

Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting held on 12th September 2006
in the recreation ground pavilion at 7.30 p.m.

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

1. Minutes of the previous meeting (PC/07/06)

The minutes of the meeting on 11th July 2006 were signed as a true record.

2. Matters Arising – a) Affordable Housing – Nothing further has been heard regarding the project. A letter to be sent from the Council to the site owner. Request to be sent that a representative of Sovereign Housing come and address the Council.
b) Allotments on North Drive – Mrs. Blissett is still waiting for a reply to her enquiry.

3. Reports from County and District Councillors & Police

Mr. Lamont reported that changes are planned to parking charges in Oxford, and that there has been opposition to the scheme for depositing ash in Radley Lakes, but that the Council felt this would be preferable to transporting the ash elsewhere by road. The Council is awaiting tenders following its Waste Disposal Strategy. OCC is likely to ask for local views on the proposed Steventon Reservoir after the meeting with Thames Water later this week. (2 Parish Councillors will also be attending this meeting).

Mrs. Turner recommended that the VOWHDC's Gambling Licensing Policy should be checked. Clerk had searched for the Policy on that Council's website, but had asked for further details.

There was no representative from the Police at the meeting.

4. Planning Matters

A resident had asked to address the Council on a Planning matter. She requested that the Council write to VOWHDC to suggest that in future, more information is provided to affected householders of their legal rights regarding planning applications. The Council agreed to suggest a revision of the information currently included in Notices of Planning Applications.

Work to trees is to go ahead as follows;

PD/18/01/31 Various works at Rose Cottage, Gaveston Road, for R.B.Trees

Formal Notice of Permission has been received in respect of;

HAR/19651 Erection of 2 industrial units with associated infrastructure at Land at former Social Club building, Harwell IBC, for Oxford Drying Services Ltd and UKAEA.

HAR/4402/1 Erection of 2 storey side extension utilising loft space & integrated front entrance porch at 18 Orchard Way for Mrs G Godwin.

The following application has been withdrawn;

HAR/4515/4 Conversion of garage into reception room, erection of new garage and creation of new access at 9 Tyrells Close for Mr P Millar.

VOWHDC Planning Department has also confirmed that work carried out at 1 Tyrells Close does not contravene Planning Regulations.

Also attached to these Minutes is a list of Planning Applications and Permissions which were dealt with by the Environment and Planning Committee during July and August.

5. Financial Matters

a) Receipts and Payments cash book for July & August 2006 – The receipts and payments cash books for July & August were signed as a true record. Petty cash had been checked by Mrs. Boughton-Waite.

b) British Legion Club – rent review – referred to next Lands Committee meeting.

c) Allotments – rent review / dogs on site – referred to next Lands Committee meeting.

d) Little Pippins - lease– The bill will now be paid by the Council; Little Pippins to pay back the full amount in instalments as follows; £600 first payment, to be paid shortly, followed by 6 monthly instalments of £189.68.

Regarding the Old Stable, Little Pippins has suggested that the building is demolished at the same time as one of the old school buildings is demolished, thereby incurring minimal cost to the Council. After some discussion, Mrs. Turner proposed that the terms of payment and the generous offer of demolition be accepted, with the Clerk to make enquiries as to the costs involved (with a view to the Council making a donation to the costs); seconded by Mrs. Staples and passed unanimously.

e) Donations - funding – Mrs. Blissett reminded the Council that the money set aside from the budget for providing donations is almost used up.

f) Alternative printers – Harwell News – Leach's Printers in Abingdon has replied with estimates. The total costs are greater than existing printers; Clerk to obtain a further quote.

6. Matters relating to Council-owned lands –

a) Play area – i) RoSPA report/swings safety – the recent RoSPA inspection report stated that the cradle swings need to be replaced urgently because of corrosion. The swings have been removed, and costs of replacements have been inquired into. Mr. Mulford has discovered that 4 new swings will cost a minimum of £600; as this is over the single purchase limit in the Council's Standing Orders, Mrs Turner proposed a resolution that the Council go ahead with the purchase of new swings, up to a limit of £1000. Seconded by Mrs. Boughton-Waite, carried unanimously.

ii) WREN site visit – Mrs. Blissett and Mrs. Boughton-Waite recently met a representative from WREN following the Council's grant application, who was quite positive about the Council's chances of receiving a grant. The grants committee will make a decision in October.

b) Freeman Orchard – dilapidated stable – this item was discussed at Item 5d; nothing further to report concerning the likelihood of the sale of the land.

c) Bus shelters – referred to next Lands and Recreation Committee meeting.

d) Recreation ground – i) Pavilion door – one of the doors to the pavilion was smashed over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Police have been informed; the door has been repaired.

ii) Wallingford Dog Club – the Club has a letter giving permission to take up to 4 cars onto the field. The Council felt that this is excessive, and that permission should be revoked.

