

Whitchurch on Thames Parish Council

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall, Monday 1st December commencing 8.00pm.

PRESENT

Chairman	Mr. H. Butterworth Mr. K. Brooks Mr. V. Aldridge Mr. N. Grove Mrs. L. Lucas Mr. J. Donahue
Clerk	Ms. J. Welham County Councillor Bulmer
Present	District Cllr. Slatter

1. To receive apologies for absence

Mr. H. Ainley.

2. Co-opt Councillor to Parish Council – P. Slatter.

Proposed by the Chairman seconded by Cllr. Lucas and Aldridge.
Cllr. Slater joined the meeting.

3. To receive declarations of interest

None.

4. **Public Forum:** Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council. With the permission of the Chairman, the public may also speak about specific items of business as they arise. One resident spoke about the traffic in the High Street and that it is now worse than before and requested that the council do something about this. The Chairman replied that this was being looked into and TAPAG have a proposal that will be discussed at the January 2015 PC meeting.

A large number of residents present to give their views, all objections to the recent planning application for Eastfield House in Eastfield Lane.

The Chairman went straight to the Agenda Item on Planning.

6. Planning

Cllr. Aldridge presented the following applications

P14/S3443/0 – Eastfield House.

The public were invited to give their views and comments, it was unanimous that ALL present from the public object to this application.

Cllr. Bulmer addressed the meeting stating that there needs to be specific concrete reasons for the objections and to “scatter gun approach” thinking of a vast list of reasons will not be effective. He also confirmed that to object on Highway reasons will not carry any weight as the current approved application to extend the property was cleared by Highways.

Richard Wingfield commented that since that application approval new evidence has come to light regarding the surface water drainage and the foul sewage capacity in Eastfield Lane following the flood last winter 2013/14. This can be used a valuable evidence for objection, as the proposal is to dig a large basement to the building for the services.

The PC urged all residents present to write to SODC with their objections or post their comments on the SODC website.

The PC recommend refusal of this application, 3 major reasons, the demolition of a building of some historical significance in the Conservation area of AONB, the lack of any documents showing any survey or reports on the flooding risk, and finally the foul sewage system in that area being over capacity already, additional bedrooms will potential render the system to break down. They will also ask SODC Officer to place a traffic restriction for times construction traffic can use Eastfield Lane, should they be minded to approve the application.

The PC need to reply by 11th December, one of the residents stated the website said 19th December, however the PC standard planning letter states the 11th so the reply will be sent to meet the earlier date.

P14/S3335/HH Essendene.

Two one and half storey extensions on the east and west elevations with dormers and velux roof windows.

Address: Essendene Hardwick Road Whitchurch On Thames RG8 7HW

The PC after review of the plans recommend Approval.

P14/S3485/HH Greenways

Extensions and alterations to a private dwelling

Address: Greenways High Street Whitchurch on Thames RG8 7HB

The PC after review of the plans recommend No Strong Views.

P14/S3607/HH Foxglove Manor (formerly FirHill).

Erection of outbuildings, minor engineering works and small extension to the existing dwelling to form an open loggia.

Address: Foxglove Manor Whitchurch Hill RG8 7NT

The PC after review of the plans recommend No Strong Views.

P14/S3683 Uplands

Single storey extension and addition of a veranda. Addition of dormer window to first floor bedroom.

Address: Uplands Hardwick Road Whitchurch On Thames RG8 7HH.

The PC after review of the plans recommend No Strong Views.

5. Agree Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 3st November 2014.

Cllr. Donahue objected to the final sentence on Item 8.1 of those minutes, stating that the minute was not agreed as stated. He requested that this be changed. The minute will remain as this is what was agreed by the majority of the Councillors at that meeting. Cllr. Donahue accepted that it was now academic as the project for Hardwick Rd is going ahead under license and the need for a Bond is removed so it can continue. The minutes then Approved as a true record.

7. Hardwick Rd. Project – review costs and plans.

The Clerk updated the Council on the progress with OCC to agreeing that the works can be carried out under license costing £110. The Bond will no longer be required.

The relevant paperwork forms have been completed by the contractor who the PC have appointed.

The Clerk detailed the final costs for the project for the Council to review.

Grant funds available £8000

Quote for work £8975.00

License Fee £110.

Inspection Fee £1500 (already agreed and paid to OCC)

Total overspend £2585.

The Clerk pointed out that the Inspection Fee cost had already been paid and would be a waste of funds should the project now not proceed to completion. The Council agreed this overspend.

8. Defibrillator for Village – review logistics and costs.

Cllr. Lucas, reported on this project,

An automated external defibrillator sends an electric shock to the heart in order to restore a normal heart rhythm in the event of a cardiac arrest.

About 200 people a day suffer a Sudden Cardiac Arrest in the UK, and statistics suggest that for every minute that passes without defibrillation, chances of survival drop by 23%.

An AED analyses the patient's condition and used spoken prompts and visual displays to instruct the user so it requires minimal training. They are designed for use by non-medical users. The unit determines if a shock is required and will not deliver a shock unless it detects cardiac arrhythmia.

The Community Heartbeat Trust are the largest charity putting AEDs in telephone boxes in the UK and have completed around 1000 of the projects.

They are the only organisation that works with British Telecom: which would mean that BT would re-instate the electricity supply to the box and cover its cost for the next 7 years.

The Trust also has a system in place whereby weekly checks on the working order of the defibrillator are relayed back to the Ambulance Service - this is vital as they will not make a caller aware of an unchecked AED.

The Trust would also provide an awareness session for villagers. This session would be chiefly to raise awareness of the new AED's existence and to remove fear surrounding its use.

Cost of project about £2000-2500, which supplies the AED, the vandal-proof box and training. The Trust gives a grant of about £500, so we need to raise about £2000. If we raise more, it helps the Trust enormously.

There is only one additional cost to us which would be the fitting of the cabinet. Currently, this is something that we could organise more cheaply than the Trust could and they expect it to be around £150.

The PC have a grant of £500 towards this project and offers of funds from other sources, so it was agreed to progress this with The Trust. Clerk to follow up.

9. Finance – Approve Payments/note receipts

Payments,

EJH Legal £4367 – Councillor Training and travel expenses.

Village Hall £2000 – Annual Grant.

J. Welham - £20 – expenses.

Noted no receipts.

10. Confidential Item – Budget Review 2015/16 – review forecast, finalise precept. See Appendix One.

The final figure agreed for Precept amount for FY 2015/16 was £25715. In addition to this there will be the CTRS Grant from SODC of £617.

11. Note date of next meeting Monday 5th January 2015.

Meeting closed at 10.45pm

Signed.....Date.....