

Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2006  
in the recreation ground pavilion at 7.30 p.m.

Present:	Mrs J.P.Blissett (Chair)	Mr. R. Thomas	Mr. L.F.J. Mulford
	Mrs. M. Turner	Mr. D. Hayter	Mrs. A. Fisher
	Mr. M. Sedwards	Dr. K. Beswick	Mr. C. Lamont (County Councillor)

Apologies:	Mr. S. Lilly	Mrs. P. Staples	Mrs. D. Boughton-Waite
------------	--------------	-----------------	------------------------

1. Minutes of the previous meeting (PC/10/05)

The minutes were signed as a true record.

2. Matters Arising

i) Affordable Housing – Details of preferred sites have been received from Ms. L. Hudson at Vale Council, and a copy of the document was sent to Ms. S. Willers at ORCC. Following discussion, the Council decided to investigate two options with Sovereign Housing, at Barrow Road and land adjacent to the Winnaway.

ii) Winnaway Path – A report from OCC has confirmed that the Winnaway is a public footpath along its whole length. There are no plans to convert it into a cycle track, however it was noted that cyclists have been using the path for over 50 years – the Clerk will investigate further. In latest DIDITS proposals, there are Rural Cycle Schemes, one of which may run from Harwell to UKAEA. There is no likelihood of a new crossing where the Winnaway meets the A4185.

iii) Harwell Book – Mr. Ricketts has looked into the cost of re-issuing the book “Harwell-village for 1000 years”, and has informed the Council it may be reproduced for as little as £4 for around 10 issues. The Council agreed it would be a good idea to re-issue the book, as there have been requests for it recently, however, it would need updating first. Mrs. Fisher will look into this matter before any further action.

AF

3. Reports from County and District Councillors, and Police

Mr. Lamont reported that he is leading a scrutiny review into the proposed Steventon reservoir, to raise awareness of the project, ensure policy is followed throughout, and to produce reports and recommendations for OCC. As Thames Water is a regulated industry, it will need approval from OFWAT before adopting any spending plans. The Council agreed with a suggestion outlined by Mrs. Turner that any lobbying to OFWAT or the Environment Agency should be done if possible by local parishes as a group, rather than individually. An exhibition by Thames Water will be held in Steventon Village Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Mrs. Turner expressed parishes’ concerns regarding burial facilities for those to be housed in the new Great Western Park development.

At a DIDITS meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2005, consideration was given to the provision of Vehicle Activated Signs and road safety cameras. None are currently being planned for Harwell.

Community Support Officers are being recruited; one of them will be assigned to Harwell.

Police - The Beat Officer for Harwell is now PC Yates.

A number of vehicle break-ins were recorded in the village over the Christmas period

A new telephone number for all non-emergency calls to police has come into force. Posters have been put up on the noticeboards.

Councillors have been invited to visit the Police Enquiry Centre in Kidlington and the Control Room in Abingdon. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Mulford expressed an interest.

RT, JM

#### 4. Planning Matters

Nine permissions have been received, as follows;

- |               |                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EHE/7645/9-CM | Replacement of groundwater containment plant at Western Storage Area for UKAEA, Harwell.                                                      |
| HAR/14892/2   | Erection of a garage and porch extension at Bluebells, 8 Broadway Close, for Mr & Mrs Kay.                                                    |
| HAR/19327     | Reinstatement to 2 separate dwellings at 5/6 North Drive for C E Lavelle.                                                                     |
| HAR/15307/4   | Retrospective application for the erection of wooden boundary fence at 4 Hengest Gate for Mr Y Shamara.                                       |
| HAR/17102/5   | Proposed extension and dormer windows at Upper West Field, Reading Road, for Mr L McDonagh.                                                   |
| HAR/19349     | Demolition of existing extensions. Erection of 2 storey side extension at 7 Jennings Lane for Mr b h Caudle & Miss K Doolan.                  |
| V.14/05       | Proposed demolition of existing changing rooms and erection of telescopic pool cover for existing pool at Harwell Primary School, The Styles. |
| HAR/9868/7    | Erection of timber open fronted gazebo at Wellshead House, Wellshead Lane for Mr & Mrs Allan.                                                 |
| HAR/7437/1    | Loft conversion with rear dormer at 7 Broadway Close for Mr & Mrs Lock.                                                                       |

