

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 13th JANUARY 2005
AT 8.00P.M. IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

ATTENDANCE: Cllrs Mrs J. Smith in the Chair, Mr R. Seymour,
Mr F. Downes, Mr D. Callaghan, Mrs C. Dakin, Mr M. Gerrard
Mrs S. Henson, Clerk

Mr Nick Phillips (part) – Property Manager, The National Trust
Area Beat Officer PC Dave West

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE ACCEPTED FROM: Cllr Mrs Harris and
District Cllr Mrs Teesdale

TO DECLARE ANY PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY, PERSONAL OR PRIVATE
INTERESTS: None declared.

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF THE DECEMBER PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

These were agreed by those Councillors present and signed by the Chairman

REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

All are on the agenda.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS
MEETING REOPENED

102.1 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM 10TH DECEMBER – 13TH JANUARY

1. Letter from Thames Valley Police re anti social behaviour
2. WDC Conservation Character Survey
3. email from Mike Knight with progress on highways requests
4. Letter from Mike Knight in response to our requests
5. WDC Planning Dept letter re Plant & Harvest – no further action will be taken re the storage area as the fence is now 2 metres in height.
6. WDC request for Precept
7. Southern Electric Contracting - schedule & rates for April 2005 onwards
8. WDC Dogs Fouling of Land Act – asking if we want to include any open spaces - burial ground and playing field, talk to National Trust about West Wycombe Hill.
9. WDC proposed skate board facilities – we have no land available.
10. BCC publicising Personal Travel Plans
11. Standards Board Newsletter
12. BCC Community & Youth Services - Anonymous Bucks
13. WDC publicising Buckinghamshire Tourism News
14. BCC Winter salting routes map
15. WDC Comprehensive Open Spaces Assessment – Clerk and Cllr Seymour will do this.
16. Journal of Trading Standards
17. In Focus Magazine – Bucks Community Action
18. Rural Forum Report
19. Letters from residents in West Wycombe Hill Road confirming that they would prefer it to be called Church Lane. The Clerk will now go back to WDC with this information.
20. BCC Unlocking Buckinghamshire's Past – where are local historical records kept – folders in Village Hall and School.

21. WDC meeting on the South East Plan – February 15th 6pm for 6.30pm – 8.30pm in Council Chamber – very important that we attend. Cllr Mrs Smith, Cllr Callaghan and the Clerk will attend.
22. SEERA Letter about consultation and leaflet
23. Information on Youth Shelters from ABC Play
24. BCC Member/stakeholder survey – Clerk will respond.
25. Safer Routes to School Newsletter
26. Buckinghamshire Times

102.2 PLANNING

JRC/04/08205/FUL -23 Bradenham Road – construction of 2 storey side extension – no objection.

AHC/04/08240/TPO –West Wycombe Park – fell 10 ash, 2 horse chestnut, 2 elder, crown reduce by 30% to 1 yew, crown lift to 4 metres, 1 ash – no objection.

AC/04/07949/TPO – Castle Transmission Tower, Towerage Lane - Cut back 2 elm trees, 2 ash trees, 3 hazel trees to boundary of mast compound – permit

102.3 BURIAL GROUND – to consider the need for gates

The parking problem with parents from the school is continuing and it was resolved to place the order for the gates – style 31 at a price of £724 plus VAT, as soon as possible to tie in with payment in April.

After attending a recent funeral Cllrs Mrs Smith and Seymour and the Clerk feel it may be sensible to insert a gate into the hedge between the car park and the burial area. It was resolved to order a small gate.

102.4 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – a report on the current situation including litter, vandalism and police action

Cllrs Mrs Smith and Mr Gerrard and the Clerk, along with Barney Giles, Tracie Gilbert and Nick Phillips of The National Trust, were asked to attend a meeting called by the police to discuss ways forward in solving the vandalism/criminal damage problems. The police advised those present that they are being proactive and certain parents will be receiving letters advising them of their children's behaviour.

A Crime Reduction Survey has been carried out by the police and we wait for the report. PC Dave West our new Area Beat Officer advised those present that he has gone back through all our reports and has made contact with some of the young people involved. He will also be talking to some of them about the mini motorbikes.

The Clerk handed out log sheets for residents. We will not have any action taken unless these are filled in and returned or the police are contacted. The Parish Council will not be able to do any more.

It had been suggested that the Parish Council could consider part funding of a youth worker and a youth shelter or gathering area could be created. Our problem is that the parish does not own any land and it would be dependant on West Wycombe Estate or The National Trust. Councillors asked the public for suggestions on what they feel we could do. Possibly picnic benches, which could be used by tourists.

WDC has carried out a litter pick along the West Wycombe Road and Cookshall Lane. The Clerk has contacted the school about the playing field and the litter issue, asking them to have the field cleared – this needs to be cleared to allow the school to use it.

The windows in the public toilets have been bricked up, for the second time as vandals pushed the first set of bricks out before the cement was dry.

A budget figure has been allowed for in the precept to allow for some CCTV.

102.5 RURAL HOUSING TRUST – an update and report on the parish site visit
Cllrs Mrs Smith, Mr Seymour and the Clerk met with Jean Fox of the Rural Housing Trust and drove round the parish looking at possible sites (6). She will now go to her surveyor who will look at them. If there are any viable ones she will come back to us. This could be in several months time.

102.6 PARISH PLAN
Cllr Callaghan reported that the next meeting would be on the 15th January. Councillors have offered their addresses for drop offs for the questionnaires.

102.7 REPORT ON HIGHWAYS, LIGHTING AND FOOTPATHS
Mike Knight has replied with answers to most of our queries. He would not support narrowing West Wycombe Hill Road to create a pavement area. The National Trust is looking at the possible creation of a pavement along the side of the hill. Would be unnatural but there is a social need and it will be up to them to push.
We need a site visit over lowering the pavement to allow for crossing points near The Malt House.
Reg's island is due for February, Clerk will ask BCC to speak to Cllr Gerrard prior to the work.
High Street pavements are due to be resurfaced – weather dependant.
Pavement from Beechwood Road to Pedestal is due for resurfacing in January.
Russell Crockford of BCC will look at the rumble strip and setts round Pedestal Roundabout.
The Clerk has been in contact with the Environment Agency regarding oil leakage on the pavement by Hansons Motors – the visit has obviously taken place as sand has been strewn over the pavement.
The shelter at the school has come off the Local Area Committee list.
Cllr Downes asked if cat's eyes could be installed along the Oxford Road.
Cllr Downes reported that he has made Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council aware of the need to improve the footpath from Piddington to West Wycombe. West Wycombe PC would be prepared to work on a joint project in the future.
Local Area Committee meeting on 25th January at WDC Chambers at 6pm – Cllr Callaghan to attend.

102.8 CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER STUDY – to receive an update
Jo Tiddy of WDC has written the first draft of this document and she has done an excellent job. It was pointed out that there is no mention of the clock and we will send her a copy of the leaflet. Councillors have gone through the document and made comments. The Clerk will collate all the comments.

102.9 TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR JANUARY AND SIGNING OF CHEQUES
Cheques and standing orders were approved for BCC, Mrs S. Henson, Lawrence Landscapes, SLCC subscription, Southern Electric Contracting and Southern Electric. It was resolved to approve the accounts.

102.10 MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS
Cllrs Mrs Smith advised members of the new SLCC conditions of service, salaries, pensions – Councillors to read and then discuss at a later date.

Cllr Downes reported that the new school building is at a very preliminary stage.

102.11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 10th February in The Church Room at 8pm

There being no other business; the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20pm