Some residents from Orchard Way have objected to the cutting of the long grass near the tennis courts, fearing a repetition of loutish behaviour near their properties. Mrs. Blissett explained that the grass had been cut mainly due to the fact that dog mess left in the grass was a health hazard. After much discussion, residents agreed to keep a log of any untoward behaviour for the next month, and to report any incidents to the Council.

e) Churchyard repairs – referred to next Lands & Recreation Committee meeting.

7. Environment –

a) Traffic signs for A417 – temporary “Speed Watch” signs have now been put up around the village.

b) Memorial Garden – letter from Gardening Club – the Gardening Club has offered to take over the upkeep of the Memorial Garden for an annual fee of £150. After discussion, the Council felt that this would be an inappropriate use of Council funds; Clerk to write.

c) Hedges cut back along Footpath 11 – the Council groundsmen recently cut back obstructing branches and weeds along the footpath, in spite of several requests to the land owner. Council decided that a bill for the work should be sent.

d) OCC Local Transport Plan – These documents have been received.

Mrs. Blissett reported that Mr. Lilly feels that the Council should liaise more with East Hagbourne PC regarding the proposed Harwell By-pass. Clerk to contact to suggest a meeting, also Dr. Hughes and Didcot Town Council representatives to be invited.

e) SEERA-Partial Review of South East Plan – Traveller Sites – Mrs. Blissett took the documents on the Council’s behalf. JB

f) Winnaway kennels - VOWHDC Environmental Health Dept to assess recordings taken near the site.

8. Correspondence –

a) Letter from resident – a resident has complained of proposals to install traffic calming measures along Reading Road. Clerk to write explaining that the Council will not be spending any Parish money, and that any measures adopted (if any) would have to be paid for via grants.

b) Village Hall Committee request - the Committee has requested help with the purchase of new furniture so that the cost of VAT can be reclaimed. Mrs. Boughton-Waite proposed the Council place the order for the furniture on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, seconded by Mrs Staples, carried unanimously. Mrs. Turner declared an interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion.

c) Post Office Account Cards - further to earlier correspondence, the Department of Trade and Industry has written to say that the Account Cards are unlikely to remain in use after 2010.

d) VOWH Gambling Licensing Policy - discussed at Item 3.

e) Vale District Community Forum – Mrs. Blissett to attend on the Council’s behalf.

JB

9. Update from Mr. John Fisher – community project for new pavilion

Mr. Fisher gave details of 2 groups which have been set up to deal with the project; a Building Sub Group and a Finance Sub Group. The Groups will meet in September to agree a timescale for the project, and will also meet with a cross-section of the community to obtain a wide selection of ideas. A Youth Week is being planned for Harwell so that young people in the village can put forward their ideas. Some funding may be available in connection with the Great Western Park development. Updates on the project to be provided regularly.

10. Any Other Business

VOWHDC Chairman’s Charity Dinner to be held on 20th October. Invitation to be given to Mr Lilly.

VOWHDC is hosting a Community Reception in February to thank people who work hard in their communities. Council suggested nominating Dr. Hughes for an invitation.

Mrs Fisher reported that the dog bin on the Holloway has not been replaced although the contractors have finished work.

Mr Thomas reported that speed restriction signs along the A4185 are still confusing. Clerk to ask OCC to investigate.

The meeting ended at 10.08 pm.

