

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 8th MARCH 2007
AT 8.00 PM. IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

ATTENDANCE: Cllrs Mrs V. Smith, Chairman, Mr R. Seymour, Mr D. Callaghan, Mr N. Timberlake, Mrs C. Dakin, Mrs A. Harris, Mr F. Downes (from 9pm), Mr N. Phillips – The National Trust (until 8.30pm) Mrs S. Henson, Clerk
Cllr Mr I. McEnnis

5 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE ACCEPTED FROM: Cllr Mrs J. Teesdale

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 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:

Cllr Mrs Harris declared an interest in 473 West Wycombe Road.

REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Clerk attended a Clerk's meeting at WDC which was attended by Officers from WDC, BCC and the Environment Agency. Training, information and updating on issues covering the Pathfinder Bid, Community Safety Plans, Youth Opportunity Fund, Flood Watch, Extended Services to Schools, Devolved Powers, Highways and the forthcoming elections were all discussed.

Mr Nick Phillips – reported that The National Trust were celebrating 60 years of The Hughenden Estate and Manor being with The National Trust; he was able to confirm that in June there will be two volunteer teams of 16 to carry out maintenance works in the village. He reported that they were working with Sustrans and WDC to develop a cycle path from High Wycombe Town Centre through Hughenden Park and up to Naphill.

The idea of using Toweridge Lane for emergency access to Adams Park has been abandoned. He has put in for a fund to clear gutters and basic works in the High Street. There are no objections to the removal of a eucalyptus tree. The National Trust will submit the appropriate paperwork to planning.

Cllrs Mrs Smith, Mr Seymour, Mr Downes, Mrs Dakin and Mr and Mrs Callaghan and the Clerk attended the Cllr Mrs Teesdale's informal drinks held in her chambers.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS

MEETING REOPENED

127.1 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM 8th February – 8th March

1. BCC response to Highways/Planning issues – issued to Councillors
2. BCC Highways Technician Information – issued to Councillors
3. BCC – letter about Unauthorised Signs – issued to Councillors
4. NALC letter reviewing the Quality Parish Council Scheme.
5. Matters Arising newsletter – issued to Councillors
6. JOTS - Trading Standards Newsletter
7. Consultation on Amendments to the Model Code of Conduct for Local Authorities – WDC will respond on our behalf.
8. Book explaining the Pathfinder process for BCC/WDC/Chilterns/South Bucks/Aylesbury Vale to join forces - circulate
9. SEERA Newsletter - circulate
10. SEERA Regional Housing Consultation - circulate

11. SEERA – partial review of the South East Plan – revised apportionment of primary land-won aggregates - circulate
12. Chilterns Society Magazine - circulate
13. Open Spaces Magazine and notification of a new book on 'Our Common Land' - circulate
14. Journal of the Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management – passed to Cllr Seymour
15. Acknowledgement of our response to the BCC Mineral & Waste Local Development Scheme
16. Letter from BCC/WDC/Chilterns/South Bucks/Aylesbury Vale re devolved powers.

127.2 PLANNING

Applications

07/05416/OUT – Telephone Repeater Station, West Wycombe Road –

outline application for residential development comprising 5 x 3 bed, 2 storey dwellings (1 detached and 4 semi) - the Parish Council strongly object to this on the grounds of: the use of the land for BCC long term highways plans; insufficient parking (8 spaces for 5 x 3 bed houses); access to site on such a congested part of the West Wycombe Road/Chapel Lane junction even with the current presignals at the Pedestal Roundabout; an adverse environmental effect on the occupants as it is too close to both the railway and road; as these are 3 bedroomed family homes it is an unsafe area for children; extremely poor design – they look like industrial units.

