

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 12th JANUARY 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 A. Harris, Mrs C. Dakin, Mr N. Timberlake
Mr N. Phillips Property Manager, The National Trust, Mrs S. Henson, Clerk
District Cllrs Mr McEnnis and Mrs Teesdale. 7 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE ACCEPTED FROM: Everyone present.

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

1. The Clerk has purchased 2 x Slow signs and 2 x Flood signs as well as a Health & Safety Book for use of the signs. Miss Barry & Mr & Mrs Plumridge hold these signs.
2. The Clerk has had a response to the request to Highways on Call for white lining on either side of the A4010 – basically there are no plans and as there have not been enough accidents of the whole stretch of road, and only 28% of accidents happen at night there is no 'demand' to put them on the road.
3. Cllrs Mrs Smith, Timberlake and the Clerk attended a 'Library' meeting.
4. Cllr Timberlake has supplied the Clerk with samples of a neighbouring council's stickers to discourage parking on pavements. She will investigate getting similar for our use.

AN INTRODUCTION TO NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mr. Pegg local Chairman of Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association. Towerage and Park Farm are in the scheme. Largest voluntary organisation in country. Primary involvement is in Crime Prevention mainly burglary, car theft, robbery, muggings, doorstep burglary and anti-social behaviour. Making home and car owners more aware. Not all car parks have CCTV. There is a system called Ringmaster through which the police release information about current crimes/scams. Membership is free. Only costs are the signs put on lampposts (£5 each) Discounts are often given by insurance companies if you are a member of Neighbourhood Watch.

Cllr Timberlake was able to endorse the effectiveness of the scheme.

The Clerk will write a piece for Contact to publicise the scheme.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS
MEETING REOPENED

- 113.1 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM 9th December – 12th January 2006
1. BCC Local Area Committee minutes and notification and agenda for next meeting on 24th January and Newsletter.
 2. Newsletter from WDC Rural Activities
 3. New Electoral Roll
 4. Thames Valley NHS – Local consultation on new Primary Care Trusts & a new strategic Health Authority for Thames Valley – passed to Cllr Mrs Harris.

5. Letter from Mr Paul Goodman stating he will follow through on Staircasing Rural Exception Sites.
6. Thank you letter from St Lawrence PCC for Green Apple Cheque
7. The Wycombe Partnership – Community Plan for Wycombe District.
8. English Rural Housing Association newsletter
9. Letter and invoice from Gillett & Johnston stating that the power cuts were the cause of the damage to the clock. (Clerk has written to Southern Electric Contracting seeking compensation and to Cllr Mrs Teesdale to support her request from WDC to provide money from her Community Fund).
10. ODPM – Document on Standards of Conduct in English Local Govt.
11. In Focus magazine
12. BCC Safer Winter Driving leaflets
13. Safer Routes to School Newsletter
14. Thames Valley Police leaflets with non emergency phone number
15. Invitation from Thames Valley Police to visit one of the Control Rooms.
16. Information from Bucks Community Action on Parish Plan grants.
17. WDC Community Voice containing our article
18. BCC Stakeholder Survey on Transportation
19. West Wycombe Conservation Area Booklet – excellent. Mike Gerrard has been remembered in it. Clerk has asked if it can go on our website.
20. BCC Roundabout sponsorship – Pedestal Roundabout stating that our sponsorship ends in March – as we returned our cheque to BCC we are not sponsoring it and WDC stated they would probably refuse planning permission for any signage. Clerk will write accordingly.
21. WDC Housing Intensification Supplementary Planning Document accepted by WDC on 21st December.
22. Village Environmental Services – maintenance work information
23. Chilterns Building Design Award notification
24. Matters Arising Newsletter – Pay awards; minutes, SLCC subs.

113.2 PLANNING

Applications

AJC/05/07170/FUL amended plans – land adjacent to the Friend at Hand - still concerns about car parking and access for residents to car parking. One house is termed a 2 bed house when it is 4 beds. Still concerns about the entrance opposite Rosemary Close and the sightline for the Pelican Crossing.

