

WHITCHURCH ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the annual meeting of Whitchurch on Thames Parish Council on Monday 23rd May 2011 in the village hall

Present:

Cllr Harry Butterworth (chairman), Cllr Keith Brooks (vice-chairman), Cllr Vincent Aldridge, Cllr Lindsay Austin, Cllr Jim Donahue, Cllr Nigel Grove, Cllr Matilda Oppenheimer

In attendance:

Jo Wheeler (parish clerk), District Council Slatter

1. Election of chairman

Cllr Grove nominated Cllr Butterworth; Cllr Aldridge seconded this. Resolved to appoint Cllr Butterworth as chairman.

2. Co-option of parish councillors

Cllr Butterworth nominated Jim Donahue. Resolved to co-opt Jim Donahue as parish councillor.

Cllr Butterworth nominated Matilda Oppenheimer. Resolved to co-opt Matilda Oppenheimer as parish councillor.

3. Apologies for absence

County Cllr Dave Sexon

4. Police matters

PCSO Mark Bell explained that he has been busy training new PCSOs. These include Michael Warmsley who will be covering the Whitchurch area.

There has been an increase in burglaries in Goring.

The NAG meeting discussed the number of jumpers off Whitchurch Bridge. The police are taking details from people who are jumping off the bridge and reporting them to the Bridge Company.

PCSO Bell is compiling a list of vulnerable elderly people, so help can be offered when they may find it difficult to get out for food and supplies in bad weather, in particular elderly people who live on their own.

5. Declarations of interest

None

6. Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of 7th March 2011 were agreed and signed as a correct record

7. Matters arising

None

8. Public forum

None

9. Election of vice-chair and committees

Cllr Butterworth nominated Cllr Brooks as vice-chairman. Council resolved to appoint Cllr Brooks as vice-chairman.

Council resolved to appoint Councillors to the following committees:

| Committee | Councillor |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Planning | Cllr Aldridge |
| Finance | Cllr Austin |
| Traffic & Pavements Advisory Group | Cllr Butterworth |
| Environmental matters | Cllr Brooks |
| Village hall | Cllr Grove |
| Community sports field | Cllr Oppenheimer |
| Sustainability & allotments | Cllr Donahue |

10. District Councillor report

District Cllr Slatter reported that she and Ann Ducker were both elected as District Councillors again this year. Cllr Ducker has been appointed as the leader of the district council and Cllr Slatter as chairman of the Planning Committee.

The Bridge Company's application has been registered with SODC and has just been appointed a

planning officer.

11. Community Sports Field

The new management committee has been set up. This includes a representative from the football club, the cricket club, the school, Cllr Oppenheimer and Cllr Austin, as well as three other parishioners who have a keen interest in the sports field. The management committee will be meeting on the 20th June.

Cllr Austin has submitted another grant application on to the Oxfordshire Big Society Fund. The costs of the car park will be approx. £16,000. The committee hopes to pay for the car park by obtaining grants.

The council thanked Cllr Oppenheimer and Cllr Austin for their hard work.

12. Planning

| Application number | Location | Details | Comments |
|--------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| P11/E0737 | Hartslock Lodge Hartslock Bridleway Whitchurch On Thames RG8 7QX | Remove existing summerhouse and provide a replacement one in new location. Remove existing carport and provide a replacement one in new location incorporating a lockable store. Remove Sheds "A" and "C". Repair existing garage roof and renew existing window and add french doors to the west elevation. | No strong views |
| P11/E0649 | 26 Manor Road Whitchurch-on-Thames RG8 7EU | Erection of single storey front, side and rear extension and front entrance porch and formation of 2 parking spaces | No strong views |
| P11/E0743 | Whitchurch Bridge High Street Whitchurch-on- Thames RG8 7DF | Reconstruction of bridge involving partial demolition of Listed Building. | Further meeting required |

13. Environmental Group

Cllr Brooks asked whether the car park surface would be made from an environmentally friendly material. Cllr Oppenheimer confirmed this is a condition of SODCs planning approval.

Scottish and Southern Electric (SSE) are due to lop the trees along Muddy Lane. WoTHABs have met with SSE and will continue to work with them to ensure the trees are cut back to a minimum.

Problem reported where the refuse truck has had to drive over the verge on Hillside to avoid the cars parked there. This has created a muddy mess. Agreed to talk to the residents to ask whether they can move their cars on Thursday mornings to ensure enough room for the refuse vehicle.

Another problem reported where drivers have been creating a number of unofficial passing places along Hardwick Rd, which is eroding the bank.

The Environmental Group will soon be organising a litter blitz in the village.

14. Traffic & Pavements Advisory Group

The next meeting is on Saturday 28th May. The group will soon be carrying out their twice-yearly inspection of the roads and pavements.

15. Financial matters

Payments made:

| Payee | Description | Amount |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| AoN Limited | Annual insurance premium | £737.14 |
| K Turley | Internal auditor fee | £95.00 |
| S Butterworth | Bulletin payment | £367.00 |

16. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed:

Date: