

Minutes of the Meeting of Shipton-under-Wychwood Parish Council
7.30pm on Tuesday 17 March 2009
at the New Beaconsfield Hall

Present: Cllr. Alan Vickers (Chairman), Cllr. Robin McConnachie (Vice Chairman), Cllr Malcolm Cochrane (Past Chairman), Cllr. Jo Cook, Cllr Neil Jagger, Cllr Mike Watson.

Parish Clerk: Angela Barnes

Members of the Public:

Martin Gibbs, Kay White, Brian Rigby, Jan Lund, Roger Hollingdale, Anita Hollingdale, Johnny Graham, Ian Carrington, Chris Fitzpatrick, Jackie McCauley, Rosemary Waterman, James Waterman and John Dyakowski.
Gordon Halliday representing the Hall Committee

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Jill Mavin and District Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

There were potentially two declarations of interest, for which clarification was being sought from the Monitoring Officer at WODC. Cllr Malcolm Cochrane and Cllr Robin McConnachie both declared an interest when discussions were held with regard to the Tennis Club and the Charity Commission, both of which were covered during Item 5 Public Time. Both Cllr Malcolm Cochrane and Cllr Robin McConnachie left the meeting until discussions had ended.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting of 17 February 2009:** The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

Oxfordshire County Council Highways; the Clerk gave an update on the outstanding issues.

(a) Ballards Close and St Michael's Close Signs; Ongoing

(b) Posts erected outside the Post Office - OCC had advised that should the Parish Council wish for these to be made of wood, then they would need to pay. After discussion it was felt they be left as they are.

(c) Hedge at Fiveways; it was reported that OCC had written to the riparian owner, but had not received a response. 14 days written notice would be given to the riparian owner advising that OCC will carry out the works and re-charge them.

WODC;

Bridge on Shipton Road - please refer to Item 12 Planning .

Cotswold Tree Surgeon;

The Clerk reported that Mr Taylor had confirmed the quotation received last year to cut the hedge back by the Tennis Courts is still valid and that he could start the work towards the end of this week/next week. The Clerk was asked to confirm with Mr Taylor to commence the works. Mr Taylor also agreed to give a quotation for pollarding the trees along Church Path.

5. Public Time:

(14. Charity Commission):

Before discussions commenced with regard to the Tennis Club Cllr Malcolm Cochrane and Cllr Robin McConnachie both declared an interest and left the meeting.

Gordon Halliday, representing the Hall Committee gave the Parish Council an update on progress in the negotiations with the Tennis Club with regard to the Pavilion and said that progress was being made. Mr Halliday confirmed that an Agreement had been reached with the exception of a couple of small issues. He reported that a resolution had been passed by the Hall Committee supporting the Agreement with the Tennis Club.

Q: Martin Gibbs asked the Parish Council for their agreement to de-register the land?

A: Cllr Vickers answered that until a new Planning Application had been passed, due to the original application's time having lapsed, the Parish Council were in no position to apply for de-registration.

Q: Martin Gibbs asked would the Parish Council support a new Planning Application?

A: Cllr Vickers answered that a new Planning Application could be applied for without the PC's permission and re-iterated that the Plans would need to be seen by the Parish Council and indeed passed by the Planning Authorities before any further progress could be made with the Parish Council.

Q: Cllr Jagger addressed the meeting and expressed his concern. He did not feel the Parish Council should support the de-registration of land nor the building of a new pavilion and felt that 52 adults and a number of children from Shipton did not represent the Parish. Cllr Jagger thought that the Village should be consulted and that the offer the Tennis Club intended to make in exchange for the land was nowhere near enough.

A: Cllr Watson replied that a statement some 6 months ago gave the support of the Village with regard to the re-siting of the Pavilion and this will be an improvement, but reiterated that a new Planning Application would need to be made and passed.

Q: Anita Hollingdale questioned Cllr Jagger on the numbers he had quoted for parish members of the Tennis Club. Mrs Hollingdale explained that the Tennis Club used their coaches to go in to the local school as well as offering a service to all members.

A: Cllr Jagger accepted this, but was still not content with the de-registration of the land.

Cllr Vickers said to the Tennis Club and members of the public that he believed a majority on the Parish Council supported the proposal, but he again pointed out that until such time the Agreement was brought before the Parish Council together with granted planning permission this could not be progressed further.

Cllr Malcolm Cochrane and Cllr Robin McConnachie returned to the Meeting.

5. Public Time: (cont'd)

(9) Sale of Land adjacent Recreation Field: Cllr Vickers reported that a letter had been received from Humberts inviting best and final offers.

Q: Brian Rigby was concerned that he did not wish to become part of a bidding war and asked the Parish Council, the Tennis Club and the Hall Committee if any of them would volunteer the information that they intended to make an offer?

A: Cllr Vickers replied that the Parish Council were not in a position to put an offer forward. The Tennis Club and the Hall Committee replied that they had no plans to put an offer in.

6. Core Strategy:

This had been circulated via email and a hard copy in the correspondence envelope. It was discussed and agreed that the hard copy be circulated to all Councillors for consideration and a response.

