



# EYNESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK: SUE LEE, 19 BRADSHAW CLOSE, STEEPLE ASTON, BICESTER  
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## **Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 March 2008 at 7.30pm in the Bartholomew Room, Eynsham**

**Present:** Mr G Beach (Chairman), Mr D Rossiter, Mrs A Beavis, Mrs. L Gerrans, Ms S Osborne, Mrs. M Jones, Ms J Tinson, Mr R Andrews, Mr T Green, Dr F Wright, Mrs V Hughes, Mrs L Pialek and Mr J Miller; County Cllr. C Mathew and District Cllr Ms F Pike and 2 members of the public – Ms J Stonham and Ms S Bibb.

**In Attendance:** Mrs. S Lee - Clerk

**08/30 Apologies for Absence** were received from District Cllr Mrs M Stevens

**08/31 Declarations of interest** – Mr Green – prejudicial interest in Finance due to payment to him for Churchyard works.

**08/32 Parish Councillor Vacancies** – Mr T Beesley decided not to proceed with his application to become a parish councillor on 3 March – it was proposed by Dr Wright and seconded by Mr Andrews that Mr Paul Staley and Mrs Marion Sheppard be co-opted on to the Parish Council - passed with unanimous approval. Clerk to advise WODC and applicants and arrange paperwork for their signature for next meeting **Action: Clerk**

**08/33 Public Participation** - none

**08/34 Minutes of the meeting of 5 February** were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed and dated by the Chairman.

**08/35 Clerk's Report - circulated**

The report had been circulated. The Clerk reported that

- Work should start on the Oxford Road playing field fence next week
- OCC would charge a £750 licence fee for 6 tables and chairs on the Highway and the need for a change of use etc are creating barriers to plans to allow a 3-month trial of tables and chairs on the Market Square by Harrisons.
- Requested any highway issues to be advised as OCC – Mr Wilson, Clerk, Mrs Gerrans and County Cllr C Mathew are walking the village tomorrow
- Drop in on Saturday 1 March was very successful with 6 villagers attending – details had been circulated.

Mrs Hughes reported that WS Atkins have had an employee's day out on the Fishponds and have improved the island etc. A letter of thanks has been sent for all their help and an article will be written for The Echo.

**08/36 OALC training** – details of training courses had been circulated to all – please advise Clerk by end of week if you wish to attend any of them – Mrs Beavis requested a place on How to be a Better Councillor. Clerk will advise new councillors of the courses.

**08/37 Finance**

Mr Green left the meeting

- o **To approve payment of accounts as listed on schedules -**

Proposed by Dr Wright and seconded by Mrs Gerrans that accounts in the sum of £9546.19 be accepted as attached – unanimously agreed and cheques signed by Mrs Gerrans and Dr Wright. Salary run cheques included in total signed by Mr Beach and Mr Rossiter on 29 February 2008.

Mr Green returned to the meeting

- **Income** – Income of £5181.56 was advised.

**08/38 Correspondence**

Name	Request	Action
Margaret Marker	Fence damage Wytham View footpath and dog fouling and litter Wytham View	Referred to Dan Weeks – OCC footpaths and WODC re litter and dog fouling for action.
Thomas Wood	Litter and parking on grass verges	Reported to WODC re litter and Clerk has already contacted OCC re verges and they have written to householders. Further letter received and Clerk gave contact details for OCC and WODC re litter and fly tipping
David Miller	Wharf Stream	Copied to Environment Agency for comment – they have advised no dredging is planned or was felt necessary – advised Mr Miller
Cllr Mathew	Hawthorn Rd barrier  Chilbridge	Barrier will not be installed but signs will be erected Works approx £5000 OCC will discuss with WODC – PC agreed that Cllr Mathew should arrange a meeting of all interested parties to discuss repairs.
Scouts	Copy of letter to VHMC	For info – Clerk has advised of PC Village Hall committee members.
Siemens – Tony Puffer	Request to use playing fields	Passed to PFMC – they are still investigating.
Debbie Seoney	Resignation from producing Echo	Passed on to Comm. Committee – <b>Clerk</b> will arrange thank you to Debbie
Cllr Stevens	Info re decisions on Council Tax	
SCP	Liaison Meeting Worton Farm Minerals and Waste operators	Chair has sent apologies
Catriona Hauer	Netball Club invite to match Thurs 6 March	Advised all of invite.
Vincent Goodstadt	Eynsham East	Request for current situation re development – advised no contact from developers but aware of consultation event next week – Tues 11 March 3-8pm Red Lion function Room.

John Welch Stammers	Sub Lease for Playing Fields and stamp duty form for signature	Chair signed and returned.
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### Correspondence for information

WODC – Decisions – cabinet and planning – to GB

#### 08/39 Sports Centre – notes circulated

Mr Rossiter advised that meetings are continuing to try to resolve the matter of local use of the Sports Centre – WODC are drawing up a letting policy for the next group meeting. The issue around a definition of local community is continuing and it was proposed by Dr Wright seconded by Mr Green that the Clerk write to WODC requesting that an addition be made to the Joint Use Agreement giving a definition of the Local Community -

*“Local community” means the area covered by the Bartholomew Partnership; then the remainder of West Oxfordshire; then the remainder of Oxfordshire.*

Passed with unanimous approval. **Action : Clerk**

#### 08/40 Churchyard

Mr Green advised that he has cleared a lot of the stone from the area at the bottom of the churchyard.

