

## *Whitchurch on Thames Parish Council*

**MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 commencing 8.00pm.

### **PRESENT**

Chairman	Mr. H. Butterworth Mr. V. Aldridge Mrs. L. Lucas Mr. H. Ainley Mr. J. Donahue
Clerk	Ms. J. Welham

### **1. To receive apologies for absence**

Mr. K. Brooks, Mr. N. Grove, Mrs. P. Slatter.

### **2. To receive declarations of interest**

None.

3. **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.

Mr. Clive Oliver who had concerned about the rubbish on the Village Green. Now the Green is owned by the Parish Council it is used more frequently by various clubs and the school. The rubbish bins provided are of domestic capacity and cannot cope with the increased amount of refuse. The Council agreed to investigate a large bin and the cost of a contract service.

### **4. Agree Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014.**

Correction to Agenda Item 9. Village Green, the Junior Football club had not pledged £10K as stated in the minutes. Then approved as a true record.

### **5. County Councillors Report**

Cllr. Bulmer had circulated his monthly report, there were no major issues for the Parish Council. He wished to highlight the consultation being carried out by OCC on Transportation and requested that the PC respond to the feedback and make their comments.

He advised that there are some funds available from the Locality Fund for small works and repairs to highways, kerbs, pavements. This fund needs to be spent by January 2015. There is also funds for small Community groups and projects. All requests to be sent to him.

### **6. District Councillors Report**

Cllr. Slatter absent so no report.

### **7. Planning**

P14/S1698/LB (Listed Building Consent) and P14/S1697/HH (Householder)

Proposal: Proposed extensions and alterations to ground and first floors. Replacement of rear fence and gate with masonry wall and timber gate. Address: 2 Swanston Cottages High Street Whitchurch on Thames RG8 7ES.

The Council have No Strong Views.

Application Reference: P14/S1779/HH (Householder)  
Proposal: Single storey extensions and alterations.  
Address: Paddock Lodge High Street Whitchurch On Thames RG8 7EX

The Council have not strong Views.

## **8. Other Committee Reports**

### **Village Hall**

Stephen Trinder reported;

No issues or concerns.

The Hall webpage is being updated and there will be a menu for the page on the main home page.

### **TAPAG**

Richard Wingfield reported,

The priority list for Highways jobs on the High Street has still to be completed. The Clerk has chased these jobs. Chris Softley has been promoted to a different department and passed the list to Matt Birtles. Clerk to chase again.

Resurfacing of the footpath Eastfield Lane/Swanston Field has been raised, this is long overdue and was scheduled to be done in the 1990's. The Clerk has already registered this with OCC Highways and been told that their Inspector will come and look at the area. No report has been received regarding the inspection so it is unclear if it has been carried out. The Clerk has chased this up again.

Weed Spraying Swanston Field, they are now very high, the Clerk advised that a quote has been requested, she will chase this up. Many companies no longer carry out spraying due to the litigation issues.

John Southey gave an update on the drainage/flooding, a camera inspection of the culvert is required as it appears to have an obstruction. This still cannot be carried out as the water level is too high. It is anticipated that late Summer around September time would be when the inspection should be possible.

Hardwick Road Project, Cllr Donahue updated,

A section 278 is required to complete the "Bond" that OCC will raise as it is not their contractor carrying out the work. The cost is £1500 for the inspection plus legal fees yet unknown. The PC agreed to pay this amount. The Clerk advised that drawings are required and the contractor Dan Hazell seems reluctant to provide these. The PC agreed that he should be paid a sum for this additional Work, the Clerk to contact Dan and discuss this.

### **Village Green**

Cllr. Ainley reported,

The Community meeting is scheduled for Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July in the Village Hall. There was an article in the Henley Standard regarding this and details are on the village website. Stephen Trinder advised that notices in the village would help the awareness and attendance.

The VG has seen more general rubbish and this is becoming an issue. There has been rubbish found around the football pitch area and also in other areas around the buildings. As reported by resident Clive Oliver the current wheelie bins are inadequate for the job. Clerk to check on a bin contract/size for the VG.

## **9. Finance**

The following payments have been raised since the last PC meeting.  
These were reviewed and approved.

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
16/05/2014	T. Fraqnklin Nova Press	SO	£367	Bulletin June 2014
19/05/2014	L. Lucas	146	£20	Seeds
19/05/2014	SODC	147	£70	Premises license for VG
22/05/2014	Berinsfield Community Business	SO	£617	April Grass cutting
01/06/2014	J. Welham	SO	£426	May Salary
01/06/2014	HMRC	SO	£96	Tax for May
01/06/2014	BDO LLP	148	£240	External audit
11/06/2014	Swiftclik	149	£24	Ink cartridge
15/06/2014	Berinsfield Community Business	SO	£436	May grass cutting
15/06/2014	Berinsfield	SO	£436	Berinsfield
15/06/2014	Berinsfield Community Business	SO	£436	Grass cutting May
01/07/2014	J. Welham	SO	£426	June Salary
01/07/2014	HMRC	SO	£96	June Tax
07/07/2014	Thames Water Utilities Ltd	150	£110	Pavilion 13/3 to 22/6/14
<b>Total Payments</b>			2,928.48	

Noted no receipts.

### **10.1 Budget Review**

The Quarterly budget report had been circulated before the meeting. There were no questions and all categories are running to within budget currently.

### **10.2 External Audit.**

The external audit had been passed, there was no matters arising report with major issues.

### **11. Environment Group Cllr. Brooks – update**

Cllr. Brooks was absent so the Clerk read out his report,

Since the last meeting the Environmental Group has been involved in several projects. The first was the refurbishment of the sign at gates to the Hardwick Estate. This was bought attention by Eric Hartley and required cleaning and painting of the sign which made it look much better.

New lights have been installed by the Toll Bridge and the old Stables. I met with Chris Marks from OCC Lighting Department to have a picture taken for the Whitchurch on Thames Web Site to celebrate this initiative by the Parish Council and the community. The result is much better lighting around this area and the lights are more efficient, more economical, better looking and recommended by OCC.

One of the seats on the Village Green was broken and this was reported by Sue Lee. After talking to Harry Butterworth about this we managed to get it repaired.

Lastly I attended the SODC Local plan 2031. The local plan can be reviewed at <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/newlocalplan> and I recommend that everyone looks at it. Basically from the information presented it is evident that a lot of houses need to be built in South Oxfordshire over the next years and it is the Parish Council's views which are required to identify sites where these houses can be built.

### **12. Sustainability & Allotments**

Cllr. Donahue report,

Allotments: - No change.

The Maze field has not been cut yet this year and the grass is very long, Cllr. Donahue asked the Clerk to chase this up.

**13. Other Matters for Chairman**

The Chairman had met with PCSO Mark Bell who had advised him about a project for “Smart Water” this is a way of identifying valuable items so if they are stolen they can be identified. It is similar to micro chipping, but it is a liquid that holds the small chips and once applied is invisible.

The plan is to try to get 80% of households in the village to participate and then notices be displayed in the area advising that the scheme is in place. This is a big deterrent to burglaries.

The Thames Valley Police are running this scheme and offering the container of Smart Water that will mark up 50 items for £10.00, normal price is £75.00. The PC strongly support this scheme and encourage people to take part in the scheme. Mark Bell will be visiting residents to offer the scheme.

Stephen Trinder requested that the village apply for funds from the Community Fund for a defibrillator. The Chairman will check this with the Surgery. Clerk to email request for funds.

**14. Note date of next meeting Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014.**

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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

