

Notice of
Meeting of the Parish Council on

Wednesday 13th April 2005

at 20:00 h
in
The Village Hall

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest
3. AGM reports
4. Minutes of previous meeting
5. Matters arising
6. Current tasks
 - Play wall/area
 - RAF
 - State of roads
7. Planning
8. District Councillors Reports
9. Correspondence
10. Accounts & administration
11. Any other business
12. Next meeting – 11th May 2005 8pm

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Minutes of a meeting of Parish Councillors

held on

Wednesday 9th March 2005

Present	Neil Blake (NB)	Dee Rosier (DR)
	Brian Benson (BB)	Sue Pryce Jones (SPJ)
	Peter Lemaire (PL)	John Lockyer (JL)
	Sue Hill (SH)	

- | | Details | | Action |
|----|---|--|------------------------|
| 1. | Apologies – none | | |
| 2. | Declaration of interests – none | | |
| 3. | Minutes – Agreed | | |
| 4. | Matters arising – | | |
| | Tasks outstanding from previous meetings: | | |
| | <u>June meeting</u> | | |
| | • Parking – Geoff Gibson has left, new PC to be asked to meeting. | | SH |
| | <u>November meeting</u> | | |
| | • Footbridge on Benson path – SC awaiting a response. | | SC |
| | • New churchyard grass cutting – SH to talk to PCC re dates | | SH |
| | • Erosion of verges – SH awaiting response from OCC. Several councillors complained about the triangle of grass by the common being churned up by heavy vehicles. SH to list places in village where verges are being badly eroded. SC advised that OCC have an interest in such land and thus we need to contact them prior to action. BB mentioned that in the rest of Europe large vehicles are banned from entering small villages. SH to contact OALC for advice. BB to draft complaint and email to SH. Residents complained that lorries, such as refuse collectors were cutting into their bank along the High Street. SH to report approved way to prevent this. | | SH
SH |
| | • Martyn’s Way – SH had a quote for doing this, needs OCC authority on implementation details to proceed. | | SH |
| | • Grundons lorries in Prospect Lane – PL to raise at liaison meeting. | | PL |
| | • Tree guards (9 th hole) near Ewelme Down Farm – Councillors agreed to have a walk round and do it themselves on Saturday 16 th April at 11am. | | ALL |
| | • Post box – SH had written to the Post Office re the top of the box by the hall. SH to follow up as necessary. | | SH |
| 6. | Current tasks – | | |
| | RAF – NB reported that 3 residents had complained about an incident over the centre of the village. BB to have a word with the RAF and to point out that this sort of behaviour doesn’t help the liaison. | | BB |
| | State of roads – OCC had responded stating that the clearing of the edge of Cat Lane, removal of centre line, new edge line and signs will be completed by the end of April 2005. Day’s Lane centre line is not needed as road is too narrow and will not be refreshed. Rabbit’s Hill 30 mph sign cannot be moved to top of hill as that would not follow Dept of Transport guidelines. SH to query the clearing of gravel built up on the corner by Ford’s Farm and to ask whether it would be appropriate to have edge white lines on Rabbit’s Hill. | | SH |
| | Play area/play wall – work was due to start on both the new basketball and | | |

football area and the pavilion. JL had contacted the football teams to inform them. NB and SH had met with Vernon Miners re alterations to the pavilion.

7. Planning –

Lower Farm (adj to Fields End), Parsons Lane – Amendment to application for creation of two new dwellings by conversion of a disused barn and refurbishment of another barn on the same site, and associated landscaping. For info only.

8. District Councillors' Reports –

Sue Cooper – Wallingford Area Forum: Police presentation had not happened; SE plan consultation leaflet was out; Budget – SC was unhappy that a lump sum from the Community Investment Fund was to be used to top up the pension fund for SODC staff, Councillors felt this was a dishonest way of keeping council tax down, SC to send Councillors the facts; Paper on Waste Management Initiatives was being prepared.

NB thanked SC for her regular feedback from District Council.

BB queries savings on fly tipping by SODC. All agreed that it would be better to spend on eliminating the temptation of fly tipping and encouraging people to use the correct facilities rather than spend on clearing up.

9. Correspondence -

- OCC – email re outstanding work to be done, dealt with under Current Tasks.
- DEFRA – Clean neighbourhoods and environment bill. New powers to Parish Councils. SH to circulate the summary to all Councillors. More info can be found at www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/pabills.htm or www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localenv/index.htm

- ORCC speakers for annual meetings – for info

Meetings:

- Youth Service in South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse, 21st March, Oxford. None interested.
- Spring Association meeting, OPFA, 16th March, Steeple Aston. None interested.

10. Accounts & Administration –

Invoices paid between meetings: Paul Wyatt advance for materials (£3795.25), Country Mutual play area insurance (£525).

Invoices paid at meeting: OPFA (£25), Clerk wages (£187.50)

Statement of finances – SH provided all councillors with a current statement of finances.

Payments in: Adverts for Ewelme News (£504)

Invoice for grazing/water to be sent to Ford's Farm.

April meeting will include the AGM, Councillors to write reports for this.

**SH
ALL**

11. Any other business –

- PL gave a report on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee of work recently done in the village hall. The Committee are now faced with disability access requirements which were estimated at £6780. They were applying for a grant which may contribute 30% of costs, but were unable to fund more than £2000 of the rest of the costs. DR and PL declared an interest in the subject. The supplier to be used is unable to charge VAT so recovery of that would not be an issue for consideration by the Parish Council. After much discussion, Councillors felt that the Council should help with the costs for the village. The Council proposed in principle that if the Village Hall Management Committee could produce a 2-year implementation

plan, then Parish Council could contribute funding of £2,200 and if no other grants were forthcoming further contributions could be added to the 2006/7 precept. BB suggested that the Hall Committee consider applying for a TOE grant. SH to send contact info to PL. BB proposed that the Hall Committee be supported in their grant application by Parish Council. All agreed.

SH

- Cynthia Winfield reported that the water supply on the common was overflowing. SH to look into.
- BB – suggested that, in view of problems in Benson, Council should ensure that it identifies “orphan land” in the village and take steps to acquire it.
- NB reported that the new notice board for the Green Lane end of the village had not been erected as a resident was very upset by the chosen site. The contractor was stopped from putting it up. NB to discuss with the resident to see where a more appropriate site would be.
- A resident reported that the old forge was now in an extremely dangerous state or disrepair. Councillors agreed that it was the owners responsibility since it was on private land.

SH

NB

12. Meeting ended at 10.15pm

13. Date of next meeting – 13th April 2005 at 8pm in the Village Hall