8 new applications have been received in respect of;

- |                  |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HAR/19349        | Demolition of 2 storey side extension at 7 Jennings Lane for Mr B Caudle & Miss K Doolan.                                                                                   |
| HAR/17102/5      | Proposed extension and dormer windows at Upper West Field, Reading Road, for Mr L McDonagh.                                                                                 |
| HAR/4612/3-LB    | Proposed modifications to link building previously approved at Princes Manor Farm, Church Lane, for Mr D J & G A Lay.                                                       |
| EHE/7645/9-CM    | Replacement of groundwater containment plant, as part of the outgoing programme to remediate chemical groundwater contamination at Western Storage Area for UKAEA, Harwell. |
| HAR/CHI/14221/65 | Erection of class B1 building with ancillary storage building. Associated car parking and landscaping at Land at Fermi Avenue, AERE, for Deeley Properties                  |
| HAR/19385        | Replacement conservatory and verandah at 14 Tyrells Close for Mr R McStay.                                                                                                  |

The Council asked that neighbours' comments be borne in mind regarding the above applications.

HAR/19415                      Relocation of milestone to the north of present position at Milestone approx 300m East of Zulu Farm, Wantage Road, for Taylor Woodrow Developments Ltd. & George Wimpey UK Ltd..

The Council requested that once final plans have been approved for the new road, the milestone be kept in safe storage until it can be re-sited, and that care is taken that once sited, the milestone is not in danger of being damaged accidentally, eg by turning traffic.

HAR/17774/X                      This is a revised submission for the Great Western Park development.  
& PO2/W0848/0                      The Council has submitted its concerns.

## 5. Financial Matters

### a) Precept meeting recommendations

For the purposes of the Budget and Precept the Council bore in mind the following:

- i) The Council reviewed its Reserves and noted that this Budget results in a further reduction of about £1,800, projecting year end Reserves (with no unforeseen expenditure) of £15,000. The Council does not want Reserves to fall below this level but appreciates that this may not be sustainable.
- ii) With income of about £10,700 (excluding the precept), expenditure continues to outstretch income. Until this is rectified the Council will have to precept each year for specific projects. The increase in the precept will be divided into 2 parts:
  - a) £1,500 annual increase (to gradually bring income to a level where it will cover expenditure)
  - and b) £3,800 as a one-off payment this year (towards the cost of a new mower and upgrading of the play area and pavilion showers).
- iii) The Budget incorporates a reduction in grass cutting grant. The Council will discuss this loss at its next meeting.
- iv) Budgeted expenditure for 2006-7 was proposed as follows:

Salaries	27,500
Donations/subscriptions/courses	1,100
Harwell News	2,200
Stationery/phone/post	600
Insurance/prof. fees	3,000
Pavilion/playground maintenance	2,000
Rec ground/allotments	250
Dog bins/gen maintenance	1,300
Cemetery/churchyard	2,600
Van/tools	1,200
Machinery	1,600
Fuel	700
Miscellaneous	100
Showers	2,500
Van access/garaging	500
Play area upgrade	1,000
	48,150

After some discussion, Mr. Thomas proposed adoption of the above budget and an increase in the precept to £35,580 (from £30,280). Mr. Hayter seconded the proposal and it was passed unanimously.

b) Receipts and Payments cashbooks for August - October 2005

The Receipts and Payments cashbooks for August to October 2005 were signed as a true record.

c) Annual Return

Following conclusion of the 04/05 Audit, the Annual Return is approved and accepted by the Council.

d) Donation requests – The Council has received three requests for donations:

WRVS and Abingdon Citizens Advice Bureau – no money is available at this time.

