

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 11th OCTOBER 2007
AT 8.00 PM. IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

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

4 members of the public

Carole Burslem – Co-ordinator for GC2C
PCSO Penelope Ling – Thames Valley Police

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE ACCEPTED FROM:
Dist Cllr Mrs J. Teesdale & Dist Cllr Mr I McEnnis

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER PARISH
COUNCIL MEETING

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

TO DECLARE ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:

Cllr Mrs Harris declared a prejudicial interest in the 473 West Wycombe Road
planning decision.

REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

BCC has the soak ways at the bottom of Portway Drive – it took 5 hours continual
work. Chorley Road is on the next schedule. The gully outside 460 West Wycombe
Road has concrete in it – BCC are organising to have this broken up.

Cllr Mrs Smith and the Clerk attended the Rural Forum

The Clerk attended a WDC Training session on Playgrounds and how to obtain
grants.

BCC has cleared and concreted the grips on the top section of Church Lane. All the
potholes have been marked up and will be repaired.

No smoking signs are in the wooden bus shelters, not sure how to fix one in the
glass shelter.

WDC will write to Saunderton Hostel highlighting our concerns over some of the
passengers from the hostel using the 105/106 service.

The Dog Warden has been contacted re problems with dog fouling in the High Street
and a letter has been delivered to all properties in the High Street about dog fouling.

The Clerk and Cllr Timberlake attended the BCC Accessibility Forum.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS
MEETING REOPENED

133.1 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM 14th September – 11th October 2007

1. Notification that WDC has a graffiti removal kit for Parish Councils to borrow
2. Matters Arising magazine – copy for all Councillors issued at meeting.
Contains the updated figures for Clerks mileage allowances.
3. BCC Notification that some street lights in parts of the county have been
turned off for a trial period in an experiment to save energy.
4. BCC Area 8 Speed Review Consultation documents
5. Letter from WDC confirming that Eplanning started on 1st October.
6. In Focus Magazine
7. BCC Every adult matters leaflet
8. BCC School admissions poster
9. DEFRA booklet for Parish Councils on climate change
10. Parish & Town Council Standards Newsletter
11. Request to investigate and photograph a memorial for the War Graves
Commission
12. Email from WDC about applying for grants for Play Areas
13. Rural Housing Trust letter asking if we would like to resume our investigations
14. The Chiltern Society asking us if we would like to take out a subscription

15. BCC Local Area meeting papers for 18th October
16. Invitation to a housing issues workshop on Monday 12th November in Aylesbury – 6 – 8pm
17. WDC invitation to respond to the draft Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Policy Consultation
18. Email stating that some residents of Bradenham Road are concerned about the pavement parking at 77 Bradenham Road – Clerk will instigate action.
19. Letter from The National Trust Area Manager Helen Tufts setting up a meeting date – 19th October at 3.30pm
20. Email from Mike Henson Presentations asking us if we want to join the parishforum – no costs involved and an opportunity fro Councillors and the public to exchange ideas – we will join the forum

133.3 PLANNING

Applications

PECS/07/07340/CTREE – West Wycombe County Combined School –

felling of 2 greengage and 2 apple trees – no objection

GM07/07368/FUL – 34 Chorley Road – constr of part 2 storey/part single storey rear extension – no objection

Decisions

ELH/07/06914/FUL – 488 West Wycombe Road – construction of new side porch and conversion of garage to living accommodation – permit

07/05919/FUL – 473 West Wycombe Road – demolition of existing dwelling & construction of 10 x 2 bed flats with associated parking - permit

Cllr Mrs Harris stated that she was most concerned about the way in which the planning application for 473 West Wycombe Road has been dealt with by WDC. Councillors felt that the problem had originally been caused by the BCC response to the initial planning application. The Parish Council will ensure that the many conditions imposed are met once the builders move onto site.

