

Notice of
Meeting of the Parish Council on

Wednesday 8th November 2006

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
 - RAF
 - Play area/pavilion
 - State of roads –SID trial
 - Parish plan
 - Affordable Housing
 - Health & Safety
6. Planning –
7. District/County Councillors Reports
8. Correspondence
9. Accounts & administration – agree budget & precept for 2007/8
10. New items of interest
11. Next meeting – 13th December 2006 8pm

Parish Clerk (phone 01491 837441

agreed.

5. Current tasks –

RAF – All agreed that the evening event had gone very well with a full house. The cost had been just under £150. NB was following up issues raised. SH had received a CD from the RAF with photos from the evening. PL to use some in Ewelme News.

NB
PL

State of roads – The SID volunteers had been trained and several had been out on the road. Results were very interesting with number of cars using the roads being a big surprise (e.g. 300 one way in Green Lane in a 2h period), numbers triggering the machine over 35mph in a 30mph limit (45+% in Green Lane), top speeds (60mph in Green Lane) and the fact that some vehicles have blockers which means that the machine doesn't pick them up. Liaison with the Police and Steve Wood (OCC) had resulted in Green Lane being designated as a community concern site for periodic enforcement by a police safety camera van. Councillors and residents were disappointed to find that this was an obvious police van with a sign to warn drivers that there was a camera. SH to ask Steve Wood for a monitor box with cables across the road to get more accurate results for the police. SH to see if we can get figures from police on numbers caught.

SH
SH

Affordable Housing – See above.

Parish plan – Nothing to report.

Play area/pavilion –

- Pod seats had arrived, but despite prior checking, the old chains do not fit the seats so will have to be ordered.
- Cricket – invoices had been sent but no payment had yet been received. All agreed SH to send reminder. SH to await payment and decisions re preparation of wicket before proceeding letters re changes. JL had circulated information re Ibstone Cricket Club who had an arrangement with their parish council to be able to use the area in exchange for the club undertaking to care and maintain the area including the square, outfield and surrounds and provide all equipment and labour. The cost of this is met by the Cricket Club. In fact they had recently upgraded the site at a cost of £11,000. Councillors felt that it was not unacceptable, therefore, to ask Ewelme Cricket Club to be responsible for wicket preparation themselves. BB queried whether SODC would give grants, but SC felt that they wouldn't give grants for maintenance.
- Use of the pavilion – SH had arranged for a fire inspection and placement of 2 extinguishers, a fire blanket and signs. Quotes for the lock change had been obtained. The cheapest quote (£125 + VAT for a new lock and 3 keys) was from a local locksmith who had been given the job. JL had agreed to have one key to be collected when required, SH and Barry Rosier to have the other keys. SH had contacted the school and was to arrange a meeting with NB, SPJ and the new Head Teacher.
- Benson footballers had paid invoice.
- DR suggested setting up a subcommittee for play area/pavilion which could meet maybe 2/3 times per year to oversee maintenance and use. This would then report to PC for agreement on decisions. It was agreed that this would be a good way forward as there were many issues to sort out and little time available at PC meetings.
- DR proposed that no village organisations be charged for use of the pavilion/sports area for village functions. PL seconded. BB raised the issue of double booking. All agreed that regular village functions would take priority and didn't see it as a great problem. All agreed to no charges for village organization functions.
- There had been a major water leak under the pavilion. SH had informed insurers. Vernon Miners, NB and Dave Perry had sorted out the problem after much digging and water divining. SH to submit invoices to the insurers to see if they will refund anything. Cynthia Winfield reported that the trench (dug due to water leak) had sunk due to the heavy rain. SH to investigate.

SH

SH

SH

SH

Health and safety – None reported

6. Planning –

Copper House - Change to plans - 2 velux windows in rear roof. Councillors consulted between meetings due to time limits. Councillors had no strong objections.