Harwell Community Primary School has asked for a donation towards funding for a new pool cover and changing rooms. This was deferred to the April meeting.

e) Bins on High Street – Mr. Woods has reported that 3 bins on the High Street need to be replaced, as they are corroded. Mr. Mulford will look into this matter. JM

f) Bus shelters – A letter has been sent requesting the release of funds held by OCC towards bus shelters in Harwell (see minutes PC09/05).

The Council has received a complaint concerning the condition of a bus shelter outside the main gate at UKAEA. It is unclear who is responsible for the upkeep of this shelter; the Clerk will continue to investigate.

g) SPISE membership – The Council decided not to subscribe to this organisation.

6. Matters relating to Council Owned Lands

a) Cemetery extension – Tenancy Agreement – Mr. Lay has signed the Notices. The Lease and Notices will now be referred to the solicitor for completion.

b) Freeman Orchard – i) Dilapidated stable – A tentative offer has been made for the Stable; Mr. Mulford will obtain the offer in writing before the Council takes the matter further. JM

ii) Little Pippins – Lease – The Lease has been received from the solicitor, and was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. It will now be returned to the solicitor for completion.

c) Use of parcel of land next to allotments – The Council has been asked by a resident to confirm what it intends to do with this land. The Council agreed to work towards turning the site back to suitable ground for allotments.

7. OALC programme for 2006 – The programme includes some training which may be useful. Mr. Hayter proposed that funding the cost of attendance at the training sessions be approved. This was seconded by Mrs. Fisher and passed unanimously.

8. Website – The Council has had very positive feedback from residents about the Christmas Competition organised by Mr. M. Ricketts. The Clerk will write to him to express the Council's thanks. The winners have been listed on the website.

Both Didcot Citizens Advice Bureau and Dementiaweb have asked for a link to their websites to be included on the Council's website. The Council agreed to the inclusion of a link to Didcot CAB, but Dr. Beswick will look into Dementiaweb to find out more. KB

9. Code of Conduct

Standards of Conduct in Local Government document –Mr. Hayter took the document to read on the Council’s behalf. DH

The Standards Board for England has produced a DVD as part of its training on “ Local Investigations and Hearings”. Councillors have been invited to attend a viewing, but at present no-one is available to attend.

10. Correspondence – various items of correspondence were discussed;

Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service has produced an Integrated Risk Management Action Plan.

South Oxfordshire District Council has prepared a Statement of Community Involvement concerning Planning policy.

Campaign for a Sustainable Didcot has written to the Deputy Prime Minister to request a Call-In of the South Oxfordshire District Council Local Plan 2011.

Some items of play equipment are available to the Council at the former nursery premises at Curie Avenue. Mr Mulford will inspect the site. JM

A resident has asked what records the Council owns. Some items have been placed in safe-keeping in the past and are not kept in the office. The Clerk will investigate.

Formal Agreements have been received in respect of removal of unauthorised signs on highways. The Clerk will complete these and return to Oxfordshire County Council. Mrs. Turner asked whether it is now illegal to put up any signs advertising local events. The Clerk will investigate.

11. Any Other Business

Mrs. Turner mentioned that Chilton Parish Council would like to liaise with Harwell PC on future issues involving adjoining boundaries.

Mr. Hayter was concerned that there had still not been a reply to an email sent by the Clerk concerning a broken footpath barrier in Broadway Close. Since the meeting, confirmation has been received that the barriers will be replaced before the end of February.

Mr. Thomas reported that Wallingford Dog Training Club were driving on the recreation ground and churning up the grass. The Clerk will remind them that they were asked to leave all cars but one in the car park.

Mr. Mulford reported it is proving difficult to obtain quotes for the work needed to the showers. Three quotes are needed in order to apply for grants. Mr. Mulford will persevere. JM

Dr. Beswick has noted fly-tipping in the Holloway. Mrs. Turner will investigate. MT

The meeting ended at 10:10 pm.

