

Notice of  
Meeting of the Parish Council on

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2007**

**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 - terms of use to be approved
  - State of roads
  - Parish plan
  - Affordable Housing
  - Health & Safety – new bench approval
  - Hamden Way footpath access
6. Planning
7. District/County Councillors' Reports
8. Correspondence
9. Accounts & administration
  - approve the financial regulations and clerk's job description
10. New items of interest
11. Next meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2007 8pm

Parish Clerk ( phone 01491 837441

## Minutes of a meeting of Parish Councillors held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2006

<b>Present</b>	Neil Blake (NB)	Peter Lemaire (PL)
	Brian Benson (BB)	DeeRosier (DR)
	John Lockyer (JL)	Sue Pryce Jones (SPJ)
	Sue Hill (SH)	3 residents

### Details

### Action

1. **Apologies** – none
2. **Declaration of interests** – DR Ewelme School planning
3. **Minutes** – Agreed by all
4. **Matters arising** –
  - BB produced a draft “London underground” type map as a cheap, easy option for carving or routing into surfaces. He’d found Shelley signs who printed maps onto fibreglass which would be low maintenance, not easily vandalised and would last 8-10 years. A map of size A0 or A1 would cost around £1400-1600 in total. Councillors discussed an oak product, but preferred the glass fibre option. All preferred the realistic line/sketch design rather than a stylised map. Cream background, black drawing. Limits of the map were agreed as the common car park to Green Lane (indicate RAF base) and all felt that street names, pub, church, almshouses, hall, school, watercress beds centre, Ford’s Farm (not as B&B), view point at top of Days Lane etc should be included, but not houses or businesses. DR proposed that BB get firm quotes, PL seconded, all agreed. **BB  
BB/NB**
  - RAF – BB/NB to meet with Group Captain Welham on Friday am to present the picture gift.
  - Thames Water – no progress. Sue Cooper had heard that Thames Water would decide in January whether to replace the mains near the Ewelme/Benson boundary.
  - SH to put approval of financial regulations and clerk’s job description on next agenda **SH**
  - Village Hall ownership – After reading through the deeds and literature available NB had determined that the council was trustee and the management committee (VHMC) were responsible for maintenance and running. The VHMC can apply to the council for grants to help towards major tasks. Grants are limited by S137 rules. When the hall was assigned to the VHMC there were references to monies being transferred to the council. PL also raised the issue in old council minutes of an annual sum being put aside towards hall upkeep. SH to go look through the old minutes for the details and also determine if it were legal to do so or whether council should grant on an ad hoc basis. Ownership to be documented for future councils. Ownership of the land was raised. Some councillors recalled the land being registered. SH to contact the Gloucester Land Registry to see if already registered and get paperwork to register it. Councillors discussed whether council or VHMC should register the land. No decision was made, but if council is to do so SH needs to check with auditors because it will affect the list of assets. BB asked PL if there was anything in the terms of the VHMC to allow the youth of the village to use the hall free for 2 evenings a week. Councillors agreed that lifestyle changes had meant that the VHMC could agree to any use for the social benefit of the village. **SH  
SH**
5. **Current tasks** –
 

**RAF** – BB reported that the RAF is looking at new types of aircraft which may increase training. Carol Sawbridge stated that the initiative for the gift for Group Captain Welham was from the council; however, it had been produced by members

of the Ewelme Society. NB thanked them for their help.

**Thames Water** – nothing to report

**Play area/pavilion –**

- A meeting with Andrew Markham (School) should be arranged for January. **SH**
- SH had drafted terms of use for the pavilion. Councillors to comment on and approve at next meeting. SH to put on agenda **SH**
- Shelter/small goal area – No 3<sup>rd</sup> quote had been received. DR proposed that Groundworx be asked to complete the job J L seconded, all in favour. SH to ensure they understand exactly what is required and let Paul Wyatt know his quote was rejected. SODC had emailed to confirm that providing they approve of the final job, they will send the remaining £1000 grant. NB suggested that SH respond and add that aesthetically less-attractive shelters would have cost between £2000 and £4000 (from catalogues) and council had felt that inappropriate expenditure. **SH**  
**SH**
- Custom-made sign for play area – SH to get quotes. **SH**
- Cricket – a payment had been received from the Ewelme Cricket Club, nothing from the Aston Rowant Club. SH had a quote for preparation of the wicket which was £6000 for the season. NB suggested that the council pay to maintain the outfield only and that the wicket would be the responsibility of the Ewelme Cricket Club to maintain to their standard if they wished to use it. It would be uneconomic to do otherwise. DR supported and proposed, JL seconded. All agreed. BB queried whether an SODC grant would be available. All agreed that if the Ewelme Cricket Club wished to identify and apply for such a grant the council would support them. Councillors asked SH to send a red final demand to Aston Rowant followed by a letter in March stating that due preparation difficulties with over use and economics, it was no longer possible to allow them use of the wicket. Councillors asked that a letter be sent to Ewelme CC to inform them of the decision about the wicket. DR raised the issue of them using the wicket preparation equipment. All agreed that they were happy for the equipment to be used providing that it is maintained properly and that they sign to agree no liability attaches to the council. They should be asked to speak to Barry Rosier before use. **SH**  
**SH**
- Re-gravelling the path onto Cow Common – due to the state of the “path” it was agreed that providing costs were less than £100, SH could arrange for the job to be done. SH to ask Grundons to help out. **SH**

