

EYNESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Sue Lee
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Minutes of the meeting of Eynsham Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 September 2007 at 7.30pm in the Bartholomew Rooms, Eynsham

Present: Mr G Beach (Chair), Mrs. L Gerrans, Mrs. M Jones, Ms S Osborne, Mrs L Pialek, Ms J Tinson, Mr T Green, Mr D Rossiter and Dr F Wright;
County Cllr. C Mathew, District Cllr Mrs M Stevens and 2 members of the public.

In Attendance: Mrs. S Lee - Clerk

07/106 Apologies for Absence – Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs V Hughes, Mr R Andrews and Mr E Taylor.

07/107 Thames Valley Police – Richard Connor gave an update on crime in the village and introduced the 2 new PCSO's - Robert Hopping and Helen Keen. He advised that 85% of their day would be spent on the beat and that they cover Eynsham and 6 other villages – it was expected that evening shifts would be in Eynsham unless specific issues arose elsewhere. The biggest problem they have is lack of transport; there is no transport with the posts.

07/108 Co-option of new Parish Councillors – Co-option of Mrs L Pialek and Mrs A Beavis to the Parish Council was proposed by Mr Green and seconded Dr Wright and unanimously agreed. Mrs Pialek signed her declaration of office form and completed her registration of interests form for forwarding to WODC. Mrs Beavis will complete her declaration of office on Monday 10 September. Mrs Pialek was welcomed to the Parish Council. Membership of committees will be discussed in October meeting.

07/109 Declarations of interest – Mr Green declared a prejudicial interest in item 8 on the agenda - Finance - as a self employed contractor to the Parish Council with an invoice to be paid.

07/110 Minutes of the meeting of 7 August 2007 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman with amendments at 07/97/3 to insert an apostrophe in Legionnaires' and 07/100 Witney Road Play Area to alter from taking out hedge to reducing height of hedge.

07/111 Clerk's Report - circulated

The following items were reported/discussed:

1. Chestnut tree in Churchyard – Mr Dalby – WODC Tree Officer inspected the tree on 3 September and he felt that it would be advisable not to carry out any further work on the tree but to monitor it for further deterioration. He suggested moving the bench under the tree and allowing the area underneath it to become wilder to deter people from sitting under it. He also advised cutting back some of the lower branches that are hitting the wall from the 2 trees further back in the churchyard - Clerk to discuss with Mr Green.
2. Bank Account – Clerk to meet with manager to discuss the best way forward in changing mandate for signatories.
3. Mower – quote received for new mower to be referred to Finance committee
4. Self-employed public liability insurance – Clerk is in communication with insurance company with regard to this.
5. Mrs Gasgoine re Trees on Back Lane – Dr Wright will speak to Scouts with regard to their tree and look into the issue of the village hall trees.

6. Boy's football have been asked for a £50 donation for use of the changing facilities on NPF for last season.
7. Flooding - Mr and Mrs Minto – photos, maps etc have all been sent to EA (Environment Agency) and WODC with regard to extension of floodplain. Eynsham Society is meeting on Thursday and Dr Wright will discuss sending in further photos etc to the EA and WODC at the meeting.
8. Highways to be chased to reposition the mirror at the Co-op.

07/112 Urgent Business Raised with Prior Consent of Chairman – none

07/113 Finance

Payment of accounts - circulated

Proposed by Mrs Gerrans and seconded by Dr Wright that accounts in the sum of £4269.76 and £5274.18 be accepted as attached – all unanimously agreed and cheques signed by Mrs Gerrans and Dr Wright. Mrs Gerrans and Mr Green signed cheques on salary run of £5274.18.

Standing Orders suspended

07/114 Items Raised by Members of the Public –

1. Cllr Mrs Stevens advised that she has also forwarded photos to the EA and WODC from a resident in Orchard Close. She has distributed flood grant forms to all the properties in the village that needed them.
2. Mrs Stonham will put further flood photos on the website. She also advised of the Open Day – invitation in correspondence.
3. Mr Brown advised that Heycroft was very overgrown – Clerk agreed to have a look at this. He also thanked the PC for making the new PCSO's welcome.

Cllr Mrs Pike arrived at 8pm

4. A member of the public advised that the floodplain boundaries needed to be redrawn and the EA needed to designate where the new boundaries are – she was advised that this is what the Parish Council are proposing to have carried out with all the photographs and evidence they are sending to the EA.

