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Sarah Foxcroft, Chair Date: \_\_\_\_\_