**State of roads –**

- Meeting with school to be arranged for January. **SH**
- SH summarised the results of the SID trial and the end of trial meeting. Results to be published in Ewelme News. Green Lane was the main problem. Steve Wood had agreed to install a speed measuring box to obtain accurate figures. Options for speed control would then be applied for. SH asked that the box be also used in Benson Road as difficulties in using SID there had undoubtedly masked results. All agreed. NB thanked volunteers who had taken part. DR proposed that a letter be sent to all residents who had been involved. Steve Wood had congratulated the Council and volunteers as Ewelme had been unusual in the amount of active support from residents. **SH**
- Heavy vehicles – All agreed to support the Bensington Society, Benson and Watlington Parish Councils in their quest to get a weight limit on the B4009. BB to draft a letter. **BB**
- Hampden Way fence – Council had received a complaint from several residents about the new fence erected by the garages in Hampden Way. Councillors had varying opinions: a) the fence blocks the access historically made through the woods. Although not an official footpath BB felt that the council should defend the long term use of this path, b) JL felt that the council should not get involved with this as it would mean taking sides of some residents and not others, c) DR felt that we should seek views of the

villagers, d) NB felt that SOHA were discourteous in not communicating with residents of Hampden Way (SOHA and non-SOHA) before erecting the fence to determine how people felt. He suggested that Council ask SOHA to communicate with residents and go with a majority view. He suggested that a gate could always be put into the fence to open access. BB resigned verbally from the council at 9.25pm. Carol Sawbridge added that if the problem is dog fouling, residents should be educated and perhaps a dog bin be put there.

NB/SH

- Footpaths – SH raised the problem of the deep mud where tractors cross footpaths in the pig fields. DR supported the complaint. All agreed that council write to the landlord requesting that something be done to ease the situation. The manager had suggested that people walk around the field off the footpaths, but not everyone would be aware of this and the areas often could not be avoided.

SH

**Affordable Housing** – Anna Kennedy had copied response from planners. None of the proposed sites were really acceptable despite councillors feeling that a site adjacent to the old dairy where planning permission had already been granted was not unreasonable. Carol Sawbridge asked on behalf of the Ewelme Society that the old gym site be considered. SH to thank Anna for her input and to ask that this new site be considered.

SH

**Parish plan** – an application for a grant had been submitted. NB had been asked to submit details of last appraisal methods. Money for the appraisal had been put into the 2007 budget. Councillors agreed that, if needed, £500 could be spent in the current year.

**Health and safety** – none

## 6. Planning –

**4 Britwell Road** – Erection of single storey double garage. Approved by SODC

**Ewelme School** – Repositioning of a section of existing black cast iron down pipe along with alterations to surface water drains to prevent further damage to stone/brickwork on main school buildings. DR and SPJ abstained from the conversation. Councillors had no objections.

## 7. District/County Councillors' Reports –

- Sue Cooper – No report

## 8. Correspondence -

### Letters:

- Roger Hammond, High St - Village Hall Complaint. NB had responded and passed letter to VHMC
- Thames Valley Police - Parish Council PCSO briefings invitation. For info
- Andy Climpson, Hampden Way - Complaint about new fence in Hampden Way. NB had responded. Discussed earlier in meeting
- Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust - Summary of present position. For info
- Thames Valley Police – acknowledgement of NB's letter
- Lottery funding – form to complete for survey. SH to do.

SH

### Meetings/Consultations

OCC - Oxfordshire Fire Authority's Integrated Risk Management Consultation Action Plan 2007-8. No comments

## 9. Accounts & Administration –

Payments in: £276 (Ads)

Cheques signed at meeting: SODC dog bins (£63.77), clerk's wages (£199.21), Vernon Miners (water leak) (£630), Colourplus (£346.23), Thames Water (£467.92) SH had written to see if a refund could be obtained as high due to leak, Quotes received: wicket preparation (£60/visit, 3 visits/week during March-October). Refund from old insurers of £59.69 due.

SPJ left the meeting at 10.03pm

## 10. Other issues raised and for possible future discussion –

- DR reported that the manor had been broken into 4 times.

- DR suggested that a bench be put on council land near the triangle. SH to put on agenda for next meeting. **SH**
- SH asked if any official Christmas cards needed to be sent – all agreed to send one to the RAF **SH**
- Post Office application for change of use had been received by the Ewelme Society. SH had not been sent one and had checked with SODC to be informed that the application was on hold awaiting plans.
- Sue Cooper queried whether it was time to apply for broadband yet. NB suggested that it would be better to wait until mid-January.

**11.** Meeting ended at 10.10 pm

**12.** Date of next meeting – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at 8pm, village hall