

Vale and South Oxfordshire Neighbouring Parish Councils Joint Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on 8th July 2023 at 10:00 am

Present: Chris Hancock (Appleford PC Working Group), Dom Grigg (Appleford PC), Greg O'Broin (Appleford PC/Chair), John Peters (Nuneham Courtenay PC), Dr Rita Atkinson (Sutton Courtenay PC) and Sam Casey-Rerhaye (Culham PC).

1 Apologies for absence

Vicky Shepherd (Appleford PC) and Geoffrey Ferres (Clerk to the Joint Committee).

2 Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2023 previously circulated with the meeting notice were approved and signed.

Action: GOB to sign and forward to Clerk

3. Update on Developments since last meeting

GOB summarised recent developments. OxonCC has scheduled the HIF1 Planning Hearing for 17th July (1:00pm – 6:00pm) and 18th July (10:00am – 1:00pm).

The starting time was delayed until 1:00pm to allow people to attend the Pre-Inquiry Meeting called by the Inspector inquiring into the CPO for the HIF1 scheme. This effectively allows one day for HIF1 which is inadequate for such a large scheme.

The Case Officer Report has been published – 220 pages. Subject to the application first being called in to the Secretary of State whether they (Cllrs) wish to call it for their own determination, that the application is approved.

The election for Chair and Vice-Chair of the Planning & Regulation Committee for 2023-24 took place on 5th June with Cllr Geoff Saul and Cllr Richard Webber re-elected as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

4. Meeting with Barrister

RA outlined the meeting with Jack Smyth, Barrister No 5 Chambers. He spoke well and demonstrated his presentation skills but disappointingly had not read or assimilated all the material sent to him.

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GOB agreed with RA's assessment. The barrister clarified that call in could be made after the planning meeting and said we may need to engage him which will cost.

5. Other Developments

Brief discussion that the Freedom of Information request for the Grant Determination Agreement and Deed of Variation was declined.

The Grampian Condition was explained and request from Charlie Hopkins that we do a reconciliation of housing completions trajectory (VoWHDC & SODC). SCR to assist.

Due to the imminent Planning and Regulation Committee hearing, the noise issue was not discussed.

6. Fees – Contributions by Parish Councils

GOB explained the background and, while he had periodically spoken to Charlie Hopkins, he had not agreed anything with him.

7. Administration

Nothing to discuss.