

Notice of  
Meeting of the Parish Council on

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

**at 20:00 h**

in

**The Village Hall**

**AGENDA**

1. Annual Parish Meeting – reports by village groups
2. Apologies for absence
3. Declarations of interest
4. Minutes of previous meeting
5. Matters arising
6. Current tasks
  - RAF
  - Play area/pavilion – decide on block booking rates, response to cricket club request, decision on football training sessions, approve matting quote, approve pavilion cleaning quote, approve plumber quote for water meter
  - State of roads
  - Parish plan
  - Affordable Housing
  - Health & Safety – approve quote for gang mower cover
7. Planning
8. District/County Councillors' Reports
9. Correspondence
10. Accounts & administration – approve churchyard cutting quotes, approve internal auditor, approve donation to Millstream Day Centre
11. New items of interest
12. Next meeting – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007 8pm

Parish Clerk      ( phone      01491 837441

## Minutes of a meeting of Parish Councillors held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2007

<b>Present</b>	Neil Blake (NB)	Peter Lemaire (PL)
	John Lockyer (JL)	DeeRosier (DR)
	Sue Pryce Jones (SPJ)	Melissa Fletcher (MF)
	Sue Hill (SH)	6 residents

<b>Details</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1. Apologies</b> – Sue Cooper	
<b>2. Declaration of interests</b> – None aware of any	
<b>3. Minutes</b> – Agreed with changes to section 9 as requested by Brian Thompson.	
<b>4. Matters arising</b> –	
• Aston Rowant Cricket Club – payment still outstanding. SH had written as requested and given a deadline of 6 <sup>th</sup> April.	<b>SH</b>
• Dog bin – Terry Allsop to try to move.	<b>SH</b>
• Risk Assessment – SH had circulated a draft version. PL proposed adopting the revised version. JL seconded. All in favour.	
• Fun run – the sports area had not been booked for the event. SH to contact Andrew Walker re booking.	<b>SH</b>
<b>6. Current tasks</b> –	
• <b>RAF</b> – RAF – NB had a response about Tinkers Moon complaints and a second complaint about over flying. All agreed that the invitation to meet the CO should be taken up by the next council. SH to reply to this effect.	<b>SH</b>
<b>Play area/pavilion</b> –	
• Gang mower needs servicing. SH to arrange with Risborough Turf.	<b>SH</b>
• Moving the football goal – After much discussion it was agreed that because of usage there will always be a problem with the worn surface. DR proposed that matting be put down in front of the goal area. MF seconded. All agreed. SH to get quotes.	<b>SH</b>
• Council had received a letter from Ewelme Cricket Club explaining their situation and asking for a grant towards the wicket preparation and hire costs. Councillors felt that: a) they were already being subsidised since equipment had been donated and the outfield was being cut, b) in previous years they had been subsidised since they only contributed a donation of £100 per year, whilst it had cost over a thousand to prepare the area for them, c) this could be setting a precedent for other village organisations, d) we had not made provision for such grants in the budget, e) other members of the community had to pay for their own sporting/hobby interests and f) it would be silly to give them a grant to then ask for it back in hire fees. It was suggested that they should set up their own supporters club who could contribute to the activity. NB suggested that the future council should determine a procedure for grant applications which could then be budgeted for. SH to reply to letter stating that council understand their position, but feel that they have been and are still being subsidised.	<b>SH</b>
• Football – two representatives from the Benson United Footballers attended the meeting to let council know that they were unhappy about the increase in hire fee. They try to be good tenants and, like the cricketers, are run voluntarily. On hearing discussions about the cricket, they felt that they were subsidising the cricket. They are self sufficient by doing lots of fund raising. They asked that rather than have a £25 session fee that this could be changed to a fee per match to reduce confusion and double booking. They pay £10 per match elsewhere. NB proposed that this be discussed	<b>SH/NB/</b>

outside the meeting as soon as possible. All agreed. DR suggested that block bookings could attract a special deal rate. JL agreed to continue with bookings and pavilion key after May. SH/JL to liaise re bookings diary.

JL

- Outfield cutting – 2 quotes had been received. DR left the room due to conflict of interest. MF proposed that council accept the least costly quote. PL seconded. SH to inform contractors.
- SH requested that council pay for a spring clean of the pavilion. All agreed that SH ask village hall contractor to do this. SH to top up cleaning materials in pavilion.