Decisions

SDN/07/05118 5118/LBC – Flint House, Bradenham Road – construction of replacement covered area and entrance lobby – permit and grant consent

SDN/07/05030/FUL -Friend at Hand – demolition of existing former public house and erection of 2 storey building to include 4 flats, conversion of outbuilding to create 1 x 1 bed dwelling, creation of new access and associated car parking -permit

- 127.3 TO ADOPT THE NALC STANDING ORDERS TO ALLOW THEM TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUR EXISTING STANDING ORDERS
It was resolved to adopt the NALC Standing Orders to be used in conjunction with our existing Standing Orders.

127.4 HIGHWAYS ISSUES AND TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE WORK ON THE FOOTPATH BETWEEN PIDDINGTON AND WEST WYCOMBE

The cost for clearing the footway from the Piddington boundary to West Wycombe would be £1305. It was agreed that we would place an order to carry out this work and Cllr Downes will make a contribution of up to £1000 from his Community Leaders Fund.

Councillors reported severe potholes in the entrance treatment on the west side of the parish.

The damaged street light from the road traffic accident in Bradenham Road has reappeared. Clerk will report to Jacobs Babtie

Councillors were concerned about the continued parking on the pavement at the Pedestal Garage. Clerk will contact police and write to the garage.

Rider on Call driver has been telling everyone that the change of service is taking place on 16th March. The change has not appeared as a Notice in Proceedings of the Traffic Commissioner - and as 8 weeks notice is needed we will question what is happening. We have also reported the different costs for fare stages. There are problems in the bus station with buses not going into the correct bays.

127.5 TO DISCUSS OUR RESPONSE TO THE IMAGINE THE FUTURE DOCUMENT

There are several issues to raise: why is the Pedestal Field included in the map; traffic from housing from Princes Risborough and industrial traffic from the Molins site as well as the increase in traffic from Stokenchurch with the development of the school site and the industrial area by the motorway and one other plot of land in Stokenchurch. There could also be implications with Adams Park being taken out of the Green Belt as this could then be used for homes.

127.6 TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ON TAKING ON DEVOLVED POWERS FROM BCC/WDC

Cllr Mrs Smith, the Clerk and Cllr Digby, Chairman of Piddington & Wheeler End Parish Council had a meeting with Steve Orchard, Programme Manager, GC2C Team, Bucks County Council to discuss our interest in taking on devolved powers. The idea is that BCC would, via a legal contract, supply us with a previously agreed budget to carry out maintenance/housekeeping works in our two parishes. We would need to cost out a person, basic tools and administration costs to work out an hourly cost. We are covered by employer's liability and BCC would give Health and Safety Training. We would pay the costs and we would be refunded through BACS one month in arrears. We would be able to take on ditch clearing, grips, hedge cutting back, sign washing, keeping drains clear etc and when the Pathfinder scheme is set up with the District Councils we would be able to add litter picking on to the list. We will also be talking to other Parishes.

127.7 TO CONSIDER THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND ANNUAL REPORT

As a result of the Clerks meeting held on this day, it was agreed that we would move the Annual Parish Meeting from 3rd May to April 12th as the Parish Council ceases to exist as an entity from 1st – 3rd May inclusive. The Parish Council meeting will start at 7pm with the Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm.

127.8 RESOLVE TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR MARCH 2007 AND SIGNING OF CHEQUES

Cheques and standing orders for Mrs S. Henson, Bucks County Council Crossing Patrol, Lawrence Landscapes, Southern Electricity (refund for part of this will be requested from WDC), BT, Thames Water, Jacobs Babbie – final part of the Bradenham Road lights.
It was resolved to approve the accounts.

127.9 MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Timberlake attended a Neighbourhood Watch meeting and he is going to set up a scheme in Portway Drive and other people are setting up schemes along the West Wycombe Road.

Cllr Timberlake attended the recent exhibition on improvements at High Heavens to increase the amount of composting, plant some tree screening and install a permanent odour suppressant.

Cllr Mrs Harris asked when we would be getting the green waste collection – there is no planned date as it is dependant on Government grants.

126.9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 12th April in the Church Room at 7pm – those Councillors who represent outside bodies to prepare reports for the Annual Parish meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.