

**Minutes of the Meeting of Shipton under Wychwood Parish Council held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at the New Beaconsfield Hall, Shipton under Wychwood.**

**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).**

**Member of Public Present: Mrs. Peggy Walmsley**

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Rodney Rose – Training in Reading
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Declarations of interest were made by : Cllr. Vickers – Planning application for Maitland, Swinbrook Road; Cllr. Cochrane – Planning application for the Shaven Crown, neighbouring property; Cllr. Cochrane and Cllr. McConnachie – subsidy for New Beaconsfield Hall, members of Management Committee Shipton RF & VH Charity
3. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007:** The Minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Public Time:** Cllr. Vickers invited Mrs. Walmsley to address the meeting. Mrs. Walmsley thanked the Parish Council for their support of the A361 Initiative and gave a brief report on progress over the past year. The recent meeting with representatives of other villages had resulted in proposals for the introduction of a VAS camera to be rotated at various sites along the A361 between Burford and Banbury. The camera would be supplied and owned by the police. Possible sites where the camera could be sited would be evaluated and full costings would be made. Mrs. Walmsley asked for the support of the Parish Council in establishing a site in Shipton and also financial assistance. Cllr. Biles suggested that the A361 initiative should approach WODC Community Safety Partnership with regard to funding. The Parish Council agreed to support the installation of a camera post, providing the location was approved by the Council, and would look at funding after the A361 Initiative had finalised costs and explored other sources of funding. Cllr. Vickers thanked Mrs. Walmsley and her associates for their continuing work on the project.
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**
  - a) **Christmas Carols:** Arrangements for the tree to be put up had been completed. Cllr. Cochrane would contact Mr. Barrett about the use of the digger. Phillip Croxson had agreed to play accompaniment. Reverend Callan had made arrangements for Mr. Alan Waugh to conduct the service if she was delayed.
  - b) **Tree Planting:** Trees for planting on the Green would be delivered on 18<sup>th</sup> December. Holes would be prepared on 15<sup>th</sup> with the help of the Wychwood Volunteers.
  - c) **Car Parking on the Green:** The Parochial Church Council had agreed to help with diverting people attending events at St. Mary's to park at other sites in the village. An A board would be placed on the Green directing people to park at the Hall. Cllr. Cochrane would arrange for appropriate notices to be used at the Hall. Cllr. Cook had

not made contact with Mr. Fletcher about the Glebe Field, but would try again.

- d) **Burial Ground Hedge:** Mr. Judson had been given permission to remove the weakened ash tree from the hedge between his property and the burial ground, and would fill the gap with a birch tree and hedging of hawthorn and blackthorn
- e) **Remembrance Sunday:** Cllr. Mavin reported that the service had run smoothly and she had laid the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.
- f) **Meeting with WODC re flooding:** Mr. Page had suggested some possible dates to meet Parish Councillors. Cllr. Biles had arranged to meet representatives from WODC, Thames Water, OCC and the Environment Agency to walk the Evenlode banks. It was decided not to duplicate activities and Cllr. Biles would report progress to the Council. It was also decided that it would be more appropriate to hold any public meeting when there was some more concrete idea of future strategy. Cllr. Vickers suggested that the Parish Emergency Plan should be developed and discussed at the February meeting, with a view to publishing it by the time of the Annual Parish Meeting in April.
- g) **Strewing of Ashes in Old Churchyard:** Reverend Callan was continuing to discuss the matter with the church authorities, and was supportive of the proposal.

6. **County Councillor's Report:** In the absence of Cllr. Rose no report was available.

7. **District Councillor's Report: A361:** Signage to divert HGVs from using A44 and thereby relieve pressure on Chipping Norton had been promised by OCC but installation date was not decided.

**Horton Hospital:** The removal of services was now being looked at by an Independent Configuration Panel and Cllr. Biles urged the Council to write in support of retaining services for maternity and paediatric emergency care.

**Chipping Norton Hospital:** The independent review panel had found that commitments given by the previous PCT about nursing employment should be honoured. The current PCT was contesting this finding and a judicial review was being considered. There were still concerns that the hospital would become a registered care home and not a hospital.

**Langston House:** Cllr. Biles had taken up the issue of Langston House and Greenlands with Cottsway Housing and OCC. The promised extra care housing had not yet happened but Cllr. Biles was pushing for a response.

**Landfill:** Re-cycling was improving but landfill levels needed to be further reduced or fines of £150.00 per ton would be imposed on WODC.

**Flooding:** The river bed under the Evenlode bridge had been damaged by the floodwaters and needed some repair work. The damage was not severe enough to have a weight limit imposed.

**Sports and Arts Awards:** An extended deadline was in place for nominations for individual grants for individuals who showed excellence in any field of sports or arts. Nominations were invited from the public.

