

Notice of
Meeting of the Parish Council on

Wednesday 9th August 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
 - State of roads
 - Housing needs
 - Parish plan
 - Health & Safety
6. Planning
7. District/County Councillors Reports
8. Correspondence (details attached for Councillors)
9. Accounts & administration
10. New items of interest
11. Next meeting – 13th September 2006 8pm

Parish Clerk (phone 01491 837441

Minutes of a meeting of Parish Councillors held on Wednesday 19th July 2006

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

- | | Details | Action |
|----|---|------------------------|
| 1. | Apologies – John Lockyer (JL), Sue Cooper (SC) | |
| 2. | Declaration of interests – none aware | |
| 3. | Minutes – Agreed | |
| 4. | Matters arising – | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village map – ongoing. NB/SH to use 1999 OS map as basis. | SH/NB |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council information – SH to locate CD with list of old minutes to put on website. Notice to go on site that information can be seen on request. | SH
SH |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kings Pool sign – SH to ask volunteers (John Burbidge suggested) to produce a tasteful rustic sign. | SH |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency services map – SH to send out to all emergency services | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiltern Society – NB to write to them as PC unhappy with relations between them and the village/Friends of Watercress Beds. NB awaiting info from the Society. Should hear after meeting on Thurs 20th July. All agreed that there were many concerns about the relationship between the society and the village. | NB |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints re dog fouling of the common sports/play area. SH to improve signage. | SH |
| 5. | Current tasks – | |
| | <p>RAF – PC had received feedback re a perceived lack of support for the RAF from the village. NB had responded to the effect that the village did support them, but would complain if it was felt that activities unsocial. Councillors discussed ideas for improving relations such as a joint social event, encouraging communication, a presentation for villagers, contribution to each others news publications, ensuring that village events are publicised at the base. One resident complained of not having responses to letters sent. Another resident commented that if people buy homes in a village near a base, then they should expect over flying. BB explained that overflying is something the pilots have to practise. All agreed that we should work on improving relations. SH reported that a skate board park was being trialled over the summer on the base and that village children would be encouraged to use it. More details to come. Councillors expressed thanks for the invite. BB to contact the base to arrange an event.</p> | BB |
| | <p>State of roads – Speeding NB had received a letter from Green Lane appealing to the council to put pressure on the police re speeding. SH was arranging for loan of a mobile SID in September. SH to respond to the resident to assure them that PC were progressing the issue. Other complaints raised about speeding related to the corner in Days Lane, and on the road to the common. SH to see if the police could have a speed check in the Green Lane layby. Liaison with the RAF police was suggested.</p> | SH
SH |
| | | SH |

- Councillors agreed that this is an important issue, frustrated by the lack of official interest. **Other highway issues** – Erosion of verges in Days Lane due to use by unsuitable vehicles. A “Road Narrows” sign at the top of Rabbits Hill was requested. BB to raise with local MP the issue of rural roads and unsuitability of large vehicles. High House – hedging needs cutting back to clear drivers view, not owned by High House, SH to write to OCC re these issues. Land opposite Tinkers Moon, SH to contact OCC re trimming hedge as owners can’t be identified. PL reported Grundons lorries still using Prospect Lane. NB asked people to take vehicle numbers to help Grundons inform drivers. Firebrass Hill – tree falling into road. Hedge opposite Ford’s Farm needs trimming again to reveal road signs. Hedge needs cutting by the cross hatching near the pub. Green Lane, Benson Lane vegetation over footpath needs clearing. SH to report all. BB congratulated SODC on the new road signs. **SH**
SH
- Affordable Housing** – Following discussions at a separate meeting DR proposed that council proceed cautiously with affordable housing. BB seconded. All in favour. SH to arrange for a representative from SODC to meet with councillors re the next step. **SH**
- Parish plan** – Application to be done in August/September **NB**
- Health and safety** – SH raised the problems with the pavilion: including ventilation, shower flooring, checking state after use & cleaning. DR proposed that the whole play area/pavilion/sports facilities be discussed at a separate meeting to assess the management. NB seconded. SH to arrange a date. SH reported that a ROSPA check of the play area had been booked. NB asked SH to put purchase of new bucket swings on the agenda for next meeting. **SH**
SH
6. **Planning** –
- Land near 45-49 Green Lane** – Erection of 10m telegraph pole structure with 1 internal antenna and 1 equipment cabinet and ancillary development. Application had been withdrawn by applicant.
- High House** – Demolition of existing garage and dwelling. Erection of new dwelling, with associated parking and access. Refused by SODC.
- Road closure request for Strawberry Fayre** – done between meetings due to timing. No objections as long as access to Alms houses and for emergency services was allowed. JL had reported concern that residents had not been informed and that closure was really to provide the school with an extended car park with no effect on safe road crossing. SH to make sure that next year SODC was asked to inform residents. **SH**
- The Hyde** – Three garden huts and one tennis hut built in the garden. Application for certificate of lawful development. DR remembered an application for change of use from agricultural to leisure while she was clerk. SH to let SODC know.
- Street name signs** - Some have been put in, others due. Please note that punctuation on signs is not allowed, hence “Martyns Way” instead of “Martyn’s Way”. New signs made out of recycled car tyres, old ones recycled. **SH**
7. **District/County Councillors’ Reports** –
SC – sent her apologies.
8. **Correspondence** -
- Brian Benson – report re public water supply failure on 4 May. BB summarised issues and reported Thames Water response to the

