

Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting held on 8th November 2005
in the recreation ground pavilion at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mrs J.P.Blissett (Chair) Mr. R. Thomas Mr. S. Lilly
Mrs M. Turner Mr. D. Hayter Mrs A. Fisher
Mr. M. Sedwards Mrs D. Boughton-Waite Mrs. P.Staples
Dr. K. Beswick Mr. C. Lamont (County Councillor)

Apologies: Mr. L.F.J. Mulford

1. Minutes of the previous meeting (PC/09/05)

The minutes were signed as a true record.

2. Matters Arising

a) Affordable Housing – Nothing has been heard from Ms. Hudson following the meeting at the village hall on Thursday 13th October.

b) OPFA – AGM – This meeting was attended by the Chairman and Mrs. Staples. Discussion included details of 3 projects which involved updating village facilities. Other communities were encouraged to take on new projects and to apply for funding as necessary, ensuring that the whole community, and especially the youth, were involved. A public meeting will be held by the Council early next year with a view to hearing the opinions of villagers, regarding facilities needed.

3. Reports from County and District Councillors, and Police

Mr. Lamont reported that housing options for Oxfordshire were discussed at the last County Council meeting. Public opinion was against the proposal to build 4000 more houses in Didcot by 2026, preferring the alternative proposal to locate 8000 homes in south Oxford. However, the Council did not agree. Mr. Lamont was concerned that the Council seemed to ignore such strong public opinion, and will raise the matter at the next meeting.

Mr. Lamont also mentioned that “Oxfordshire” magazine, which should be available free to all households in Oxfordshire, is not being delivered to all parts of the county; he will look into the matter.

Mrs. Turner reported that she is concerned that consideration had not been given to the results of public consultation undertaken by OCC; there had been strong opposition to the proposal, but it had been disregarded.

A recent meeting with the Vale was attended by Mrs. Turner, Mr. Lilly, Mr. Hayter and Mrs. Blissett. At the meeting it was revealed that in the proposed Great Western Park development, Harwell will receive 700 houses instead of 500. Maps produced did not explain this well, but it was reported that the original master plan had been badly designed and had had to be re-drawn. These extra houses are not part of the Vale’s Housing Allocation. Environmental and Transport issues are yet to be considered; a planned transport model will not be available until next summer. The Parish Council has been advised to be more pro-active in its lobbying regarding Great Western Park; a proposal to form a sub-committee to do the lobbying was put forward by Mr. Hayter, seconded by Mrs. Boughton-Waite, and passed unanimously. The Sub-Committee will consist of Mrs. Blissett, Mr. Hayter, Mrs. Turner and Mr. Lilly. Mrs. Turner remarked that a by-pass for Harwell may get priority once finance for transport in the development has been decided. The next Vale Planning meeting will be held on 17th November.

JB, SL, MT, DH

Item 15 on the Agenda was also dealt with at this stage in the meeting, being relevant to this discussion.

A recent email from Thames Valley Police stated that problems with fireworks over the last week would be investigated.

4. Planning Matters

Six permissions have been received in respect of;

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| HAR/17849/7 | New 1800mm brick wall, retain existing 1800mm high close boarded fence adjacent to proposed brick wall of car port. New gate between fence and car port for Mr. S. Collett at Adnams Farm Barns, High Street. |
| HAR/12063/22-D | Approval of reserved matters for erection of building for storage and distribution purposes and general industrial use(B8 & B2), improvements to access road, car park, service area, gatehouse and landscaping. Demolition of existing buildings for Harmsworth Quays Printing Ltd. at Plot 09 Land West of Didcot Power Station. |
| HAR/18863/1-D | Erection of a dwelling and detached garage for Mrs. McIlroy Speed at Land Front of Dormers, Reading Road. |
| HAR/4612/2-LB | Change of use of redundant barns to office with link. Demolition of pig rearing building to provide associated parking for Mr. D.J.Lay & A.Lay at Princes Manor Farm, Church Lane. |
| HAR/3361/3 | Erection of a single storey garden room for Mr & Mrs. Merrifield at Applegarth, Reading Road. |
| HAR/5066/16 | New signage (part retrospective) for Rowstock Limited at Rowstock Corner Garage, Rowstock Corner. |

Three new applications have been received as follows;

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| HAR/19327 | Reinstatement to two separate dwellings at 5/6 North Drive for C E Lavell. |
| HAR/14892/2 | Erection of a garage and porch extension at Bluebells 8 Broadway Close for Mr. & Mrs. Kay. |
| HAR/15307/4 | Retrospective application for the erection of wooden boundary fence to metres high with trellis work on top at 4 Hengest Gate for Mr Y Shamara. |

The Council requested that neighbours' comments be borne in mind respecting the first two applications. Mr. Lilly and Mrs. Boughton-Waite declared an interest in the third application, but no comments were made as the application was retrospective.

