

## WHITCHURCH ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Whitchurch on Thames Parish Council on Monday 7th July 2008 in the village hall

### **Present:**

Cllr Vincent Aldridge (vice chairman), Cllr Nigel Grove, Cllr Nigel Cabeldu, Cllr Harry Butterworth, Cllr Elizabeth Robinson, Cllr Kate Thatcher, Jo Wheeler (parish clerk), Cllr Pearl Slatter

### **23. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Matilda Oppenheimer

### **24. Minutes of previous meetings**

Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008 meeting signed as a true record.

### **25. Declarations of interest**

None

### **26. Public forum**

None

### **27. Playground equipment painting**

All agreed to pay for playground 'wear and tear' painting following Geoff Weir's last inspection. JW to request Total Dec to carry out the work.

### **28. Sheepwash Lane**

All agreed that Tom Christie would check right of way at Sheepwash Lane

### **29. Maze information board**

All agreed £400 budget for replacing the maze information board frame. JW to inform Sally Woolhouse of decision.

### **30. Hardwick Rd 'Keep clear' sign**

Discussed resident complaint about the 'keep clear sign on Hardwick Road. All agreed that the road markings are in the best interests of the majority of residents and the village because it reduces parking that would otherwise be inconvenient and unsafe for

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residents using the road and emergency vehicle access. The second point is a private matter and not one for the parish council. JW to reply to resident with council comments.

### **31. Magazine**

Discussed suggestion from resident that the Pangbourne magazine and Whitchurch magazine could combine. All decided that the magazines are too different to merge as the villages are in different areas (West Berks & South Oxon) and the Bulletin doesn't accept commercial advertising. All agreed that the two editors would send information to each other about what's going on to keep both villages informed.

### **32. Hardwick Road**

The untidy garden on Hardwick Road was discussed. JW to send letter to resident.

### **33. Village hall**

All agreed to purchase village hall and land for agreed price of £4550. JW to ask solicitor to proceed with purchase.

### **34. Planning information**

District Cllr Pearl Slatter gave an informative talk about planning policy at South Oxfordshire District Council.

Pearl explained that each application is taken on its own merits and decisions are made on planning issues only. She suggested that the parish council visits planning sites, talks to the neighbours and make copies of the plans easily accessible to residents. From the 3/4000 planning applications received every year 20% are refused.

Cllr Thatcher left the meeting because of opposing feelings about the planning process at South Oxfordshire District Council and did not feel it appropriate that she stay for the talk.

### **35. Planning role**

All agreed that Cllr Robinson would become the parish councillor responsible for planning. All paper copies of planning applications would be sent to Cllr Robinson and her role will include inspection of sites and representing the parish council at planning meetings.

### **36. Roads and pavements review**

An update was provided about the work being carried out on holes in Manor Rd and Swanston Field.

### 37. Traffic

Report on the meeting with Peter Reynolds, traffic engineer from Oxfordshire County Council, Cllr Oppenheimer, Cllr Grove, Cllr Butterworth and Cllr Cabeldu. In the meeting the parish council expressed its wish to fund vehicle activated signs for the village and that the last traffic survey wasn't as effective as it could have been. The outcome of the meeting was that another traffic survey will be carried out - at the county council's expense. The cameras will be placed in locations that the parish council feels speeding occurs more frequently. This will determine the need for vehicle activated signs and other traffic calming measures.

### 38. Village plan update

Cllr Butterworth reported that the village plan preparations are still going well. The questionnaires have been collected in and have been sent onto South Oxfordshire District Council for analysis. BP has offered to fund for the printing of the results.

### 39. District Councillor Report

Cllr Slatter updated the council on the case involving a high hedge at Coombe Park. The appeal has been allowed and the remedial notice quashed.

### 40. County Councillor Report

None

### 41. Planning applications and decisions

#### Applications

P08/E0591- Eastfield Lodge, Eastfield Lane, single storey timber summerhouse – **granted**

P08/E0641- The Hive Hardwick Road, side garage extension – **granted**

P08/E0685 - Lubricants UK Ltd Technology Centre Whitchurch Hill (In the parish of Goring Heath) RG8 7QR, proposed fabricated temporary store building – **granted**

P08/E0721- Ferry Boat High Street - alterations to existing rear store to form external covered area – **granted**

#### Decisions

**P08/E0448** Tanglewood High Street - replacement of utility with single storey rear extension, replacement of porch to the front of the house and erection of fence leading to the entrance of the house – **GRANTED**

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**P08/E0362** - 10 Swanston Field - two storey side extension to form annex plus two storey rear extension, single storey side garage and dormer window – REFUSED

#### 42. Finance

##### In between meetings

S Butterworth	Bulletin May printing	£367.00
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##### At meeting

J Wheeler	Salary May & June	£803.60
J Wheeler	Expenses (mileage for training)	£26.24
S Butterworth	Bulletin July printing	£367.00
Allianz Cornhill	Annual insurance premium	£583.11
Philip Weir	Website Hosting	£76.50
OALC	Cllr Robinson planning training	£23.50
S Trinder	Village plan	£49.42

#### 43. Approval of annual accounts

Annual return and accounts were reviewed, discussed and approved.

#### 44. Other reports

##### a) Allotments

Nothing to report

##### b) Transport

Nothing to report

##### c) Cricket Field

Nothing to report

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d) Village Maintenance

Already covered

e) Toll Bridge

Nothing to report

**45. Correspondence received and distributed**

**46. Any other business**

None

**47. Next meeting**

1st September 2008

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_