

Minutes of the Meeting of Shipton-under-Wychwood Parish Council
7.30pm on Tuesday 18 November 2008
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 Jill Mavin, Cllr Mike Watson.

Parish Clerk: Angela Barnes

Members of the Public:

Representing the Tennis Club: K White, Ian Carrington, Martin Gibbs
Representing the Hall Committee: John Hartley, Gordon Halliday

1. **Apologies for Absence:** County Councillor Rodney Rose sent his apologies unfortunately he could not attend because he was attending another meeting.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting of 21 October:** The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Public Time:** Cllr Vickers welcomed the members of the public to the meeting and invited them to speak. Martin Gibbs, representing the Tennis Club, expressed concerns about the letter the Parish Council had sent in reply to the Charity Commission. Martin Gibbs said that access by parishioners to use the Tennis Club had always been possible, but accepted there had not been an easy method of achieving this.

Q: Martin Gibbs was asked how many members there were in the Tennis Club?

A: He confirmed there were some 360 members

Martin Gibbs reported that the Tennis Club had explored all possibilities with regards to the siting of a new Pavilion.

Q: Martin Gibbs asked the Parish Council if they would be happy to help with the application to de-register the land in order for a new Pavilion to be built?

A: Cllr Vickers confirmed again that the Parish Council supported the Tennis Club and its position had not changed. However an Agreement would need to be reached between the Tennis Club and the Hall Committee before further progress could be made.

Q: Cllr Vickers asked the Tennis Club to reconsider the charge for non members from Shipton Parish. He suggested that £3 per hour, per person was high as this would result in a charge of £12 per hour per court for four people playing and compared poorly with £6.00 at Chipping Norton and £4.50 at Witney.

Q: Cllr Jagger, Cllr Watson and Cllr McConnachie asked the Tennis Club why this venture would benefit Shipton and its parishioners? Cllr Watson also asked the Tennis Club what would they be giving back to the Village in return for a new Pavilion?

Cllr Vickers concluded public time by asking the Tennis Club to meet with the Hall Committee and answer the questions raised. Cllr Vickers asked Cllr McConnachie, Cllr Cochrane, Cllr Jagger and Cllr Watson to organise a schedule of issues and concerns for the Tennis Club to address in order for a viable and final Agreement to be reached.

5. Shipton Volunteers' Recruitment Evening:

Cllr Vickers proposed a donation be given to the Shipton Volunteers to help with their Recruitment Evening and asked the Parish Council to show a vote of hands. There was a majority vote and it was agreed that a donation of £200 be given. Cllr Vickers expressed the importance of encouraging the Volunteers and recruiting more members. There are currently 40 to 50 volunteers on the books at the moment and the Volunteers has undertaken hundreds of hours of unpaid maintenance for the village.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

(a) Oxfordshire County Council Highways;

Cllr Vickers and Cllr Cochrane met with Paul Wilson of Oxfordshire County Council Highways on Monday 17 November to discuss the various outstanding highway issues throughout the Village. After walking around the Village Paul Wilson agreed that the potholes needed addressing and would organise this. Fiveways junction was discussed and Paul Wilson agreed to write to the house owner and ask for the hedge to be cut back to improve visibility. The main bridge was looked at, but Paul Wilson advised that Highways were still debating whose responsibility this was. Should it turn out to be Highways, a fence might be erected as opposed to replacing the stone wall. It was felt this was disappointing.

(b) Carols round the Christmas Tree;

The Clerk confirmed that all bodies had been contacted and everything was arranged, for the tree to be delivered and then erected on Saturday 13 December, Mike Nicol will supply the amplifiers etc and the SEC has been asked to check and turn on the electric supply in the week commencing 1 December. The Clerk would ask Charlie Barrett to confirm that he was available to kindly help erect the tree, as in previous years.

(c) Wychwood Day Centre;

A reply letter enclosing the accounts had been sent and was circulated within the correspondence.

(d) Storage of Sand Bags;

Ongoing

(e) Ballards Close and St Michael's Close Signs;

Ongoing, the Clerk to chase.

7. County Councillors Report: No report.

8. District Councillors Report: No report.

9. **Planning:**

New Applications;

08/1533/P/FP 9 Sinnels Field (**Granted**)

08/1511/P/FP 36 Shipton Road Ascott-under-Wychwood (**Deferred**)

08/1327/P/FP Change of use to Playing Field and Drainage Works at Land adjacent to Cricket Ground (**Ongoing**)

08/1328/P/FP Removal of existing utility room and replace with new single storey side extension at Brooklands, Upper End (**Granted**)

08/1347/P/FP Erection of dwelling and vehicular access at 23 St Michael's Close

(**Ongoing**)

08/1292/P/FP Conversion of garage to self contained accommodation and erection of new detached 3 bay garage (part retrospective) at Walnut Tree House, Milton Road, Shipton-under-Wychwood **Ongoing**

08/0942/P/FP Erection of dwelling with attached garage and new access at Land at Milton Road, Shipton-under-Wychwood

Refused / Appeal Lodged

10. **Financial Matters:**

Payments to be authorised:

Green Scythe Grass Cutting £463.47

Clerks Monthly Salary £482.00 and Expenses £118.12

BDO Stoy Hayward External Audit Fee £193.88

British Legion Poppy Wreath £100.00

NHT Mike Nicol £52.50

Payments into current account:

Allotment Rents £588.75

Cllr Watson circulated a forecast showing estimated costs and the Precept was agreed at £18,750. The Clerk was asked to submit this to WODC.

11. **Charity Commission:** Please see Public Time above

12. **Allotments:** Nothing to report.

13. **Correspondence:** A list of correspondence received had been circulated to Councillors to consider.

14. **Other Matters for Discussion:**

Cllr Watson noted that the dog litter bins were overflowing and that the bin in Sinnels Field/Mutton Lane had fallen down. Cllr Watson asked the meeting to give some thought to the Risk Assessment which would need to be re-visited before next April.

Cllr McConnachie advised the meeting that he had tried to persuade OCC Transport to provide the Parish Council with detailed timetables before 14 December.

Cllr Cochrane advised the meeting that he now had a copy of the plans for the re-siting of a Pavilion from the Tennis Club and that he would look and check through them thoroughly.

Cllr Vickers asked for volunteers for the collections from the Carol Service.

There being no further business, Cllr.Vickers declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm and confirmed there would be no meeting in December. The January meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 January 2009.