8. **Planning Matters: a) Decisions on Applications: Costcutters Site** – The application from Heritage UK had been approved both for demolition and erection of four houses – **Granted.**

**Costcutters Site** – The application from Mr. Carpenter for demolition of the existing building was allowed - **Granted**. The application for erection of four houses was not allowed – **Refused**.

**16 Littlebrook Meadow** – Erection of first floor extension – **Granted**

**8 Littlebrook Meadow** - Erection of first floor extension – **Granted**

**Flats 1A & 1B Shipton Court** – Internal alterations – **Granted**

**Little Walderton, Meadow Lane** – Erection of first floor extension – **Granted**

**The Old Till Yard Site** – Alleged breach construction of concrete roadway – **Permitted development no action will be taken**.

**b) Applications to be considered:**

**Langley Ridge Farm, Leafield Road:** Conversion of outbuilding to create ancillary self contained unit and erection of tack room – **No objections**

**The Old Chapel, Chapel Lane:** Construction of single storey extension – **No objections**

**12 Court Close (Revised plans):** Construction of chimney to side elevation and extension to garage and creation of first floor studio – **the amendments to the plans did not alter previous objections**.

**The Tithings, Prebendal Drive:** Erection of single storey extension – **No objections**

**14 Ballards Close:** Erection of shed in front garden (Retrospective) – **Objections overbearing structure, too large, inappropriate development for the area**.

**Shaven Crown Hotel, High Street:** Installation of flue (retrospective) – **No objections**. A letter from Mr. Burpitt objecting to the proposal was read to the Council, outlining concerns about noise and smells and interference with neighbours' enjoyment of their property.

9. **Financial Matters: a) Authorisation of payments:** Payments were made to BDO Stoy Hayward External Audit £387.75; A. Groves & Sons Ltd. Light Bulbs £52.88; WODC Grass Cutting £1072.45; Clerk salary & expenses £880.33; Shipton Volunteers £112.06; Royal British Legion Remembrance Day Wreath and donation £75.00.

**b) Support request from Volunteer Link Up:** Parish Councillors decided not to make a donation in support of Volunteer Link Up.

**c) Subsidy for User Groups at The New Beaconsfield Hall:** Parish Councillors were concerned to differentiate between money paid to the New Beaconsfield Hall for services provided to the Parish Council – office space, telephone and computer services – and any subsidy paid to help low income user groups to pay rent charges to the hall. In 2008 the Parish council proposed to meet the cost of a new computer system for joint use. In terms of subsidy Councillors requested information about the level of financial support required by user groups. The costs for the new computer system and installation of broadband would be in the region of £800.00 and Councillors agreed to meet this cost. In future years an administrative charge would be agreed with the management committee of the hall

**d) Precept for 2009:** Parish Councillors discussed the level of precept for next year and the figure set was £18,000.00. The clerk was authorised to return this figure to WODC.

- 10. Transport Matters:** Cllr. McConnachie had attended two meetings and was involved in the consultation to establish what guiding principles the County Council should apply in allocating bus subsidy payments in the future. First Great western had confirmed that in the new train timetable Shipton would get an evening stop and there may also be improvements to Saturday times. The CLPG hoped to run a promotion evening for the public in January. The new timetable allowed the bus service to link up with the 9.20 am service again. In the medium/long term Network Rail were looking seriously at doubling the Cotswold Line particularly at Wolvercote Junction, and a business case was being developed.
- 11. Allotments:** Rent payments had been received from the majority of allotment tenants. The greenhouse, erected without permission and in contravention of allotment rules, was to be removed. A response had been received from the allotment tenant whose use of his allotment and behaviour of his dog had been criticised. The Council were made aware that he rejected all allegations about the behaviour of the dog on the allotments and asserted that his allotment was well kept. Councillors agreed to support Cllr. Mavin on future action which would include writing to the tenant to thank him for his guarantee of the good behaviour of his dog; offer to properly delineate the boundaries of his and other allotments and also offer to help with grubbing up of tree suckers. The increase in allotment rent to £15.00 was agreed and tenants would be informed.
- 12. Grass Cutting:** A quotation for work had been received from Mr. Barnes. It was broadly in line with current costs from WODC. The Clerk was asked to request an updated quotation from WODC and also to ask Mr. Barnes for details of how work would be covered in the even of illness or a breakdown of machinery.
- 13. Correspondence:** A list of correspondence received had been circulated to Councillors. The Post Office Closure Briefing from ORCC would be considered when the closure programme was announced. A copy of the briefing should be displayed on the main notice board.
- 14. Other Matters for Discussion:** There were no other matters for discussion.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.40 pm.