Decisions

AJC/05/07322/FUL – 473 West Wycombe Rd –demolition of existing dwelling & construction of 9 flats (8 x 2 bed, 1 x 3 bed) with associated parking - refused.

AD/05/07301/FUL – 24 Copperfields – construction of conservatory to rear – permit.

113.3 TO REVIEW THE RESULTS OF THE PARISH PLAN

Primary School Questionnaire – 47.6% return. 37 live in Parish and 59 out; would like more facilities like rainbows, brownies, cubs. Biggest issue for children is dog mess. Like sweetshop and countryside and library. Safety of walking to school – bad - too many lorries; not enough dog bins or litter bins. Users Questionnaire – 35 responses - traffic and inadequate parking main issue. Some support for traffic calming measures but not viable on a trunk road. Most users using own car – very few aware of Rider on Call, knowledge of events through word of mouth/notice board – website not created at the time of questionnaire; people do use library, would not get involved in more events or organising clubs etc. Would support schemes adding employment

to the village.; use and supportive of West Wycombe shops for small bits of shopping; some incidence of car crime; policing barely acceptable; some support for providing activities for the youth of the village; need for dog waste bin especially outside school and on hill; enforcing parking restrictions; happy with footpaths; church facilities acceptable but not always family friendly. The National Trust survey will be supplied to Cllr Callaghan and he will be setting up a follow up meeting and also meet with June Churchill at WDC.

113.4 TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF WEST WYCOMBE LIBRARY.

A small committee of local people was formed under the Chairmanship of Dist Cllr Mrs Teesdale and a letter was sent to Margaret Dewar at BCC stating that we were looking at ways to keep the library open and very importantly to retain the building for Community use as any other use would create parking problems. Parish Councillors delivered 500 consultation response forms. There has been a follow up meeting discussing the main fact that at all costs we should have some sort of library service i.e. mobile library at convenient times and with a good regular exchange of books. 296 signatures on a petition, 66 (99) consultation forms returned and 7 letters from adults/organisations, 33 letters from the school. General feeling that people had not given a clear mandate to the Parish Council that they wanted their library saved. Cllr Timberlake is looking into funding and grant possibilities.

A resolution was made that the public should be excluded at the end of the meeting to discuss a leaked BCC document on library closures. As a result of this the Parish Council will be sending a letter to BCC with their response to what is expected to be the content of the Cabinet Report and decision that Parish Councils and other local organisations were going to be asked to take on the funding and running of libraries if they wanted to retain them in their current state. The majority of the Parish Council felt that it could not justify the expense over a continued period of time but would do everything possible to ensure that we had the mobile library service and that in some way we retained the library building as community asset.

113.5 HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING

Cllr Seymour reported that the free bus passes for use from WDC were not available for use on Rider on Call.

Walters Limousines should sign up to the Concessionary Scheme.

Clerk will write to Rider on Call and WDC to see if it can be changed as for some of our residents the only bus they can use from their homes is Rider on Call, this currently means that some people are not applying for the pass.

113.6 TO RESOLVE TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR JANUARY 2006 AND SIGNING OF CHEQUES

Cheques and standing orders for Mrs S. Henson, Bucks County Council, Signs of the Times, Lawrence Landscapes, Southern Electric Contracting, Gillett & Johnston, SLCC all as per appendix issued with Agenda plus Mike Henson Presentations – £69.33 annual hosting fee.

Because of a recent statement on SLCC subscriptions a discussion took place as to whether the Parish Council should continue to pay 50% of the annual subscription. Cllr Downes proposed that the Parish Council would be happy to pay the 50% fee at the discretion of the Chairman dependant upon the results of a meeting she would be attending. Councillors agreed with this.

113.7 MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

We have recently been told that there has been extremely poor parking at the school since Christmas. Police have been contacted and have visited today. Parents are ruining the grass bank above school.

Mr Phillips is concerned that The National Trust were being blamed for the delay in the building work at the school when in actual fact BCC had been the initial cause of the problem by ignoring the covenants on the land and not making any contact with The National Trust prior to making the application despite being told by the Parish Council that this was the situation. The National Trust had done an awful lot of work to move the project forward.

113.8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 9th February at 8pm in the Church Room.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.45pm