# Whitchurch on Thames Village Green Committee



# Minutes of meeting Tuesday 1st November 2011

Present: Lindsay Austin, Steve Rogers, Tim Close, Nick Bolton and Adrian Dixon

# 1. Apologies for absence

Alistair Aitchison

# 2. Section 106 update.

The section 106 has been signed and exchanged and the planning permission relating to the Village Green site granted. Following a 3 month "cooling off" period the transfer deed will be finalised and full ownership of the site will pass to the Parish Council – completion therefore expected end of January 2012.

# 3. Dogs

The issue of dogs fouling the site had been raised by a member of Whitchurch Cricket Club. Committee agreed that additional dog waste bins and signage should be arranged for the Village Green and agreed to monitor the situation on a regular basis. TC to verbally report back to Whitchurch Cricket Club. LA to enquire via Parish Council Environmental Group how to go about sourcing additional bins.

# 4. Tree Planting

Received letter from Goring, Woodcote and District Lions Club in relation to tree planting to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. Agreed to consider this offer in more detail when fundraising activities (which may or may not include trees) have been agreed.

#### 5. Funding – Grants and Fundraising

Large Funding Options – SODC Community Investment Fund – application made in Sept 2011. Letter received confirming final decision will be deferred until Parish Council have full ownership however we understand the application is likely to be successful.

SR provided a list of other options – TC currently applying to Sport England "Small Grants Programme" and "Protecting Playing Fields" – LA to forward cost breakdown for car park and football pitch used in previous applications to TC. AA currently applying to Football Foundation "Build the Game". There are a number of other potential sources (Castrol / Lord Taverners / AWE / Landfill Grants) to be pursued in due course.

All grant providers are keen that facilities be used by as many different user groups as possible. Committee discussed whether there are any local groups for disabled adults or children who may wish to use the facilities. NB to enquire re Flint House and ask Sarah Doran, TC to enquire re local school – to assess levels of interest if any.

Small Funding Options – LA has drawn up a preliminary list comprising local businesses and charitable trusts who make donations in the Oxfordshire area (attached).



NB has drafted 3 approaches to fundraising from small donors (attached).



Small Donor Letter Notes

These were discussed in some detail with each approach having merit and being more suited to a different type of donor. Agreed that charitable trusts will be targeted in the first instance. LA to forward list of these to NB / NB to draft letter specifically aimed at this area.

# 6. Committee Vacancy

Adrian Dixon has agreed to join. In addition SR to ask Maureen Stovell if she is also interested in joining the committee.

# 7. **AOB**

Charity / Gift Aid – would there be any advantage to "Whitchurch on Thames Village Green" becoming a registered charity? Is this necessary in order to claim gift aid on donations? LA to ask Jenny Welham to investigate.

Water – supply on Village Green currently shared by Whitchurch Cricket Club and adjacent field owners. Arrangement may need to be looked at when land is transferred to Parish Council ownership.

Next meeting – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011 - 8pm at The Greyhound, High Street, Whitchurch