second failure. NB thanked BB for pestering Thames Water. All agreed that BB could continue to use PC name to follow up the issues. NB stated that an application form had to be completed to obtain the £20 offered. BB mentioned that part of the government's emergency plan is to have a contact in the village. DR offered to be the contact. BB to find out from SODC how DR can be registered.

BB

- Brian Benson – copy of letter to Oxford times
- SODC – copy of letter to SODC from Thames Water re water supply failure.
- David Cooper, Lower End – Copy of letter to BT re broadband. NB to attend a meeting with BT in London. DR had been in touch with the Oxford Times re a broadband article. PL reported that Sky now offer a broadband package.
- Iain Grant – letter urging Council to put pressure on police re speeding in Green Lane
- Mr Luker, Hampden Way – quote for cutting churchyards. SH had responded and forwarded to PCC
- J D Ritchie, Auditor – reporting findings from internal audit

NB

Meetings/consultations:

- SODC Performance Plan 2006. Planning enforcement was conspicuous by it's absence. SH to comment on that to SODC.
- OCC Scrutiny report 2005-6
- OCC Information Strategy 2006-2011
- OCC Minerals & Wastes issues and options consultation paper. PL to check for relevance

SH

PL

9. Accounts & Administration –

Payments in: £216 (ads), £45 (pavilion hire), £4000 (SODC grant), £1001.10 (VAT reclaim)

Cheques signed at meeting: Terry Allsop (£116.30), clerk's wages (£199.21), Barry Rosier (£442.50), Ewelme Vill Hall (£49.50),

SH advised the council that the internal auditor had been, audit forms to be completed and signed at the next meeting, deadline 25th August. SH presented the accounts to date to all. Following discussions re the levels of different bank accounts, DR suggested that the Natwest accounts be closed. All agreed that SH would look into the interest levels and recommend way forward at next meeting.

SH

10. Other issues raised and for possible future discussion –

- BB reported an area of orphan land in Chaucer Court. BB to propose what to do with it at next meeting.
- The village hall booking clerk raised concerns over bookings now being taken by the watercress centre. Councillors were concerned, but not sure what could be done.
- A petition objecting to the state of the new churchyard was brought forward. NB clarified to residents that churchyard maintenance is the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council and not of the Parish Council. He explained that the council just make a donation to the church towards the cost of cutting the grass. In the past this was a cash donation but after concerns about what the money was being spent on, it was decided to offer labour instead. Councillors were concerned to hear the residents views, SH to inform PCC that the

SH

issue had been raised.

- The brook needs clearing. Barry Rosier to be asked to do.
- Burrows Hill – residents asked for a new road sign, to include the text “footpath only”. SH to visit to clarify the site.

SH

11. Meeting ended at 9.55 pm

12. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 9th August 2006 at 8pm, village hall