7. Sandstore Sites:

This was discussed and the view heard that the Hall Committee were not happy with the suggested siting of the Sandstores. Cllr McConnachie asked whether a sandstore was needed? The Parish Council agreed unanimously that it was and asked Gordon Halliday, representing the Hall Committee to consider some alternative sites within the New Beaconsfield Hall grounds and come back to the Parish Council in order to complete this with WODC. The Hall Committee had a meeting scheduled for 7 April when this would be discussed.

8. Open Spaces:

Cllr Cook reported that she had spoken with Brian Gorton with regard to dog fouling in the Wild Garden which had led to this now being closed. Mr Gorton regretted the closure, but felt he had no alternative because of the extent of the problem. He advised Cllr Jo Cook that he would be writing an article in the Wychwood Magazine. It was decided to wait until this had been published before progressing the issue further.

9. Sale of Land adjacent to the Recreation Field:

Please refer to Public Time.

10. County Councillors Report:

County Councillor Rodney Rose reported on two issues of concern. Firstly there was increasing pressure on OCC Highways to enlarge the existing bridge on Church Road in Milton-under-Wychwood, which may result in a bund being used to protect it further. He explained that this could affect Shipton-under-Wychwood and confirmed that Milton-under-Wychwood would notify Shipton should this be the case. The Clerk was asked to enquire with the District Councillor with regard to this.

The second issue was the ongoing changes to the fire control centre currently being operated from Kidlington. Cllr Rose reported that they were being pressured to take on the lease of the new building, which currently costs £1.5m per annum over a 25 year lease.

11. **District Councillors Report:**

No Report.

12. **Planning:**

New Applications:

09/0251/P/S73 Non compliance of condition 7 of planning permission **W98/0999 to allow the use of UPVC doors and windows** at Brooklands Upper End **(New)**

09/0259/P/FP Conversion of existing granny annexe to create independent dwelling with its own parking and domestic curtilage at The Old Malthouse High Street **(New)**

09/0261/P/FP Replace existing summerhouse with double garage at The Old Malthouse High Street **(New)**

09/0245/P/FP Erection of free range poultry house, feed silos and associated works at Fourwinds Farm Burford Road **(New)**

09/0120/P/FP Erection of single storey rear extension at 16 Littlebrook Meadow **(Ongoing)**

09/0163/P/FP Land at Station Road to erect a post and rail fence **(Ongoing)**

After looking at the new planning applications there was only one concern relating to Planning Application No: 09/0259/P/FP. The Clerk was asked to write to WODC asking for a condition that the new dwelling be tied to the main property ie not allowing it to be sold off separately in the future.

13. **Financial Matters:**

(a) New Beaconsfield Hall Subsidy

Cllr Watson proposed the payment of £2,500.00 to the New Beaconsfield Hall (Shipton RF & VH Charity). This was discussed and put to a vote, which was agreed unanimously. The Clerk was asked to send a letter from the Parish Council, when enclosing the payment, reminding the Hall Committee to send a report on how the money was being used to support new clubs and organisations that were in need of financial help when starting up etc.

(b) Payments to be authorised:

Scribe 2000 Ltd Annual Software Licence	£224.25
Alan Vickers Domain Name Expenses May 08 to 09	£10.46
Alan Vickers Website Rental for half year	£34.82
OPFA Membership	£32.00
Clerks Salary & Expenses February and March	£621.27
New Beaconsfield Hall Subsidy	£2500.00

14. **Charity Commission:**

Please refer to Public Time.

15. **Allotments:**

Nothing to report.

16. **Correspondence:**

A list of correspondence received was circulated to Councillors to consider.

The Clerk had received an email from a Parishioner with regard to starting a "Good Neighbour Scheme". Cllr Cochrane advised he would speak with the Parishioner to discuss further.

The Clerk had received an email from a Parishioner with regard to the cutting back of trees and hedging at Fiddlers Hill end of Simons Lane, which had allegedly been carried out by two residents of Simons Lane. Cllr Vickers agreed to write to both parishioners requesting more information.

17. **Other Matters for Discussion:**

Cllr Vickers reported that he had received a request from James Walmsley for a donation by the Parish Council to the Lady Reade Foundation. Cllr Watson agreed to discuss this further with Mr Walmsley.

Cllr Watson reported on the requirement to update the Risk Assessment. He asked all Councillors to re-visit this and bring any issues to his attention. He would set up separate meetings with Cllr Mavin concerning the Allotments and Cllr Cook concerning the Recreation Ground. Cllr Watson circulated a report on "Improving the Effectiveness of the Parish Council" which was in conjunction with the NALC guidelines. Councillors were asked to read and consider its content and get back to Cllr Watson with any suggestions so the report could be considered at the May meeting.

Cllr Cochrane reported he had received a complaint from a Parishioner with regard to the dustcart collections in Mawles Lane turning right into Plum Lane. It was reported that every time the dustcart turns into Plum Lane the lorry takes a bit of the corner off. Cllr Vickers and Cllr McConnachie agreed to take photographs to send with a letter to WODC.

Before closing the Meeting Cllr Vickers asked the other Councillors to join him in wishing the Clerk well in her forthcoming maternity leave.

There being no further business, Cllr Vickers declared the meeting closed at 10.15pm and confirmed the April meeting would be held on Tuesday 21 April 2009 and the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Tuesday 28 April 2009.