Three members of the public arrived at 8.05pm

5. A member of the public asked that the village was kept informed of the current situation with the EA and flooding – it was agreed to put an update in the Echo as and when appropriate.
6. The drains on Beech Road, Hawthorn Road are still a problem. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to WODC to ascertain the current situation and advise anyone who is having a problem who the contact is at WODC. Clerk to ask Mr Andrews re contact name.
7. Witney Play Area is still not completed should be finished in approx 2 weeks and then 1 month later the line markings will be laid. Landscaping quotes are being sought at present.
8. War memorial – Mr Green advised that works needed to be carried out around The Cross – Clerk to meet with him to discuss and arrange quotes.

Standing Orders resumed.

07/115 BBC Good Food Awards – Mr Taylor is keen for Parish Councillors to recommend good eating and food venues in the village for the awards. The Chairman encouraged councillors and villagers to nominate local businesses – there is a link on the website but unfortunately the closing date is too early for the next edition of The Echo.

07/116 Feedback on Training – Mr Miller recently attended Finance for Parish Councils training and recommended it to the meeting – he felt that it had enabled him to look at the Council accounts in more vigorous manner and he felt more confident in asking questions.

Clerk advised that Mr Andrews is unable to attend the planning training in October – she will circulate details to all to see who would like to attend.

07/117 Planning

- o **The minutes of the meeting on 28 August** were unanimously adopted as a true record of the meeting.
- o Mr Green proposed that a letter be written to WODC with regard to the Ferriers' proposed development advising that the Parish Council felt that this project shouldn't be compromised by having affordable housing enforced on it as it was felt to be a project of great community benefit which met the affordable housing needs of several groups of the community identified in affordable housing surveys – the elderly and those with learning disabilities. It was not felt that there was a need to enforce further affordable housing requirements on the project. Mr Rossiter seconded this proposal with unanimous agreement – Clerk to write a letter to WODC.

07/118 Correspondence

- o OCC – Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework update – new round of consultation will take place in 2008.
- o OCC - Grass cutting Agreement for signing - Chairman has signed and Clerk to return to OCC.
- o Beverley Chandler re public disturbance – Chairman has responded and Police advised. The Chairman is still waiting to meet representatives of the Punch Tavern group with regard to the Jolly Sportsman.
- o Mr and Mrs Minto – re flooding – forwarded to environment agency and WODC.
- o Internal Audit report – copied to all finance committee for action at next meeting
- o Mrs Craft – re smoking and litter – Clerk to copy to NAG and to contact WODC re increase in litter now there is an increase in smoking out of doors and advise Ms Craft of action taken.
- o PFMC re Circus – confirming will hopefully go ahead – look to June 2008.
- o John Welch and Stammers – Playing Fields lease for signing – Chairman and Vice Chairman to read and sign for return.
- o David Batts – re hire of Sports Hall Mens' Keep fit – Clerk to copy to Mr Rossiter for discussion in users group meeting and Cllr Mrs Stevens also to respond to Mr Batts re action taken and express Parish Council's disappointment at the lack of a booking space for his class in the new Sports Hall.
- o Eynsham Open day – details of open day on Sat 22 September were read out – Clerk will circulate to all for info.
- o Parish Plan – copies of the Parish Plan were handed out to all Councillors.
- o D Wright advised a new application from Hansons would be received shortly – it was unanimously agreed to ask for an extension until the November meeting to inspect the plans and ask for paper copies of the plans to be forwarded. Action: Clerk
- o Cllr Mathew advised that the Primary School would be putting a gate in along Beech Road to enable children cycling to school easy access. In addition the possibility of a bridleway style gate at the Hawthorn Road end of the bridleway was being looked into to improve safety.

Correspondence distributed for info

- o OCC – Guide to Services, August newsletter
- o ORCC – News Bulletin August 2007
- o Local Councils Update
- o Forest Update – Friends of Wychwood Newsletter
- o Regional Spatial Strategy for the SE – CD
- o WODC re flood grants

07/119 Dates of Next Meetings

- Planning sub-Committee meeting –Monday 17 Sept
- Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 2 October 2007 7.30pm
- WODC – planning – Tues 16 October 7.30pm
- Finance Committee – Tues 9 October – 8pm

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed..... Date.....**10 October 2007**.....