119 High St - Erection of a conservatory to the rear elevation. Councillors consulted between meetings due to time limits. Councillors had no strong views. Permission granted by SODC

The Old Rectory - Erection of a separate studio building in garden. This will be 14' x 18' area (not sure of height – looks like around 14'), constructed of timber boarding with a clay tile roof and will be positioned near the house. Not clear what the purpose of it is, but there will be no foul water drainage from it. Amendment for info: number of roof lights reduced and roof changed to half hip. Permission granted by SODC.

The Hyde - Demolition of tennis hut and two sheds. Erection of garden shed and a greenhouse. Councillors had no strong views.

4 Britwell Road - Erection of single storey double garage. Councillors approved with the comment that it would be a great improvement on original garage. DR left the meeting due to a conflict of interest.

Ewelme Manor - Provision of new fencing and vehicular entrance gates on the main driveway. Councillors had no strong views although it was felt that the automated gates were out of character with the area and the age of the property. They had no problems with the fencing.

Ewelme Manor – Demolition of redundant/derelict outbuilding. Councillors refused application as they felt District Council should check to ensure that the buildings were not of historical/archaeological significance. It was however recognised that the buildings could represent a hazard as they are.

Ewelme Manor – Internal alterations to form en-suite sanitary facilities. Councillors had no strong views as they recognised the need for the changes. They did however query the drainage system and whether it would be able to cope with the extra facilities.

7. District/County Councillors' Reports –

Sue Cooper mentioned items to be discussed at next cabinet meeting.

- Removal of public toilet facilities in Benson BB had objected to SODC on behalf of elderly shoppers.
- New version of IT strategy
- Review of garden waste collection service. Possibly to offer smaller bins or a year's supply of bags for houses that can demonstrate that they can't use bins.
- Residents asked SC to complain re refuse collectors throwing bins on footpath. A resident had witnessed an elderly person almost tripping over one. PL also to raise at Grundon's liaison meeting.

SC/PL

8. Correspondence -

- Ian Grant, Green Lane. Letter of complaint re Chiltern Society ad in Wallingford Herald encouraging people to park in the Green Lane lay by, which is not a lay by or a parking area, but is for residents have safe access to the road. PL suggested that PC could point out that this is unsuitable, but that Green Lane residents should contact the management committee directly to express their concern. BB felt that it was illegal to advertise parking on public roads. PL to raise at the management committee meeting as it had been drawn to our attention, also to point out that it was not acceptable to encourage parking in any residential areas.

SH

PL

Meetings/consultations:

- None

SPJ left the meeting early.

9. Accounts & Administration –

Payments in: £145 (football), £66 (Ads), £5418 (Precept)

Cheques signed at meeting: Austin Reynolds, signs (£259.22), clerk's wages (£199.21), Dave Perry, water leak (£266.46), Village Hall (£82.50), Margaret Blake (£62.83 catering RAF eve), Vernon Miners, bus shelter (£286), Playground Services, pod seats (£214.56), Colourplus (£326.49), Richard Winfield (£1100, SH had queried the price and had been told it included £200 payment for someone else to cut the bank), Brian Benson (declared an interest) RAF eve expenses (£77.26), Barry Rosier, odd jobs (£360).

SH presented budget figures to be discussed at next meeting so that next year's precept can be decided.

SH informed council that the Nat West accounts had now been closed and monies transferred to Bank of Ireland.

SH informed council that the pavilion insurance renewal was due, but the cost had increased by 17%, so she had queried it with the broker. Councillors asked that other quotes be found.

SH

10. Other issues raised and for possible future discussion –

- BB raised the issue of removing the white line from the centre of the High Street due to problems with lorries. All felt that this would not be acceptable as it was very helpful in the dark for pedestrians.
- Carol Sawbridge had not had any response from Jenny Beardmore re her complaint about new gates. SH to follow up.
- Ian Grant requested that the Green Lane notice board be given ventilation holes as it was impossible to read.
- Residents and councillors asked whether the gate to the car park was being shut over night.

SH

SH

JL

11. Meeting ended at 10.10 pm

12. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 8th November 2006 at 8pm, village hall