ANNEXE TO MINUTES PC/08/06 ; PLANNING MATTERS FROM JULY AND AUGUST

From Environment and Planning Committee meeting Minutes EP/01/06

Planning Permissions

Formal notice of permission has been received in respect of

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| HAR/9501/1 | Erection of side elevation to form a bay window, erection of car port at 32 Westfield for Mr J Reeve. |
| HAR/10567/3 | Erection of single storey front & rear extensions (re-submission) at Brookside, School Lane, for Mr. D. Moore. |
| PD/18/01/31 | Cutting down of 2 Chamaecyparis Lawson trees at 3 Hengest Gate for Paul North Garden Services. |

4 new applications have been received as follows;

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| SUT/HAR/7886/6 | Installation of cement storage silo at Concrete Block Plant, Sutton Courtenay, for Mr R Ford. |
| HAR/12945/3 | Demolition of existing garage. Erection of pitched roof single garage, erection of single storey extensions to side & rear at Yearlings, Downs Close, for Mr & Mrs Wilkinson. |
| HAR/18330/1 | Erection of carport at Tarik, The Barrow, for Mr & Mrs D Whitworth. |
| HAR/CHI/14221/66 | Erection of sections of new security fence forming new eastern entrance & reception building. Erection of new gate, associated road rearrangements & car parking at Land adjacent to Thomson Ave & Rutherford Ave, Harwell IBC, for UKAEA. |

The Committee had no objections to these applications, but asked that neighbours' comments be taken into consideration.

Amended plans have been received as follows;

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| CDS/P02W0848/O
& HAR/17774/X | Land to west of Didcot (ie Planned Great Western Park development). |
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This application relates to alterations in the original plans for the development; extra housing (approx. 100 houses) in place of the third primary school. No comments from the Committee are to be sent in as it does not affect Harwell Parish any more than the original plans.

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| HAR/4402/1 | Erection of 2-storey side extension utilising loft space, & integrated front entrance porch at 18 Orchard Way for Mrs. G. Godwin. |
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The Council asked that neighbours' comments be borne in mind when considering this application.

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From Environment and Planning Committee Minutes EP/02/06

Formal notice of permission has been received in respect of:

- HAR/CHI/14221/66 Erection of sections of new security fence forming new eastern entrance & reception building. Erection of new gate, associated road rearrangements & car parking at Land adjacent to Thompson Avenue & Rutherford Avenue for UKAEA.
- HAR/12945/3 Demolition of garage. Erection of pitched roof single garage with single storey extensions to side & rear at Yearlings, Downs Close, for Mr & Mrs Wilkinson.
- HAR/3542/2 Single storey extension & new pitched roof over existing flat roof at 25 Orchard Way for Mr N Rees.
- HAR/16094/1 Proposed 1st floor extension & front porch at Razmak, Abingdon Road, Rowstock for Mr & Mrs Smith.
- HAR/5236/5 Replace window with French doors connecting kitchen to patio at Close Barn, Townsend, for Mr A Couldrick.

One notice of refusal has been received as follows;

- HAR/11483/4 Erection of detached bungalow with parking at The Cottage, Townsend, for Mr G Buxton & Mrs M Kotlowski.

One notice of work to trees has been received;

- PD/18/01/31 Various works involving pruning of several trees & removal of one tree which is damaging the pavement at Rose Cottage, Gaveston Road, for R.B.Trees.

6 new applications have been received as follows;

- HAR/19692 Proposed erection of detached dwelling & garage on land part of Greenbanks, Downs Close, for Mr & Mrs Cross.

The Council has raised objections to this proposal: the proposed building is too large for the site; there are no indications that the existing 5 foot high bank is to be levelled or lowered before building starts; the pitched roof may affect visibility for traffic approaching from Rowstock.

- HAR/19723/1 Change of use from amenity to private to provide access and a drive at 28 The Park for Mr P Holloway.
- HAR/19723 Demolition of garage, replacement with porch & 2 storey side extension at 28 The Park for Mr P Holloway.
- HAR/9980/4 Demolition of garage, construction of new garage including excavation of existing driveway to provide level access at Elm Cottage, Reading Road, for Mr & Mrs Snowdon.

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- HAR/2231/9 Erection of 1 dwelling – changes to existing Planning Permission HAR/2231/7 & HAR/2231/8 at Froud Builders, Reading Road, for Mr P Stevens.
- HAR/19732 Erection of single storey extension to front of property and side garage extension at 4 Westfield for Mr R Thomas.

The Council had no objections to these applications, but asked that neighbours' comments be taken into consideration by the Planning Department.

One letter of objection has been received in respect of;

- HAR/4402/1 Erection of single storey side extension utilising loft space & integrated front entrance porch at 18 Orchard Way for Mrs G Godwin.