

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY
10th JANUARY 2013 AT 8.00 PM IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

ATTENDANCE: Cllrs Mrs V. Smith, Mr N. Harris, Mr R. Seymour, Mr F. Downes,
Mrs K. Cheshire (from 8.10pm) Mrs S. Henson – Clerk

2 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE ACCEPTED FROM: Cllrs Mrs L. Cook, Mr N. Timberlake,
Dist Cllr I. McEnnis, Dist Cllr Mrs J. Teesdale

TO DECLARE ANY PECUNIARY OR PRIVATE INTERESTS:

The Chairman and all Councillors present declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Item 191.4 Precept for 2013/2014 in that they own, rent or lease properties or pay Council Tax in the Parish to which the precept will apply. Dispensations in accordance with Section 33 (1) of the Localism Act 2011 were sought by the Councillors from the Clerk and were granted as without this dispensation the whole of the Council would be prevented from participating in the decision to set the precept for the Parish which would impede the transaction of the business.

Cllr Downes declared a private interest in relation to highways issues.

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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

REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Letter has been sent to the current grass cutting contractor advising him that we are terminating his contract at the end of March.

**MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS
MEETING REOPENED**

191.1 Correspondence Received from 13th December 2012 – 10th January 2013

1. BCC Fact sheet on Winter Salting - When we Salt no 2; no 3 on gritting
2. Minutes of WDALC meeting – issued
3. Notification from BMKALC that in future Parishes may only be able to increase their precepts by a maximum of 2% or £5 per household, whichever is higher, if it is above that then it could trigger a referendum.
4. Permission sought for memorial for Catherine Drew – Clerk has responded with no objections.
5. Bucks CC – information re Area Speed Reviews
6. WDC Tax base and request for precept
7. Bucks County Council report on the proposed BOAT for Cookshall Lane.

191.2 Planning

Decisions

PECS/12/07435/TPO – West Wycombe Park

- Reduction of bulk of crown to first forks leaving lower live growth of Horse Chestnut ref 5131. Reduce top height of adjacent Horse Chestnut by approximately 10 metres to the first fork. Reduce upper canopy by 30% to Horse Chestnut ref T3235

Crown reduction of 25% to Sycamore ref T3245 and felling of adjacent specimen – permit.

12/06402/FUL-Plant And Harvest Chorley Road West Wycombe -Construction of 4 x new covered areas with open ends and sides and erection of 450mm high perspex wind break to the top of existing south wall – permitted with removal of Perspex windbreak.

191.3 To discuss the conditions to be included in the parish's Local Government Pension Scheme Discretionary Policy

The Clerk has sought advice from Bucks County Council and they have confirmed that Parishes can say no to all the discretionary items. The Clerk presented a Discretionary Policy for the Local Government Pension Scheme for Councillors to consider. It was resolved to adopt the policy.

191.4 To set the Precept

The Clerk advised Councillors of the effect of the Council Tax Support Scheme on the Council Tax Base. If we keep the Precept at the current years' figure of £37,500, because of the government's change in formula with the Council Tax Support Scheme, the Council Tax Base for a Band D household would increase to £71.57 from £68.17 (4.99% increase) with a proportional increase for the other Bands. We would need to set the precept at £35717.67 to keep the figure the same and we will be given a grant by Wycombe District Council to make up the shortfall.

It was resolved to set the precept at £35717.67 and to accept the budget as discussed in November which included a sum of £3000 to pay 50% of the total cost of £5,500 of a scheme to introduce time restricted parking/waiting in Church Lane when we make a bid through our Local Area Forum.

We will need to buy some replacement Christmas tree lights for 2013.

191.5 To report any highways issues

The Clerk has reported potholes (George & Dragon, Chapel Lane) and loose kerbstones to Bucks CC and asked when the Community Gang is going to be in the area as we are still waiting for the brambles to be cleared from the fence near the advertising hoardings – this was requested in September 2012. The refuse lorry caused several of the kerbstones to move on 7th January.

We have to submit a bid to the LAF for the waiting restrictions in Church Lane by the end of January. We will also ask for the 50mph limit at the Bradenham Road to be changed to 30mph from the Pedestal to just beyond the lay bye and then 40mph through the rest of our parish along the Bradenham Road.

Parish Liaison meeting – the Clerk will put forward the following issues - the need for regular maintenance of road markings and a forward plan for general road maintenance; the LATs system is not anywhere near as good as it used to be.

Illuminated 30mph sign has not been repaired despite being reported in December.

Junction markings at Chorley Road need replacing.

Sections of the West Wycombe are to be resurfaced in March.

BCC has confirmed that the pavement resurfacing will take place in the new financial year.

As our County Councillor, Cllr Downes has suggested to Bucks County Council that they develop a road scheme to improve the safety element to the entrance to West Wycombe at the triangle at Chorley Road for such times as when money is available. Cllr Downes asked that the Parish Council write to Bucks CC to support his request.

191.6 To discuss the development of the Parish Plan

Mr Stupples had agreed to take over the lead of the Parish Plan and will be in attendance at the next meeting.

191.7 To discuss the requirements of Wycombe District Council in relation to the production of the new Local Plan

We will not be producing a Neighbourhood Plan and we need planning to be more aware of the parking issues when making planning decisions – we may be on a bus route but it is not that frequent therefore residents still use their cars.

191.8 To approve the accounts for January 2013 and signing of cheques

See financial statement at end of Minutes. It was resolved to accept the accounts.

191.9 Members questions

Residents have concerns about the state of the lime wash on the front of the National Trust cottages.

Cllr Mrs Smith thanked everyone for their help with the New Year's Walk and she will split the donations between the Village Hall and repairing the Church Room Clock.

191.10 Date of next meeting

Thursday 14th February at 8.00pm in the Church Room.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Accounts to be paid in January 2013

Mrs S Henson s/o	517.99
Bucks County Council	153.46
Peter Ansell 10/12	176.00
WDC Burial ground refuse bin	29.56
Elizabeth Stillman – annual bill for Pedestal Monument area	140.00
Old Folks Christmas Party s/o	100.00
Post Office – 200 x 50p second class and 50 x 69p lg letter	134.50
Southern Electric – dd	141.01
SSE Contracting – lighting maintenance and repairs	1098.78
Total	2491.30

Balance on 1 st December	17539.80
Plus allotment rents	24.00
Burial Ground – memorials and funeral	421.00
Pidd/Hambleden contribution for telephone	155.13
Less December cheques	1609.08
Balance	16530.85
Plus Deposit Account	933.44
Bank of Ireland	1131.92
Total	18596.21