

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Wootton (Abingdon) Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 1st November 2016 at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre

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

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Several local residents attended the meeting to express their concern at the proposed development at 6-8 Cumnor Road. Their main concern was parking but they also objected to the proposed height of the building and the roof line. A petition of 35 signatures objecting to the proposal had been sent to the VWHDC. They had also been in touch with District Cllr Henry Spencer who has sent the following message to the Parish Council "I have received several communications from residents concerning planning application P16/V2253/O. I have seen that the Parish Council has already submitted comments of objection to the proposal. In light of the concerns raised by the local residents I have been in touch with officers and councillors alike at the district level in an attempt to ensure that the application is considered by the full committee. I shall keep you updated with the progress I make in this regard".

Councillors confirmed that they shared residents' concerns and had objected to the proposal.

b) St Helen Without Parish Cllr Geoff Fitzgerald attended the meeting to discuss Neighbourhood Plans (see item 7i below)

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apoloies were received from Cllr Mann and District Cllr Henry Spencer.

3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None

4. DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

County Cllr Bob Johnston commented on a number of infrastructure issues. Planning permission for the proposed Lodge Hill lorry park for 200 vehicles looked difficult and the whole of the A34 corridor from the Oxfordshire borders was now being looked at to address the problem making Milton more likely. Other projects included the East -West rail link between Bicester and Milton Keynes; high level studies 2012 on diverting traffic at Peartree East; the Park and Ride at Lodge Hill looks to be no more than an aspiration, Eynsham looks more likely and Highways England has commissioned a study on the Oxford to Cambridge expressway.

More information on devolution, grass cutting and the Children's Centre should be available in January.

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 4th OCTOBER 2016

The minutes of the meeting of 4th October were approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. MATTERS ARISING

a) Community Centre - Para 6(a)

Cllr Fysh said that the faulty boiler was being replaced. The main hall was being painted at night time. A proposal from Oxfordshire County Council on the future of the Children's Centre was awaited. Cllr Fysh and the Clerk had met Inspector Margaret Taylor and Sgt Kevin Hickman to discuss the future of the Police Office; it seems likely that TVP will agree to retain access to the office on a shared basis after terminating the lease leaving the signing in place.

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b) Hedges and footpaths - Para 6(b)

The foliage from the hawthorn bush affecting the footpath was adjacent to Mr Minn's field

c) Highways Para 6(c)

The pothole at the entrance to the Cricket field car park needs repairing

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

The public meeting on 11 October went well. The half hourly service does not appear to be under any immediate threat but it is important to continue encouraging the use of the service. An article reporting on the meeting was included in the November newsletter. It is proposed that the no 4 bus group should meet again with Oxfordshire Bus Company in late Spring early Summer.

e) Playgrounds – Para 6(f)

Whitehorse Contractors have quoted for the removal of old play area; removal of playground fence and equipment (bark chips to remain in situ) - £1,654.38; removal of swings £225.63 (removal of rubber surfacing an additional £250.31) – Total £2,130.32 + VAT.

f) OCC: Transmissions of Responsibilities to Parish Councils – Para 6(g)

The Clerk has discussed the grass cutting for 2017 with Mr Ben Grinstead of BGG Garden & Tree Care, who currently carry out the cuts for OCC. The cost would be in the region of £650 per cut. Once the OCC schedule is available showing the timing of the OCC cut arrangements can be made with BGG for the cut(s) funded by the Parish Council. £1,500 is being included in the 2017/8 budget to allow for two cuts.

g) Wootton Business Park – Para 6(h)

The specifications of the turning circle for the No 4 bus are awaited from Oxford Bus Company. Mr Trevor Halls of Frankham Architects has agreed to draw up an architectural plan once the specifications are available.

h) Christmas Lights (Para 7)

The Christmas lights will be switched on on Sunday 27th November. The lights may need to be re-adjusted due to tree growth. Two bushes have been removed which were blocking the area around the tree. There is a new manager at the Bystander but the event is firmly in their diary.

