

Minutes of a meeting of the Shipton under Wychwood Parish Council held on Tuesday 19th February 2008 at the New Beaconsfield Hall.

Present: Cllr. A. Vickers (Chairman), Cllr. J. Cook, Cllr. J. Mavin, Cllr. R. McConnachie, Cllr. M. Watson, Cllr. H. Biles (District Councillor), Cllr. R. Rose (County Councillor).

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. N. Jagger – holiday, Cllr. M. Cochrane – holiday.
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** No declarations of interest were made.
- 3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th January 2008:**
The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 4. Public Time:** There were no members of the public present.
- 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes:**
 - a) Cheque for Church:** Cllr. Watson had handed over the cheque for money raised at Carols Round the Tree to Mr. Walmsley of the Parochial Church Council.
 - b) Soil on Green:** Mr. Barrett had moved the soil left after planting the trees.
 - c) Caring Homes:** Work was due to begin on the site on 25th February and a designated representative of Caring Homes with responsibility for the project had been appointed. Caring Homes had generously agreed to provide a new bench by the Cricket Ground and would be in contact with Mr. Barrett about the use of some of the land by the Cricket Club. Cllr. Biles confirmed that there was a commitment for a block of six beds prioritised for local occupation.
 - d) WODC Priorities and Strategies:** A copy of the completed document had been circulated to all Councillors. Cllrs. Vickers and Watson had attended the WODC meeting on the development of rural strategies.
 - e) Play Area:** Cllr. Cook reported that she would be in touch with Mr. Stewart again about the outstanding repairs.
 - f) Post Office:** Chadlington Post Office had been listed for closure but both Milton and Shipton would remain open.
 - g) Langston House:** The Clerk had written to Cottsway about the proposed consultation requesting information about how it would be undertaken, and reminding Cottsway about the commitment to the Wychwoods for extra care housing. Cottsway had arranged an Open Day at Milton Village Hall on Saturday 15th March from 11.00 to 3.00pm. There was concern about how this occasion would be publicised. Cllr. Biles stated that the County Council would be working towards extra care housing being provided in the Wychwoods.
 - h) Flood Meeting:** The meeting would be held on 28th February at the New Beaconsfield Hall. Cllr. Vickers would chair the meeting and Phil Page from WODC was organising speakers from the Environment Agency and Thames Water.
- 6. County Councillor's Report:** Cllr. Rose reported that the County Council had agreed an increase of 3.875% on the Community Tax. There were 2 sites being considered for the installation of the new waste incinerator, Ardley and Sutton Courtenay. Both had existing waste disposal centres.

- 7. District Councillor's Report:** Cllr. Biles reported that;
- a) Waste Paint:** No longer dealt with at Dean Pit. Householders are being asked to solidify paint with cat litter or sawdust and put in wheelie bins, or donate to Orinoco re-cycling organisation in Cowley.
 - b) Flooding Matters:** Flix in the Stix DVD was used in the presentation to the EU with request for financial support after July floods. The final reports on the floods and future action in the Wychwoods would be published at the beginning of April. Cllr. Biles would be happy to chair a joint meeting of all three Wychwood Parish councils to discuss the findings.
 - c) Emergency Planning:** Cllr. Biles had attended a meeting with the Director of Community Safety, John Parry, and had requested that he circulate a paper on the duties involved in emergency response to all parish councils.
 - d) Hickman's:** As the site had been operating as a waste recycling plant for over 10 years, and the owners had sworn affidavits to this effect, and the County Council had not used its enforcement powers, the site now had official permission to operate. Negotiations were taking place about the amount of waste recycling that could take place.
 - e) Council Tax:** This would increase by 4% overall.
- 8. Planning Matters:** **a) Applications to be Considered:** Erection of two storey rear extension and formulation of new vehicle access at 12 Meadow Lane – no objections; Erection of single storey rear extension and conversion of garage to office at 47 Shipton Road, Ascott under Wychwood (adjoining parish) – no objections. The planning application for Fernhill Farm had been withdrawn.
- b) Notification of decisions:** Erection of single storey extension at 35 Littlebrook Meadow – Granted.
- The Parish Council noted that the Costcutters site was up for sale and developments were awaited.
- 9. Financial Matters:** **a) Payments to be Authorised:** The subsidy payment of £2500.00 to the New Beaconsfield Hall was made. Cllr. McConnachie reported that the Hall Committee had noted the suggestions of the Parish Council on the application of the subsidy and they concurred with the sentiments expressed.
- The Audit Commission have appointed BDO Stoy Hayward as external auditors for the Parish Council for the year 2008- 2009
- 10. Grass Mowing:** Cllrs. Cook, McConnachie and Vickers had met Mr. Barnes and Mr. Plumridge of Green Scythe to discuss their tenders in more detail. The merits of all applicants were discussed. Cllr. Vickers proposed to award the contract to Green Scythe. This was seconded by Cllr. Watson and agreed unanimously. The Clerk was asked to contact all applicants and inform them of the decision.
- 11. Allotments:** Cllr. Mavin reported on the recent meeting of the Allotment Sub-Committee. The widening and improvement of the track across the allotment had been raised. Millfield, who would undertake the work installing new water troughs, had estimated that it would cost in the region of £1000.00 to improve the track properly. This could be reduced by use of available rubble to

£500.00. Cllr. Mavin would check with Millfield on what the lowest cost would be if adag surface was used.

For the moment the new compost bins would only be available to the Shipton Volunteers for depositing compostable items, although allotment holders would be able to use the finished compost.

Oxfordshire County Council would be way marking the public footpath over the allotments in the near future.

The Clerk was asked to contact WODC about the advisability of individual allotment holders using Rat Attack to deal with the rat problem.

12. Meeting on July Floods: Posters would be displayed in the parish advertising the meeting and individual notes would be delivered to all those affected inviting them to attend. Copies of the draft Emergency Plan would be available for attendees. The Chairman assured Councillors that the aim of the emergency plan was not to take over or interfere with the role of the emergency services, but to ensure that local information was available, and that any help that local people could offer would be effective and targeted. Ascott under Wychwood Parish Council had requested that they should be contacted if there were signs of the River Evenlode beginning to rise at any time.

13. Correspondence: A list of correspondence had been circulated to Councillors. ORCC had suggested a travel survey in advance of the review of bus services in the Chipping Norton area. It was agreed that Cllr. McConnachie would pursue this matter, and he was asked to note the travel implications for older residents with an expanded service based at the new Chipping Norton Hospital Northern Area OCC- Paul Wilson had confirmed that action would be taken to replace the white lining on Meadow Lane. Kirstyn Tyrer, the local PCSO, has prepared a briefing pack for circulation to Councillors.

A letter had been received from Milton under Wychwood Parish Council asking Councillors to consider the installation of a street light on Meadow Lane between the junction with the A361 and the Wychwood Surgery. Cllr. Rose declared an interest as a Milton Parish Councillor. Parish Councillors agreed not to consider this proposal on the grounds of increased light pollution and cost. The Clerk was to enquire whether Milton Parish Council would be willing to share in the cost of erecting a new light - £6,000.00 for the most recent installation.

14. Other Matters for Discussion:

a) Resignation of Clerk: The clerk informed Councillors that she wished to resign as Clerk to the Parish Council. The clerk hoped that a new person could be appointed by May.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.