133.4 To set a date for erecting the Christmas Tree and to agree to hire a cherry picker

The West Wycombe Traders event will be on Wednesday 28th November Trees will be cut and delivered on Monday 26th November. Mr Hardwick is prepared to help once again and it was resolved to order a cherry picker. The trees lights will be taken down on the weekend of the 5/6th January. The National Trust has been advised of these dates and will put the trees up and cut down. The relevant parking spaces in the village hall car park will have to be cleared.

133.5 To consider the BCC Area 8 Speed Review Consultation document and to discuss other highways issues

The speed limits are as we expected.

WDC is about to go out to public consultation on Special Parking Areas. It is hoped that this will come in to force during 2008, when this has happened the 'Pavements are for People' campaign will be implemented as there will be Traffic Wardens for deal with all parking issues in the district.

133.6 To consider projects suitable for BCC Local Area Committee bids

A discussion took place about the creation of a cycle route which may be a way of improving the footway between Piddington and West Wycombe.

Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council has decided not to pursue the footway project as residents are happy with the work to widen the path and they did not feel they could justify the bigger expenditure.

It was agreed to bid for white lining or intelligent cats eyes from the Pedestal to the Parish boundary along the A4010.

133.7 To consider projects for costing prior to budget and precept discussions for 2008/08

The continual problem of flooding in and around the Swan Yard was discussed. BCC supplied a price of £2800 to create a new soak away and pipe into the river in West Wycombe Park, the more instant option may be to change the manhole cover to a grid however this would depend on 'what sort of water' goes into the manhole – if sewage flows through it then this would not be an option as you could get a back flow.

The Clerk will investigate the lease situation on the Pedestal Field.

The entrance to the village from Kitty's Lodge to Village could be planted with bulbs, The National Trust would help clear.

Items in the Parish Plan were looked at – there was a suggestion to produce a Parish Handbook, however it was felt that this would be very expensive and as we have a website this serves the purpose.

Notice board for the bottom of the hill or the High Street.

133.8 To resolve to approve the accounts for October and signing of cheques

Cheques and standing orders for and direct debit for October: Mrs S. Henson, Bucks County Council Crossing Patrol, Mrs S Henson – expenses, Southern Electricity, Southern Electric Contracting, Elizabeth Ross, subscription to The Chiltern Society. It was resolved to approve the accounts.

133.9 MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

It was agreed that we should ask Elizabeth Ross to supply a price for clearing the gully leading to Cutty Alley.

Lawrence Landscapes supplied a price for the Burial Ground kissing gate - £462 plus VAT. It was resolved to go ahead with the work.

Cllr Seymour reported that Lawrence Landscapes are having problems cutting the shelter belt hedge because of the large trees and it currently needs to be lowered by a metre. Cllr Seymour will ask Lawrence Landscapes if some of the trees could be moved and planted in the top section of the Burial Ground field.

It was agreed to join to The Chiltern Society at a cost of £25.00

Cllr Mrs Harris issued Thames Valley Police Questionnaires for completion by everyone present

PCSO Penelope Ling talked about the size of the areas and that it was hoped the first Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) meeting would take place early in November.

Carole Burslem announced that the first GC2C meeting will be on the 7th November in the Berkshire Suite at The Kings Arms, Stokenchurch at 7pm – it will be a more social event in order that everyone can meet and get to know each other.

The Clerk will contact BCC Rights of Way about the steps and gate over the railway line.

Cllr Mrs Harris has now seen the painting at West Wycombe School and it is quite large and we do not have anywhere suitable to hang it.

Mr Phillips reported that the National Trust will be producing a long term Conservation Plan for West Wycombe Hill as they now have funding from Natural England. The repair of the surface on top of the hill has been delayed due to a contractor letting them down. A more permanent repair will be undertaken now that English Heritage has approved the works. It is hoped that the top layer can be scraped off just above the archaeological layer and then compact it down.

133.10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 8th November at 8pm in The Church Room.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.47 pm.