

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Shipton under
Wychwood Parish Council held on Tuesday 13th May 2008 at the New
Beaconsfield Hall.**

Present: Cllr. Alan Vickers (Chairman), Cllr. Malcolm Cochrane, Cllr. Joanna Cook, Cllr. Jill Mavin, Cllr. Neil Jagger, Cllr. Robin McConnachie, Cllr. Mike Watson, Cllr. Hilary Biles (District Councillor).

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Rodney Rose (County Councillor).
2. **Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman:** Cllr. Cochrane proposed that Cllr. Vickers be re-elected Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Cook. This was agreed unanimously and Cllr. Vickers duly signed the declaration of acceptance. Cllr. Vickers proposed Cllr. McConnachie as Vice Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Cook. This was agreed unanimously, and Cllr. McConnachie signed the declaration of acceptance. Cllr. Vickers recorded the tremendous debt of gratitude owed to Cllr. Cochrane who had served as an officer of the Parish Council for many years, and hoped that the Council would still be able to call on his experience and knowledge of the parish.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** No declarations of interest were made.
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd April 2008:** The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Public Time;** No members of the public were present.
6. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**
 - a) **Ballards Close:** Lawrence King had agreed that WODC would supply a new sign. A map of the location for the sign and exact spelling should be submitted. Cllrs. Mavin and Vickers would provide the information.
 - b) **St. Michael's Close:** Re-numbering the houses that front on to Milton Road was possible, but the agreement of all residents would be needed. The Clerk was asked to enquire about suitable signage from WODC.
 - c) **Burford School:** A letter of thanks had been received acknowledging the donation of £200.00 to the mini bus fund. Cllr. Jagger reported that fund raising was going well and £9,000.00 had been donated and pledged.
 - d) **Caring Homes:** Have agreed that signage on the Tall Trees site is a bit dominant and will alter the position. They have enquired whether finger post signs could be put up. Councillors had no objections.
 - e) **Cricket Club/ Tall Trees Land:** Cllr. Cochrane had established that the Cricket Club would not use all the land adjoining the Tall Trees site for junior coaching and there would be an opportunity for an environmental use for a portion of the field.
 - f) **Collapsed Walls on Station Road;** There had been a response from OCC indicating that any repair work was not a high priority in relation to other flood damage repairs, and that the owners of such walls were responsible for repair. There is an unresolved dispute about ownership of one wall. The Council felt that there were issues of safety as well as aesthetics involved and the Clerk would write again to OCC copying the letter to the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive and Cllr. Rose. Any proposal to replace the wall with post and rail fencing would not have the support of the Parish Council.

7. **County Councillor's Report:** In the absence of Cllr. Rose no report was available.
8. **District Councillor's Report:** Cllr. Biles reported that after the recent elections the Conservative Party now held 40 seats out of 49 on the District Council.
9. **Planning Matters:** No planning applications had been received
10. **Financial Matters:** The following payments were authorised; Membership ORCC £20.00; Green Scythe Grass Cutting £1003.82; Subscription OALC £234.58.
11. **Transport:**
 - a) **Transport Survey:** Cllr. McConnachie reported that the completed questionnaires for the Transport Survey had been returned to ORCC for analysis.
 - b) **Consultation on Bus Strategy:** Cllr. McConnachie was taking part in the discussion with OCC about the categories of person who should be subsidised, and would provide a suggested response to the consultation.
 - c) **Railways:** The plan to create 2 long passing places on the Cotswold Line at Wolvercote Junction and Ascott looked more positive. Network Rail had submitted plans to the Government. Subject to approval the alterations could be completed by the end of 2009 and could involve a second platform at Charlbury. The Clerk was asked to write to the Government Minister responsible, Ruth Kelly, supporting the plan. There was concern about the lack of parking spaces at Charlbury to support more use of the station. Cllr. McConnachie stated that some extra spaces were being created. The plan to use the old allotment site had not yet come to fruition.
12. **Allotments:** Cllr. Mavin reported that there were now 40 allotment holders. The improvement of the roadway would need planning permission and WODC would give guidance on the matter. Cllr. Mavin needed to talk to Green Scythe about the exact area to be cut.
13. **Appointment of New Clerk:** Cllr. Vickers reported that four expressions of interest had been received and interviews would take place next week. Cllr. Vickers and Cochrane would undertake the interviews.
14. **Correspondence:** A list of correspondence received had been circulated to Councillors.
15. **Other Matters for Discussion:**
 - a) **Noise Nuisance Shaven Crown:** Cllr. Watson reported that the noise from a live jazz concert had been unacceptably loud on the Bank Holiday Sunday afternoon. Neighbours had complained to the landlord, WODC and the police. Cllr. Jagger also reported that the music could be heard in Littlebrook Meadow and was loud enough there to be an annoyance. The Clerk was asked to write to the landlord and request that some action was taken to reduce noise nuisance, before registering a formal complaint with the police.
 - b) **Surgery Meeting:** Cllr. Watson would attend the meeting about possible changes to the status of dispensing practices on 28th May.
 - c) **Bird Scaring:** Cllr. Jagger reported that gas cannons were creating a nuisance by firing at night in a field on the Lyneham side of the river. The Clerk would mention this to the PCSO.

d) Steering Group Shipton Volunteers: The Shipton Volunteers asked for the support of the Parish Council for a celebration of their first year of activity during the summer. They would like to establish a clear set of objectives and Councillors felt it was important the Parish council continued to play a role in setting this agenda. The Britain in Bloom project had a community aspect and the information received by the clerk would be passed on to the volunteers.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.30 hours.