

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 17th JULY 2008
AT 8.00 PM. IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

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

5 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE ACCEPTED FROM:

Cllrs Mr D. Callaghan, Mrs A Harris, Dist Cllrs Mrs J. Teesdale, Dist Cllr I. McEnnis

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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

TO DECLARE ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:

Cllr Timberlake declared an interest due to proximity on the planning application for 25a Portway Drive.

REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Chairman, Cllr Downes, Cllr Callaghan, Cllr Timberlake and the Clerk attended the inaugural meeting for the Pathfinder Pilot for our area where it was agreed to focus on facilities for the youth of our area.

The Chairman and the Clerk attended the Local Area Forum.

The Chairman and Cllr Callaghan attended the final Local Area Committee meeting. Clerk has written to National Express re stopping in the High Street but to date we have not had a reply.

The Chairman attended the WDALC/WDC chairman's meeting.

The Chairman and the Clerk attended the Rural Farm Walk at Beechdean Dairies.

Clerk has written to BCC asking for work to be undertaken on The Pedestal Roundabout as it looks a real mess at the moment.

The field between the Burial Ground and the pedestal roundabout has been completely fenced, has 2 kissing gates and barriers and is now completely stock proof. The Clerk will write to Mrs Rook and West Wycombe Estate thanking them for the work undertaken.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS
MEETING REOPENED

142.1 Correspondence received from 13th June – 17th July

1. Agenda and papers for the Rural Marlow Local Forum – 7pm, 15th July in the Hambleden Room, Henley Management College
2. Letter and list of 19 signatures from West Wycombe Pre school Playgroup supporting the Parish Council's plan to create a play area – circulated.
3. Refund from WDC for electricity for air pollution monitor
4. Leaflets on the new SPA and Improved Parking Enforcement – circulated.
5. Local Council Review
6. Postwatch – information relating to Post Office closures – West Wycombe should be safe – Cllr Timberlake attended a meeting at WDC on the subject.
7. Invitation to the Clerk to attend the Wycombe Planning Forum
8. BCC changes to the Waste Permit scheme – copy to each Councillor.
9. Bucks Joint Commissioning Strategy for Physical & Sensory Disability – passed to Cllr Mrs Harris who has supplied a response mainly referring to access to services.
10. BCC Adult Social Care Newsletter – passed to Cllr Mrs Harris who has produced an information sheet for Notice Boards from the Newsletter.

11. BCC consultation on the new 30mph and other safety signs – feel there is too much street furniture and also people get rather blasé and ignore them. Need to be changed regularly.
12. The Playing Field magazine
13. WDC Community Voice Magazine
14. WDC Planning Bulletin – indicating that whereas the rest of the country has had a 6% reduction in planning applications Wycombe has had a 14% increase.
15. Quotation from Elizabeth Ross for weed killer along the High Street (junction of building with pavement) both sides of Chorley Road, one side of Bradenham Road and Cutty Alley - £201.78 per application with a suggestion that it is carried out every 8 weeks between April and September inclusive.
16. In Focus Magazine
17. Chilterns Conservation Board Planning Training leaflets
18. Notification from WDC that the Wycombe Development Framework Core Strategy has been adopted.
19. Notification that The Wycombe Partnership has formally adopted 'Towards a Sustainable Economic Prosperity Strategy – Wycombe. WDC has agreed to consult on behalf of the Partnership – comments by 26th September.
20. Chilterns Conservation Board – Chilterns AONB Management Plan 2008 – 2013 Consultation Draft .Clerk to go through prior to the next meeting.
21. Email from BCC asking for a final decision about taking on devolved powers– we could still be interested but with all the current new systems put in place by Bucks CC we do not feel that there would be any benefit to the Parish at the moment.
22. Agenda papers for the JCC – passed to Cllr Timberlake.

142.2 PLANNING

Application

DBL/08/06444/FUL – 25a Portway Drive – construction of two storey side extension and provision of additional car parking space – we approve of the applicants taking into consideration the design and layout of the existing development by setting back the extension, however we still feel that it is too big for the plot and is an overdevelopment. We strongly object to the proposal to create a parallel parking situation as a wider access would be required taking up valuable parking space and restricting the use of the turning circle.

MJD/08/06663/FUL – Autumn House, 11 Beechwood Road – construction of single storey side extension and rear conservatory – no objection.

Decisions

ELH/08/06164/FUL – Flint House, Bradenham Road – demolition of existing summerhouse, kennel and greenhouse and construction of summerhouse in garden – permit.

VJB/08/06051/FUL – 337 West Wycombe Road – conversion of lower ground floor from storage area to 1 bed flat & constr of rear extension. Installation of external staircase at rear from ground floor flat – permit

Clerk has left a message with Planning Enforcement re Plant and Harvest as they have still not removed the poly tunnel.

142.3 Highways Issues

Chorley Road gullies appear to be blocked and the water is over the pavement.

Loxboro Hill hedge has been cut back.

Clerk has been advised to continue submitting requests for the pavement in the High Street to be resurfaced.

142.4 To receive reports on the Thames Valley Police NAG, the Local Area Committee, Local Area Forum and Postwatch,

The NAG has organised meetings with BCC re facilities for the youth of the area and is now moving on to speeding issues. Hambleden PC has purchased a Speedwatch Scheme which other parishes could 'hire'.

The last Local Area Committee took place in July at the new library in High Wycombe and the work of this committee has been divided up into 19 Local Area Forums.

The Local Area Forum for the area we are in will receive £33,000 from the Highway budget. Accessibility and services for youth were discussed and Cllr Mrs Smith and the Clerk will be sitting on a group to improve transport services to rural communities. The Dial a Ride service could possibly be expanded within the limits of the current legislation. There is evidence that cars are being used less with a subsequent increase in bus usage.

Cllr Timberlake attended the meeting on Post Office closures held at WDC. The Post Office is losing ½ million a day. Criteria for closures are based on customer usage, proximity to other post offices. 2,500 Post Offices have to close. Petitions are not given any weight, individual letters are. The Bucks Post Offices not shown on the current closure list are safe – this means West Wycombe is safe.

142.5. To approve the accounts for July 08 and signing of Cheques

Standing Orders for Mrs S. Henson and Bucks County Council and cheques for Mrs S. Henson, WDC – Burial Ground Bin, Southern Electricity, Southern Electric Contracting, the Post Office for stamps and Elizabeth Ross for strimming round the planting at The Pedestal and weed killer in Cutty Alley
It was resolved to approve the accounts for payment.

142.6 Matters Raised by Councillors

Concern was raised about sewage issues at the back of Copperfields and near The Scout Hut. Mr Phillips will investigate further.

The National Trust now has the money to start work on the backlog of maintenance as well as more money for staff. A local volunteer will check on the quality of the work of the contractors. An office has been created at 15B High Street to help control the work and to respond to issues more quickly. They have found a new material to dissolve the plastic paint. And this should start on the 14th August and is the start of the upgrade of the village. A new Assistant Warden has been appointed and will be responsible for the village. A company has been appointed to clear the gutters.

142.7 Date of next meeting

Thursday 11th September at 8pm in The Church Room. Cllr Timberlake gave his apologies.

The Clerk will be on holiday from 19th August to September 9th.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm