

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Wootton (Abingdon) Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2nd February 2016 at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre

Present: Councillors Ludlow (Chair), Bristow, Carter, Fysh, Langley, Mann, Parker, Rayner, Shaw, Werrell, Westell and White.

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a) To receive any representations from any member of the public present.

None

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from County Councillor Bob Johnston

3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None

4. DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

County Councillor Bob Johnston sent the following report -

“1. I have been speaking to many people (including County Officers) about the Children's Centre at Wootton. Quite the most interesting thing to come to light is that it is a dedicated facility leased to the County on a 30 year Peppercorn rent. According to the legal agreement linked to it, it can only be used for pre-school age activity. This gives me some slight hope that something can be salvaged.

2. The County budget is only a little nearer to resolution, in spite of the rubber stamping of possible cuts by the Cabinet the other week. The County now knows that it can raise the Council tax by an additional 2%, making 3.99% in all to pay for extra Adult Social Care. However the £5.8 million thus raised will almost entirely be taken up by having to pay all the County's carers the Living Wage. There is still profound uncertainty about the Business Rate, and the New Homes Bonus is to be top sliced starting in a year or so's time, again to pay for extra Adult Social Care. Finally we will not be getting the final Government Grant settlement until maybe two days before County budget day! I know that the Independents (whose votes the administration rely on) are very unhappy, and two of the administrations back benchers have expressed outright dissent in my hearing and that of others. Anything could happen on the day, and probably will.”

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 5th JANUARY 2016

The minutes of the meeting of 5th January were approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. MATTERS ARISING

a) Community Centre - Para 6(a)

Cllr Fysh said that the agreement with St Edmunds Football Club would be signed in the next few days. There would be a rolling contract from September. Teams would be called Wootton St Edmunds covering a number of age groups and Wootton residents would be eligible to join. An application will be made to make use of the £1,000 available from the Parish Council

b) Hedges and footpaths - Para 6(b)

Nothing to report.

c) Highways Para 6(c)

Nicola Douglas the OCC Highways Inspector had written to say that the condition of Mathews Way and Hawkins Way had been inspected and potholes marked up; any marked holes that had not been repaired should be notified to her. There was no news on the asset list for carrying out major work on Mathews Way, but Ms Douglas has promised to slot it in if an opportunity occurs.

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Cllr Mann said that repaired potholes were already deteriorating because the repairs were done during wet weather.

d) Transport/No 4 Bus Review – Para 6(d)

A meeting had been arranged with Oxford Bus Company on 8th March to discuss progress and likely future developments. A note had been put in the newsletter informing residents of the response from OBC. St Helen Without PC were working with Dalton Barracks to promote the use of the bus service; information would be distributed on the MOD information network, HIVE. Cllrs Langley and Parker went to Dalton Barracks to speak to families at the bus stops; families used the service, mainly to go into Abingdon. OBC were introducing a new product for passengers 18 and under; this represented a 25% discount. This would be introduced at the end of February through a mobile ticketing app. Cllrs Langley and Shaw attended the OCC meeting to discuss with operators the No44/44a service. The subsidy to Thames Travel (owned by OBC) of £75,000 out of the cost of £100,000 had been withdrawn. Sunningwell Parish Council were looking at options. One possibility was a minibus shuttle service using voluntary drivers. The possibility of re-routing the Stagecoach bus had been considered but the company had said that it would disrupt its existing service. Sunningwell were running a petition in the hope of retaining a subsidy.

e) Cricket Club and Recreation Ground - Para 6(e)

Mr David Parker had confirmed that the roof tiles would be repaired.

f) Playgrounds – Para 6(f)

Cllrs Bristow and Parker had visited Appleton that had installed an excellent playground at the cost of £84,000. Grants should be available including from Wren. The Council resolved that a larger project than that previously considered should be pursued.

g) Community website and newsletter - Para 6(g)

Nothing to report.

h) OCC: Transmissions of Responsibilities to Parish Councils – Para 6(i)

A detailed response was still awaited from OCC.

i) Speed Limits Fox Lane – Para 6(j)

Cllr Shaw said that Sunningwell Parish Council had not commented further. It was resolved not to take further action until contacted by Sunningwell PC.

j) Section 106 Funding – Para 6(k)

The Clerk had responded positively to a request for feedback on the benefits of the Community Infrastructure Support Officer role.

k) Sunningwell Neighbourhood Plan – Para 7

The Clerk has written to Sunningwell Parish Council conveying the decision of the Parish Council that it did not wish properties within Wootton Parish to be included in the Sunningwell Plan.

l) HM The Queen: 90th Birthday

A note has been put in the newsletter asking for information on any proposed celebratory events.

7. DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

a) Applications received from the District Council for consultation and consideration by the Planning Committee

P15/V2896/HH 11.12.2015	New dormer window on front elevation. Near rear extension (permitted development) 117 Whitecross Wootton OX13 6BP Mr R Norris	No objection, provided it is within the 30% limit
P15/V2906/FUL 11.12.2015	Demolition of an existing dwelling, Erection of a replacement dwelling Foxcombe Field, Fox Lane OX1 5DR	No objection provided it meets all planning criteria.

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Dr S Logan		
P15/V2855/HH dated 10.12.2015		
<p><u>Proposal</u> Alteration to existing planning permission P09/V0147; garage details revised. Position altered due to boundary wall dispute, windows altered, ridge height increased and dormer added. 57 Wootton Village OX1 5HP Mr David Towle-Jones</p>		
<p><u>Parish Council comments</u> Object: the development is not in keeping with the surrounding properties and exceeds the permitted development in the Green Belt. The property is also in a location where on-street parking is a major problem largely due to the village primary school. It is difficult to see how the proposed garage/store can be used or what alternative parking is available within the boundary of the property. The neighbours on either side strongly oppose the proposal and there does appear to be a number of issues that the Planning Officer should carefully consider including the height of the proposed development, overlooking and blocking the neighbouring property and the proximity to the neighbour's boundary. In addition, there are also a number of building regulation issues including drainage and fire risk.</p>		
P15/V2974/HH 21.12.2015	Internal and external refurbishment to existing derelict cottage. Proposed rear single storey extension and front new dormer to accommodate first floor door onto proposed balcony Orchard Hill Cottage, Orchard Lane, Boars Hill OX1 5JH Mr Ralph Dennison	No objection

It was resolved to confirm the Planning Committee's action

b) Decisions of the Local Planning Authority

None

8. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Langley asked if the amendments could be inserted in the Emergency Plan with a view to the Plan being approved at the meeting on 1 March.

9. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a) February 2016 Accounts for approval

Clerk Salary February	£592.40
Clerk Expenses February	£123.01
WADS Community Centre – room rental October-December 2015	£91.00
Advent Solutions – playground inspection December 2015	£60.00
VWHDC – dog bin servicing 1.10.2015 – 31.12.2015	£80.38
ST Grounds Maintenance – litter picking January	£300.00
Thames Water Utilities Ltd – water Pavilion 22.10.2015-19.1.2016	£108.22

It was resolved that the February invoices be approved for payment.

Applications for grants

None

10. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

No 4 Bus; e-mail from Phil Southall
 Parish Councils meeting with Bus Operators

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OALC; Power of parish councils to pay bus subsidies

Letter to Secretary of State on Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy

Advent Solutions – playground report 31.12.2015 and increase in charges

OALC Newsletter – January 2016

It was resolved to note the communications received

11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Emergency Plan; 2016 Amendments

12. FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 1st March 2016 at 7.30pm at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre.

Chairman.....Date