

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER 2006
AT 8.00 PM. IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

ATTENDANCE: Cllrs Mrs V. Smith, Chairman, Mr R. Seymour, Mr F. Downes, Mr
D. Callaghan, Mrs C. Dakin, Mrs A. Harris, Mr N. Timberlake, Mr
Mrs S. Henson, Clerk Mr N. Phillips – The National Trust,

6 members of the public up to 9.15pm, 10 after 9.15pm

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE ACCEPTED FROM:
Dist Cllr Mrs Teesdale, Dist Cllr Mr McEnnis (present from 9.30pm)

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER PARISH
COUNCIL MEETING

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

TO DECLARE ANY PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY, PERSONAL OR
PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:

None declared.

REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Cllrs Mrs Smith, Mr Timberlake and the Clerk attended the GC2C meeting where devolved powers and enhanced services for Parish Councils were discussed and workshops were attended.
2. The Clerk attended the Planning Inspectors hearing for the first application for 473 West Wycombe Road.
3. The Clerk attended the Area Technicians meeting, we will have two – Stuart Young for everything from the Pedestal Roundabout and Ian Sharp from Chapel Lane through to the Pedestal and he is also going to take on Bradenham Road as otherwise this would mean having three technicians. Clerks will be able to deal direct with Technicians and not need to go through Highways on Call.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS

MEETING REOPENED

124.1 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM 9th November – 14th December 06

1. WDC Letter stating that Planning Permission is needed for the polytunnels at Plant and Harvest.
2. WDC Play strategy consultation – response required by 15th January
3. BCC Minerals & Waste Framework – pre-submission draft statement of community involvement – response required by 19th January
4. Chilterns Woodlands Project newsletter
5. BALC Module 2 of Councillor Training – given to each Councillor.
6. Letter of response from The National Trust – we will ask a senior representative from the Finance Committee or the Regional Committee to visit the village as well as the Chilterns Conservation Board
7. Notification of Planning Appeal for the second application for 473 West Wycombe Road
8. Chiltern News magazine
9. BCC Notification of the Mobile Library Service timetable - circulated
10. DEFRA Code of Conduct Statutory Instrument for AONB Conservation Boards within England
11. WDC Brief on the Local Government White Paper - circulated

12. Notification of SLCC subscriptions – Parish Council would like the Clerk to continue her subscription and will contribute towards it.
13. BCC Winter driving leaflets – issued to all Councillors
14. WDC Date of next Rural Forum – Tuesday 27th March at 5pm
15. Journal of the Institute of the Cemetery & Crematorium Management.

124.2 PLANNING

Applications

SDN/06/07627/FUL – 395 West Wycombe Road – demolition of existing dwelling & erection of new building to form 6 x 1 bed flats with car parking – strongly object on overdevelopment of the site, traffic, parking and destroying family homes.

AHC/-6/07775/CTREE – The Dower House – cut back along footpath by 1 metre to group of yew trees. Crown lift to 3 metres to 2 cherry trees. Formative prune 2 lilac trees – no objection the work is seriously needed.

A retrospective planning application will need to be submitted by 2nd January by Plant and Harvest for the 2 poly tunnels.

124.3 TO REPORT ON HIGHWAYS ISSUES INCLUDING LIGHTING

The High Street lighting project is now complete, however the light on Steps House has stopped working and this has been reported. We have been delighted with the co-operation we have received from Jacobs Babbie and Forde McHugh and how they helped make the traders Festive Fayre a success. The Bradenham Road new lighting project is complete however the light damaged in a RTA has been replaced but has not been connected and the Clerk has been advised that SEC will do this in mid January.

124.4 TO DISCUSS THE BUDGET AND SET NEXT YEAR'S PRECEPT

Discussions continued. It was generally felt that we should not necessarily reduce the Precept, particularly as we could have as many as 60 new homes in the Parish during the forthcoming financial year. Clerk will ask WDC what happens about the extra income this will create as each house will have an element of Parish Council tax but no further monies come to us or the current home owner's bills reduced. The Clerks salary will probably increase by 2.5%; £700 will be needed as a third share contribution to new computer hardware and software; the Burial Ground Car park resurfacing will cost a maximum of £5000; election £600; donations to the parish organisations £3000; an increase in insurance once we have insured all our new lights in Bradenham Road and the Christmas tree lights; £1500 for clearing grips and gullies and weed killer on pavements; we should consider building up a reserve for the proposed Village Hall modernisation.

The Clerk is waiting for prices from BCC on the West Wycombe to Piddington footway and the cost of gully emptying. We will reserve £2000 for the footway. Cllr Mrs Smith suggested that we need to bid for resurfacing West Wycombe Hill Road.

We need to allow funds for contributing towards highways works on the Copperfields junction.

With projected spend at £35,000 and with an expected opening balance of approximately £9000 it was unanimously resolved to keep the Precept at the same level as the current year - £32,000.

124.5 TO RESOLVE TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR DECEMBER 2006 AND SIGNING OF CHEQUES

Cheques and standing orders for Mrs S. Henson, Bucks County Council Crossing Patrol and cheques for BT, Thames Water, The Festive Lighting

Company. It was agreed to draw £30 cash for the 6 National Trust men involved in putting up and taking down the Christmas trees. The Clerk had purchased thank you gifts for Mrs Clark, Mr & Mrs Hardwick, Mr Rockell and Mr & Mrs Prosser all of whom had helped the Parish Council throughout the year or with the Christmas trees.
It was resolved to approve the accounts.

124.6 MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

1. Cllr Mrs Harris raised concerns over the amount of dog waste on the High Street.
2. The School Travel Plan Group will be taking more forceful action with the poor level of parking at the school.
3. The school building has been signed over but there are many issues which have to be sorted.
4. The school front shelter is to be constructed in the week before Christmas.
5. Cllr Downes has divided his Community Leaders Fund between Radnage Youth Group (£1,500) and the West Wycombe Library Action Group (£1231)

124.7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 11th January 2007 in the Church Room at 8pm
8th February
8th March
12th April
3rd May – Annual Parish Meeting
10th May – Annual Parish Council meeting
14th June
19th July
13th September
11th October
8th November – budgets will be reviewed
13th December – the Precept will be set

The Chairman then presented a gift to Jane Temple as a thank you from the people of the Parish for her excellent work over 19 years in West Wycombe Library prior to its closure by BCC. Dr Faith Spicer also made a presentation to Jane from a collection made in the Village Stores. Everyone was invited to partake of Christmas refreshments. The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20 pm