SH

SH

#### **State of roads –**

- SH/Tony Crabbe offered to update the road report. NB thanked Tony for his support to the council. Comments from Brian Thompson re road repairs to be included.
- Letter from residents of Chaucer Court re trimming bushes in Parsons Lane. Councillors thanked them for their offer to do this and suggested that they take appropriate prevention steps to avoid risks, but felt it was not relevant for the council to contribute. SH to respond.

SH

SH

**Parish plan** – NB reported that a grant for £1500 had been approved. NB would sign the forms to apply for this if council agreed. All in favour.

NB

**Affordable Housing** – Nothing to report.

#### **Health and safety –**

- Gang mower – All agreed that this required a sturdy cover to prevent accidents. It needed to be weather proof and strong enough to support the weight of someone standing on it. The storage of the mower could be repositioned. SH to get quotes.
- **Hampden Way path** – SOHA had responded to the survey and a gate was now in place. SH to take off agenda.

SH

### **7. Planning –**

Permissions granted/refused by SODC:

- Ewelme School - Listed building consent for repositioning of cast iron down pipe along with alterations to surface water drains. Approved by First Secretary of State
- Ewelme Manor - External soil pipe and tile vent to serve a proposed first floor ensuite. Permission and listed building consent granted by SODC
- Clare, High Street - Single storey extension and raising of roof. Permission granted by SODC.

Appeals:

Little House, High Street

Decisions:

- Goulds Grove Farm, Old London Rd in Parish of Benson - Part demolition and renovation of barn and lean to building for B8 use. Approved by Benson Parish Council. For info
- 2 Levers Cottages, Parsons Lane - Replace front windows. Repair front door porch and garden wall. Councillors approved.

NB reported that he had been contacted by someone interested in purchasing the post office as a business, providing that it was sold at a level suitable for a business property.

### **8. District/County Councillors' Reports –**

Tony Crabbe:

- At the Grundons liaison meeting it had been reported that the planning application had been deferred for at least 2 months. Partly related to contribution to Clack's Lane.
- New consultation document on waste development framework (in correspondence) may have relevance for council. NB to send his comments to Tony Crabbe.

NB

### **9. Correspondence -**

Letters:

- 27 Feb Mr Ritchie - Unable to audit accounts this year. For info
- 5 Mar SODC Election Office - Notice of election 3 May. For info
- 8 Mar SOHA - Email response re Hampden Way fence. For info

Meetings/Consultations/other

- 16 Feb OCC - Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework: a) Waste sites proposal and policies document, b) Minerals and Waste core strategy preferred options. For info and comment by 30<sup>th</sup> March. NB to comment on road access needs and being carbon footprint thoughtful.
- 19 Feb SEERA – a) Partial review of the South East plan: revised apportionment of primary land-aggregates. For info and comment by 30<sup>th</sup> March, b) Regional housing strategy review. Comments by 27 April

**10. Accounts & Administration –**

Payments in: £1038 (Ads), £480 (football), £67.73 (insurance refund)

Cheques signed between meetings: Thames Water (£13.34), Signcraft (£52.88)

Cheques signed at meeting: Clerks annual stationery expense claim (£199.77), clerk's wages (£199.21), SODC Business rates (£141.12).

SH informed council that Thames Water was not interested in placing a water meter on the cattle trough. SH to get quote from local plumbers. Also no leakage allowance was available from Thames Water.

**SH**

Churchyard – SH had a quote from a local contractor for cutting the churchyard. All councillors agreed to donate payment for five cuts of the new churchyard for a further year. SH to get other quotes.

**SH**

**11. Other issues raised and for possible future discussion –**

- NB – in response to a recent article in Ewelme News, NB apologised for not controlling discussions better at the meeting when Brian Benson resigned because of a misunderstanding of views expressed. It was unfortunate, but NB had always felt it better to have open discussion rather than being restrictive.
- PL - asked if council could write to planning to ask about the status of the application in support of Grundon's and reminding them of our decision. SH to do.
- Carol Sawbridge (Ewelme Society) – a welcome pack idea had been raised and the Ewelme Society wondered if the back page of Ewelme News could be amended to achieve this. Council agreed and also suggested pointing new residents to the website.

**SH**

**PL**

**12.** Meeting ended at 09.25 pm

**13.** Date of next meeting – **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2007** at 8pm, village hall