

Notice of
Meeting of the Parish Council on

Wednesday 8th December 2004

at 20:00 h
in
The Village Hall

AGENDA

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

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Minutes of a meeting of Parish Councillors

held on

Wednesday 10th November 2004

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

- | | Details | Action |
|----|---|---------------|
| 1. | Apologies – John Lockyer (JL) | |
| 2. | Declaration of interests – none | |
| 3. | Presentation by Rob Field, Emergency Medical Responder | |
| 4. | Minutes – Agreed | |
| 5. | Matters arising –
Tasks still outstanding from previous non quorate meetings:
<u>June meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bridleways – SH awaiting reply from the Bridleways Officer to see if this was progressing. SH• Parking – SH had contacted the police who would ask the beat officer to take it up. Cars had been blocking the entrance to the Almshouses. Sue Cooper suggested asking for a white cross to be put on the road. SPJ to talk to school about this. DR thanking the school for altering the collection point and said that it had helped the situation. SPJ• Twinning – Village Management Hall Committee had agreed that the Twinning Committee could have a corner cupboard placed on the wall above the speaker system, but stipulated that it should have non-breakable glass in it. <u>August meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Football – Benson football teams were still using the area. Another group had approached JL re using the area on Sundays. JL to follow up and ensure that PC gets a reasonable contribution towards costs. BB had approached RAF re using the cricket pitch and they would like to use occasionally. JL <u>October meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Safety Wardens – BB to write an article in next Ewelme News. BB | |
| 6. | Current tasks –
RAF – None
State of roads – Cat lane still awaiting action from OCC. SH chasing. SH
Play area –
Site meeting with residents had been held re play wall provision and issues with the play area. It had been concluded that the play wall would be best positioned behind where the football goal is now. This would require clearing shrubs and excavating into the bank. It would be visible, but also observable, keeping it within the existing playing area. Other sites had been investigated, but were not felt as suitable. DR had spoken to some lads who liked the idea, NB had also spoken to some families who were in agreement. Some had asked for goals. Richard Winfield had fixed up one goal for them, but they would like a second. Councillors suggested buying two small goals like the football teams use. SH to discuss with Richard SH | |

Winfield. Councillors were happy for some form of goals to be put in place quickly since the play wall would be a longer term project. JL had asked SH to contact SODC since he was concerned that planning permission may be required for the play wall. SODC would require details of the planned site before making a decision.

Pavillion – Plans for renovating the existing building were described.

- Make toilets accessible from inside only and upgrade for disabled access.
- Revamp kitchen, putting in new storage space & work surface.
- Reduce the size of the windows and put shutters on them.
- New shower arrangements, better lighting, refurbish changing rooms.
- Change to solid construction and render to deter vandals.
- Raise front entrance and provide wheelchair access.
- Make reasonable vandal deterrent changes to the roof.

The plans aim to leave to shape as is, but make it more robust, reorganize for disabled access, improve catering, changing and shower facilities to meet health and safety standards. DR proposed that council proceed with these changes, PL seconded. Councillors agreed.

Council had obtained 3 quotes for the job: £42,011, £12,462 (1 year out of date) and £14,500. A grant of £15,000 had been offered by Trust for Oxfordshire Environment. BB proposed that a sub-committee analyse the 2 lower quotes and report to next meeting. DR proposed that since the 2 lower quotes were basically the same (one was 1 year old) councillors make a decision at the meeting. SPJ seconded. Councillors agreed that the quote of £14,500 be taken up. SH to write to the contractor, confirming that council wishes to proceed, confirming start and completion dates. It was suggested that early March would be a good time to start.

SH

State of roads – Bottom of Rabbits Hill needs gravel encroachment clearing. SH to contact OCC. Councillors queried whether the white line in the road was appropriate since it was so narrow and also whether the 30mph sign could be moved to the top of the hill.

SH

A resident had requested that access to the common be made good since it was very muddy and the pedestrian access has a slope which is very slippery. NB had contacted Grundons who had offered some gravel to be collected by arrangement. SH to arrange for a contractor to level off and put gravel down.

SH

A complaint had been made about traffic short cutting through the village. Traffic calming ideas were discussed. SC suggested that council apply for a 20mph through the village. SH to ask Speedwatch to come up with suggestions.

SH

SC had received many complaints about the footbridge/path by Fifield Manor being very slippery. She had corresponded with OCC to no avail. DR suggested sand-paper like material being put on the bridge. SC to write again.

SC

7. Planning –

2, Cottesmore House, Cottesmore Lane – Remove casement window, cut outer wall below opening and fit new hardwood French doors to match those on front elevation. Granted by SODC.