5. Financial Matters

a) Receipts and Payments cashbook for August - October – Mrs. Boughton-Waite has checked the petty cash figures for August. The Receipts and Payments cashbooks for August to October, were signed as a true record.

b) Internet Banking- statements - The Finance Officer is experiencing problems with on-line banking. It was decided to accept quarterly statements in future, but a letter will be sent to the bank expressing the Council's dissatisfaction.

c) Rural Craft Workshop – request for a donation – no funding is available at this time.

d) Christmas Boxes for staff – A proposal to purchase Christmas gifts for the staff was put forward by Mrs. Fisher, seconded by Mrs. Boughton-Waite, and passed unanimously.

6. Matters relating to Council Owned Lands

a) Cemetery extension – Tenancy Agreement – Notices have now been received from the solicitors. The Council's Notice has been signed and Mr. Lay's will be delivered shortly. JM

b) Freeman Orchard – i) Dilapidated stable – The Clerk will arrange for work to start on the stable over the next few months.

ii) Little Pippins – Dead tree – A tree in the pre-school area appears to be dead; the groundsman will inspect it as soon as possible.

Funding for new building – Little Pippins has asked for a letter in support of any grant applications it may make towards funding for their new building. The Clerk will write to that effect.

Lease – Little Pippins' solicitor has asked for an amendment to the break-clause in the lease. The Council wishes to leave the lease as it stands. The Clerk will instruct the Council's solicitor to proceed on this basis.

c) Use of parcel of land next to allotments – the Clerk will follow up this matter.

d) Recreation ground use – play area – A grant application is being prepared by the Clerk to try to obtain funding for re-surfacing the play area.

e) Land next to A417 – site meeting – Mr. Mulford met Highways representatives; the position of the fence has been marked out. Work will be carried out as soon as possible. JM

f) Showers- update – Quotes for the work are being obtained. Grants for funding the work will be sought.

7. Highways – Access onto Wantage Road – van parking – Following discussion, Mrs. Boughton-Waite proposed that the existing entrance be altered. Mr. Lilly seconded the proposal, and it was passed unanimously, subject to costs. Mr. Mulford will assess the work required. JM

8. OALC Report / Health update - Mrs Boughton-Waite reported on the recent OALC meeting. Mrs. Boughton-Waite reported on a recent meeting on health matters.

9. Website – Mrs. Pyke has provided some historical information which will be passed on to Mr. Marsh. The Council is very satisfied with the website.

10. OVID questionnaire – Mr. Lilly took the questionnaire to draft a response. SL

11. Highways arrangements- formal Agency Agreement – From April 2006 the Council will need a formal Agency Agreement to continue verge maintenance and removal of unauthorised signs. The Clerk will contact OCC for more information.

12. Electoral Register – copies – the Clerk will apply for a copy, to be kept for reference.

13. SODC Local Development Framework – Statement of Community Involvement – Mrs. Turner took the document to read on the Council’s behalf. MT
14. Didcot Town Council consultation document – this item was discussed within the District Councillor’s report.
15. Oxfordshire Structure Plan 2016 – Notice of Intention to Adopt Proposals – formal Notice of Intent to adopt the Oxfordshire Structure Plan 2016 has been received.
16. Meeting Dates – the Clerk will prepare a list of meeting dates for 2006, keeping the second Tuesday of the month as the date of monthly meetings.
A Precept Meeting has been scheduled for 13th December.
17. Any Other Business
 - a) ORCC Retirement Lunch – no-one from the Council is available to attend the lunch.
 - b) Vale of White Horse Standards Committee document – Mrs Turner took the document to read on the Council’s behalf. MT
 - c) Meeting re: Great Western Park – a meeting with Planning representatives from the Vale and SODC has been arranged for 15th November at 3pm in the pavilion. Representatives from other local villages will also be attending.
 - d) Plans for new pavilion – a working group of sports societies will meet on 10th November to discuss the need for a new pavilion, as a follow-on from the Parish Plan.
 - e) Cycle crossing – Dr. Beswick asked whether it would be possible to add a second cycle crossing on the A4185. The Clerk will write for more information.

The meeting ended at 9.45 pm.