i) Wootton Neighbourhood Plan - Para 9

Cllrs Carter and Fysh together with the Clerk met on 21 October to discuss whether Wootton should have a Neighbourhood Plan and to prepare a paper for discussion at the Council meeting. The working group recommended that serious consideration should be given to having a Plan if the VWHDC Local Plan Part 2 identified any areas in Wootton for removal from the Green Belt or development elsewhere. The first steps should be to make contact with Community First Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse District Council before holding a public meeting. The possibility of having a Joint Neighbourhood Plan should be discussed with St Helen Without Parish Council. It was estimated that the net cost to the Parish Council of developing a Plan would be between £1,000 and £4,000 and it was resolved to include £4,000 in the 2017/8 budget. Contact was made with Community First Oxfordshire following the meeting and Mr Tom McCulloch had agreed to attend the Parish Council meeting on the 10th January. The VWHDC in response to a question on whether any Wootton sites would be included in the VWHDC Local Plan Part 2 had stated that this information would not be available until February. The target date for submitting the Local Plan Part 2 to the Secretary of State was early in 2018. Cllr Geoff Fitzgerald, Vice Chairman of St Helen Without Parish Council, attended the meeting. Cllr Fitzgerald outlined an approach that St Helen Without Parish Council had received from a developer who wanted to develop a 6 acre plot in Dry Sandford with up to 73 houses under the 'Community Right to Build' this would be outside a Neighbourhood Plan and the developer would deal directly with the Parish Council on the financial benefits arising from the arrangement. No decision had yet been taken by St Helen Without Parish Council on its response. The closure of Dalton Barracks in 2019 also opened up the prospect of developing the airfield which could accommodate up to 3,000 houses. In principle, St Helen Without Parish Council were interested in a Joint Plan. Cllr Fysh proposed that, in principle, there should be a

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Joint Neighbourhood Plan, this was seconded by Cllr Carter and resolved unanimously. It was agreed the St Helen Without Parish Councillors should be invited to attend the Wootton Parish Council meeting on 10th January.

j) Foxcombe Hall – Para 1(b)

The Clerk had spoken to Mr Jon Silversides, Partner at Carter Jonas (Tel 01865 4044458), who confirmed that 28th October was date for bids on Foxcombe Hall; options could be with or without planning permission. He was not aware of any covenants governing the use of the site. Mr Silversides agreed to keep in touch. Cllr Shaw said that two conveyances in 1904 stated that a hotel or public building cannot be erected on the site and not more than 12 dwellings valued at over £2,000.

7. DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

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

P16/V2275/HH 21.9.2016	To demolish existing garage and out buildings to the side of the property. Single storey extension to the side of the dwelling to form sitting room. Shower/WC and Utility Room. Replace existing flat roof to single storey rear extension with a tiled roof. 176 Cumnor Road, Boars Hill, OX15JS. Mrs Yvonne Broadis	No objection
P16/V2304/LB 21.9.2016	Extension to listed Georgian Farmhouse and refurbishment to curtilage listed use. Manor Farm, Wootton Village, OX15JL Mr & Mrs Ginks	On balance no objection but a strong view that the new addition should be more in keeping with the existing building
P16/V2387/HH 23.9.2013	Single storey extensions to front and rear 25 Home Close Wootton OX136DB Mr & Mrs Peter Sinclair	No objection

It was resolved to confirm the Planning Committee's action

b) Decisions of the Local Planning Authority

P16/V1531/HH 16.8.2016	Demolition of single storey extension and erection of 2 storey extension Amendment no 1 107 Willow Cottage, Wootton Village OX15HW Mr Roger Wiggins	No objection	Permit 26.9.2016
P16/V2097/HH 24.8.2016	Proposed alterations to existing outbuilding. Orchard Farm, 224 Wootton Village, OX1 5HW Mr & Mrs B Morton	No objections	Permit 28.9.2016

It was resolved to note the Planning Authority's decisions.

8. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

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Cllr Ludlow said that he had carried out the routine servicing of the defibrillator, which had not been used to date.

9. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a) Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting

It was agreed that the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting should take place on Wednesday 14th December

b) November 2016 Accounts for approval

Clerk Salary November	£560.85
Clerk Expenses November	£396.99
Vale of White Horse District Council; dog bin servicing July-September 2016	£80.38
Advent Solutions – September 2016	£65.00
WADS CC – room rental July-September	£52.00
S T Grounds Maintenance – litter picking October	£390.00

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

c) Applications for grants

None

10. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

Advent Solutions; Playground Inspect Report 3.10.2016

VWHDC – Update Bulletin 4 Local Plan

VWHDC – Unitary Council

VWHDC – Vale News

Summer Town & Parish Forum – 10 November

South & Vale DC - Oxfordshire Leader Funding

Community First Oxfordshire – Comments on Neighbourhood Plans

Neighbourhood Plan - rCOH Ltd.

Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan

Marcham Community-led Plan

Longworth Neighbourhood Plan

Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service – Community Risk Management Plan Consultation

Clerks and Councils Direct – November 2016

OALC Newsletter – September 2016

It was resolved to note the communications received

11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None

12. FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 7.30pm at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre.