

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY
11th JUNE 2015 AT 8.00 PM IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

ATTENDANCE:

Cllrs Mrs V. Smith, Mr N Harris, Mrs K. Cheshire, Mr R Seymour, Mr N. Timberlake,
Mr M Hogan, Mr S Cope Mrs S. Henson – Clerk County Cllr Mr D Hayday
0 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: All Councillors present

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS BY MEMBERS RELATING
TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

Cllr Seymour declared a private interest on the planning application for 70 Chorley Road.
Cllr Mrs Smith declared a private interest in the item relating to Meads Yard.

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND
THE MAY MEETING

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

Clerks Report

1. The litter bin has been delivered and is ready for installation.
2. The defibrillator and cabinet have been handed over to St Lawrence Church.
3. Insurance renewal was made with Zurich with a considerable saving from the previous insurer - paid in May as renewal was due on 1st June.
4. The Clerk has been in continuous correspondence with the BCC Devolution project and the Capital Maintenance programme and Cabinet members over issues with the Devolution contract and the forthcoming resurfacing programme.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS

MEETING REOPENED

218.1 Correspondence Received from 14th May – 11th June 2015

1. WDC reminder to Councillors to submit their expense returns for the election even if it is a nil entry.
2. WDC Notification of the Rural Forum Farm Walk on 18th June at Bencombe Farm.
3. HS2 update and emails – next meeting on 29th June – issued to Councillors
4. Price of £20 from Elizabeth Stillman to weed kill the pavement near the advertising Hoardings and instructed to proceed.
5. On line National Rural Crime Survey – issued to Councillors
6. Say thank you to your local sporting heroes - Bucks & MK Sport Awards nominations open 1st June until 14th September. www.leapwithus.org.uk/sportawards
7. A404 Bisham Roundabout – Public Consultation Event -Highways England will be carrying out a public consultation to gauge your views and those of road users on their proposed options for improving the A404 Bisham Roundabout Junction - on our website
8. Email from Bucks County Councillor Mark Shaw, Cabinet member for Highways re resurfacing/line painting/bus cages. Clerk has been advised that we will have the new bus cages painted at the same time as all the other work is undertaken. He has also confirmed that the pavement from the Pedestal Roundabout to the village will have preparation work undertaken in June/July and be resurfaced in September.
9. Email from Sir Edward Dashwood giving permission to erect a sign at The Pedestal Play Area.
10. Agenda for WDALC meeting on 26th June
11. Email from Allan Field, Oxfordshire County Council about the bus service – emailed to Councillors.
12. Email from Sir Edward Dashwood raising concerns about cars parked in the Pedestal Playing Field which do not seem to be anything to do with people using the area. Clerk has spoken to West Wycombe Estate about this – they are not necessarily cars from the Pedestal Garage – currently some are connected with building works in Cookshall Lane. If we stop low level casual parking in the Pedestal Playing Field car park they will just park on our verges.

13. Invitation to the Chairman to Armed Forces Flag Flying Day on 22nd June
14. Copies of emails to Cllr Hayday from local residents about the need for extra parking and another about stopping parking on the bend near the Apple Orchard. Both parties have been advised to come to the Parish Council meeting – he has responded to them from a BCC point of view. Cllr Hayday is to meet with the publicans to talk about the road surfacing and possible road closures. He may also ask for a Highways Safety Audit for our parish which may assist us in further road safety measures.
15. WDC invitation to Standards Training on 29th June at 7pm in Council Chamber – Cllr Cope will attend.

218.2 Planning

Applications

15/06419/FUL-349 West Wycombe Road High Wycombe -Change of use of a 6-bed HMO (class C4) to a 7-Bed (Class C-4/Sui Generis) for professionals. (retrospective) – no objection however we are concerned about the number of family homes which are becoming houses of multiple occupation and have residents who generally take no interest in or care for their community which has the effect of changing the whole appearance and community cohesion of the parish.

15/06134/FUL -335A West Wycombe Road High Wycombe -Conversion of existing 3 bed flat at ground floor & lower ground floor level to create 2 x 1 bed self-contained flats and insertion of window to side – we object as insufficient parking has been created and it would appear to be an overdevelopment of the site. However we are concerned about the number of family homes which are becoming houses of multiple occupation and have residents who generally take no interest in or care for their community which has the effect of changing the whole appearance and community cohesion for the parish

15/06321/FUL-70 Chorley Road West Wycombe -Householder application for construction of part two storey, part single storey rear extension – no objection.

Decisions

15/05811/FUL-60 Chorley Road, West Wycombe -Householder application for construction of single storey front extension and part single, part two storey rear extension and relocation of oil storage tank – permit

218.3 To receive an update on the HS2 petition to parliament and to discuss any mitigation suggestions; WDC's request for Mr Jim Stevens to represent them and to include them in his evidence

Since the election and the change of Leader at WDC, Katrina Wood has agreed to present evident to the Select Committee if necessary. Currently HS2 are agreeing to some requests and negotiations 2 minutes before a petitioner is called to Select Committee. Mr Jim Stevens will now be presenting for WDC and the National Trust all of which will add weight to our case.

Mitigation ideas: Times of travel for construction traffic – restrict lorries between 7am – 9.30am and 2.30pm – 5pm; installation of pedestrian islands side of the Bradenham Road bridge to make it safer for pedestrians to cross the road – would involve widening the road and would have the added effect of slowing down traffic.

218.4 To discuss/agree the proposed Pedestal Playing Field sign

It was resolved to agree the design of the sign and wording and place an order at a cost of £497.50 plus VAT and excluding installation cost.

Clerk raised contractors concern over a pile of very dry conifer branches. Councillors stated that they need not be removed.

218.5 To consider putting forward a Councillor for the Chilterns Conservation Board vacancy

Cllr Cope will consider the paperwork and may put his name forward for this role.

218.6 To discuss Meads Yard

The Clerk has received a price of £8,560 to resurface the whole of the area from Church Lane entrance to the Apple Orchard Car Park gates – part of this is owned and is the responsibility of the National Trust. The Clerk will obtain a price for the section up to the public toilets and Cllr Harris will present the quote to Mr Hill at the National Trust before the Clerk writes to affected properties.

218.7 To discuss management of the top field at the West Wycombe Burial Ground

The Clerk and Cllr Mrs Smith will meet with the shepherd to see if there is a reason why the sheep are no longer graze the field. We will look at fencing off the bank area and planting more trees. Lawrence Garden Services are cutting the flat area but not collecting the cut grass. Wild flowers will only proliferate if the soil is not nourished

218.8 To report and discuss any highways issues

Oxfordshire CC has no powers to change the timetable for the new Carousel 40 bus route as it is a commercial route. Arriva will cease their 40 service.

Devolved Services agreement – incorrect map and finances shown in the contract – Clerk now has acceptable answers from the Project Manager and we will sign the revised contract. BCC has cut grass this week which had been devolved to the Parish Council and told residents using the Call Centre that we are responsible for all grass cutting in our parish.

Clerk has written to several properties re overgrown tree/hedges and to the Pedestal Garage asking them to remove the signs which are on the pavement.

Parking in the village of West Wycombe has been discussed for many years. There is nothing to stop people parking on the A40 as you enter the village from the High Wycombe end. Parking helps to slow traffic and provide some element of safety for residents. Cllr Mrs Smith is due to attend a meeting with all the businesses and she will report back at the next meeting as parking may be one of their issues. It was suggested that a Bucks County Council residents parking permit scheme may be an option but this has associated costs for residents of the village. This may make more residents use their garages for their cars. Different businesses have different views over the times allowed in the parking bays. The National Trust are looking into the possibility of creating 4 official parking spaces on the triangle at the top of Church Lane. It was also suggested that the National Trust investigate varying resident's leases to allow them to sublet their garages to other village residents who would use them for their vehicles.

The non-working belisher beacon on the zebra crossing has been reported

218.9 To revise the Financial Regulations and receive a copy of the Assets List

It was resolved to adopt the recommended revised Financial Regulations. These will now go on the website.

The Clerk issued the up to date Assets List to all Councillors. It was agreed to insure one defibrillator. The Clerk will contact the PCC to advise them that they would need to insure the defibrillator on the church gate once it is installed. Clerk will investigate the general consensus of other parishes on insuring all our assets.

218.10 To approve the accounts for June 2015 and signing of cheques – appendix 2

It was resolved to approve the accounts. List shown at the end of the Minutes.

218.11 Members questions

Cllr Seymour raised concerns about the grass growth in the allotments – we have a contract to cut the hedge and weed kill the verge in front of the hedge twice in the growing season and cut the brush/scrub at the top of the allotments once – the Clerk has asked the contractor to undertake a cut of the grass on the inside of the hedge and near the water tap (this will be an extra cost to the contracted figure).

Cllr Cope asked what the procedure would be to deal with polluting coaches. Cllr Timberlake and Cllr Harris gave him appropriate advice however more direct action may take place later in the year.

218.12 Date of next meeting – Thursday 9th July at 8pm in The Church Room

Cheques to be paid in June 2015

Mrs S. Henson S/O	517.99	May salary
Mrs S Henson	45.04	Balance of May salary
Bucks County Council	162.95	Pension – June
TBS Hygiene Ltd	48.00	Dog bin collection for April
Staples	29.99	Stationery
Peter Gomme	350.00	2 cuts of Pedestal Playing Field
Acorn Landscaping	215.83	2/12 – highways grass cutting
Mrs J.P.Smith	100.00	Chairman's Allowance
Miss L M. Hewitt	75.00	Internal Auditors honorarium
Glasdon	291.34	Litter bin and ground screw
Thames Water	7.28	Burial Ground water usage
National Allotment Society	66.00	Annual Subscription
WDALC	25.00	Being a Parish Councillor Training- 2 places
Thames Water	49.41	Allotment water usage
AED Locator	25.44	Delivery charge for 2nd cabinet
Southern Electric d/d	146.18	Energy (street lights)
Southern Electric d/d	19.93	Feeder Pillar 1 energy
Southern Electric d/d	22.80	Feeder Pillar 2 energy
Total	2198.18	

Statement of Account as at 31st May 2015

Opening balance – 1 st May	27968.04
Less May cheques	3832.13
Sub Total	24135.91
Deposit account	2627.51
Total	26763.42