Linden House - Extension to existing dormer window. Granted by SODC

3, Lower Farm Barn – Amendment to previous application of single storey extension. Granted by SODC

Ewelme Almshouses – Change of use of masters flat from residential to educational for a temporary period. Granted by SODC with the following conditions: 1) Shall be restored to former use & condition by Oct 2005. 2) Measures should be taken to protect the fabric and historical features during use. 3) Access shall be via the first floor external stairway and not via the almshouse courtyard (except in an emergency) to avoid undue noise disturbance.

Land between Loretto & Cottesbrooke - Change of use from agricultural to domestic (garden). Parish Council voted “no strong views”, sent in form between meetings.

Land adjacent to Loretto - Erection of 5 bedroom dwelling. Councillors had been notified about planning appeal against refusal.

2 Whitehouse lodge, Brightwell Baldwin - Construction of an outdoor swimming pool. Parish Council voted “no strong views”, sent in form between meetings.

Grundons Waste Management Ltd – Several applications relating to outstanding issues. Parish Council had no representations to make about these applications for lawful development certificates, sent in forms between meetings. Also the major development application. Parish Council voted “refused” based on traffic and noise abatement considerations and sent in comments with the planning form.

Mead House, Kingsmead - Erection of a single storey rear extension. This is an extension to an existing extension located at the rear of the house, facing a large private garden. Councillors voted no strong views.

(Ex) Post Office, Ewelme - Change of use from commercial to residential. Several representations against this were made from village groups and individuals. Councillors voted to refuse this application since change of use would be utterly inappropriate and against district council policy. In addition there were still outstanding enforcement issues so they felt that they couldn't look at anything else before these were settled. It was felt that viability of retail use together with whether the property had been marketed appropriately and at a reasonable price had to be professionally assessed. Councillors suggested that if residents felt strongly about this application they should write to Natasha Perkins, SODC quoting P04/W1185 before Friday 19th November.

8. District Councillors' Reports –

Sue Cooper (SC) – Licensing discussions were still ongoing. SC to go on training course. NB queried why no funding had been transferred from the Lord Chancellor's budget to local councils to enable them to pay for the new workload. A resident had queried night time extended opening as they suffered noise from the Shepherd's Hut last summer. SC agreed that rural situations should be treated differently to town licensing and would ask District Council to take this into account.

Felix Bloomfield (FB) – Outlook magazine delivered by the Royal Mail. Business rates are being assessed. District Council is to publish a new Sustainable Development Strategy by the end of 2004. Notes on the new licensing laws – District Council will be issuing guidance leaflets in due course. Anyone wishing to see FB's report please ask the clerk.

SH

9. Correspondence -

- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister – New ethical framework regulations. For info.
- Martin Spence on behalf of the PCC – Accepting parish council's offer to arrange to mow the new churchyard three times in the summer. SH to take forward.

SH

Meeting invites:

- Oxfordshire County Council fire & Rescue Service – Nov 11th, Oxford Town Hall to discuss national fire control project.
- TOE – Annual General meeting, Friday 3rd Dec, Chalbury.
- Thame Town Council – Market Town Healthcheck, Wed 24th nov, Thame

10. Accounts & Administration –

Invoices paid: Country Mutual, pavilion insurance (£1188.74), Southern Electric (£8.98), Clerk wages (£187.50), Clerk for photocopying (£18), Colourplus (£197.40).

Payments received: none

11. Any other business –

- BB asked that council write to District Council expressing amazement that the Emergency Medical Responder is not paid and is even unable to claim expenses. He is bearing the costs whilst the ambulance service is benefiting from his actions and taking false credit in their statistics. SC to raise at the Health Scrutinee Committee. **SH/SC**
- Village Hall kitchen refurbishment – PL asked whether council could make a donation. Councillors agreed to discuss between meetings. **NB**
- Filing cabinet – SH asked if council could buy a second hand filing cabinet from DR to house stored files in the storage area. Councillors agreed. **SH**
- Ewelme.info – needs contributions. Residents to either send to SH or directly to webmaster.
- Broken pavement by the Terrace, High Street was reported. SH to write to No. 3. **SH**
- Ewelme Society was concerned about increased traffic if Grundons planning application was passed. Council gave them the planning application details so that they could write to district council.
- Grass verges in the village are being eroded by parking on them – in particular at top of Burrows Hill, Martyn's Way, Cat lane and by the car park at the common. Residents had asked that something be done to prevent the situation getting worse. Councillors agreed that it should be dealt with and would take it forward. **SH**

12. Meeting ended at 10.15pm

13. Date of next meeting – 8th December 2004 at 8pm in the Village Hall