He requested that the PC contact Mr G Pimm – owner of the adjacent field to get permission to take a mini digger and skip on to site to clear the rest of the rubbish and soil. Unanimously agreed – Clerk to write to Mr Pimm and get a quote for the work to be completed.

Mr Green has discussed the use of the side of the Churchyard adjacent to the Catholic church for graves with the Church– he is investigating the situation with regard to the water tap as this would need to be moved. He also discussed the issues the grave diggers may have in accessing this site in the future.

Mr Green asked for an update on the steel railings in the churchyard and the Chair advised that the Church has no plans to remove the remaining railings at present. They have carried out a risk assessment and do not feel they need to take any action at present.

Mrs Gerrans agreed to find out the current situation with regard to the possibility of reusing the old area of the churchyard as the vicar had agreed to find out from diocese the way forward with this at a meeting with the Chair as the PC expressed concern with regard to the number of years of space left for graves at present.

Clerk to chase lawnmower services re the mower service at the Churchyard - the other mowers were collected last week.

#### 08/41 Village Hall – minutes circulated

Dr Wright advised of several issues requiring PC approval –

- Proposed Mr Green and seconded Mrs Jones that Mr M White be appointed as a trustee as Mr Mittell is too ill to continue. Unanimous approval.
- Police are unable to fund a bicycle shed
- Acre End Pre School have requested a notice board at the village hall – it was agreed that Dr Wright would discuss their requirements with them and then liaise with the Communications Committee – as they have plans for several notice boards in the village. In addition they would all work alongside the police who have requested a notice board and work together to co-ordinate boards in the village. No work would be carried out before these discussions had taken place.
- Issues with regard to the entrance and dispute between Scouts and Village Hall committee – Dr Wright requested the PC support to take the issue further both morally and with agreement to investigate the 1968 easement that was granted on the site. The village hall committee is very

concerned that the current wooden bollard is not fit for purpose in separating the pedestrian and vehicular access. However this was part of the planning application and WODC were satisfied with this arrangement during the planning process. The only issue would be if the bollard that has been erected is not fit for purpose and would not stop a vehicle. After discussion the PC were unable to give their support to either of these issues but it was proposed by Mr Miller and seconded by Mr Andrews that the Clerk should write to the scouts asking for confirmation that they hold fidelity insurance that would cover the entrance to the area that would be effective if an accident took place – agreed unanimously. **Action : Clerk**

#### **08/42 Back Lane toilets**

Dr Wright advised that he has now obtained - under the Freedom of Information act - a copy of the conveyance of 1971 and the land was not obtained by Compulsory purchase but was purchased for toilets and car park. The conveyance states that no alcohol can be sold on the site, there is a right of way across the site to the Health Centre and a covenant stating that there should be no nuisance caused to the incumbent – now the health centre building.

The planning application will be resubmitted with no reduction in car parking spaces in the future.

#### **08/43 Risk Assessment**

Clerk requested volunteers – Mrs Beavis and Mr Miller - to look at risk assessment – an action plan will be implemented during 2008 – the risk assessment would be on April agenda for approval and comment.

#### **08/44 Committee meetings**

- Planning - Proposed Mrs Gerrans, seconded Mr Miller with unanimous approval to adopt minutes and recommendations of the meeting of 18 February 2008
- Play Area – proposed Mrs Pialek, seconded Ms Osborne with unanimous approval to adopt minutes and recommendations of the meeting on 19 February 2008. Clerk advised of Play Area safety training on Tuesday 11 March 10.30am Oxford Rd if anyone is interested in joining to see how a ROSPA inspection works.
- Communications – proposed Mrs Pialek, seconded Mr Miller with unanimous approval to adopt minutes and recommendations of the meeting on 26 February 2008. Mr Miller presented the new corporate identity as decided by the Communication committee - this was very well received and congratulations offered for professional image. Communications Committee will now produce templates so images can be put to immediate use.
- Senior Committee –notes of meeting with OCC re Section 106 monies and proposed East Eynsham development were circulated to all for information.

**08/45 Agenda Setting at Meetings** – OALC had responded to Dr Wright’s letter – response circulated - and agreed that the PC are carrying out their agenda setting in the correct manner. Dr Wright felt they need to re-examine this due to an 1894 Act and he will contact OALC further to discuss. The PC will await their response and carry on with the revised format until advised otherwise.

#### **Dates of Next Meetings**

- Planning Committee - Monday 10 March 5.30pm
- Communication Committee – Thursday 6 March 7pm
- Main Meeting – Tuesday 1 April 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed.....

Date...01 April 2008...

## **Annexe to the Minutes from Dr Wright – appended as agreed in Council on 01 April 2008**

Issues with regard to the new combined vehicular entrance with the Scouts were discussed, in particular its separation from the VH pedestrian entrance.

The VHMC had offered to agree the move provided that 1 metre of stone wall remained to separate these but the Scouts had gone ahead with the alterations without the VHMC's legal consent and Dr Wright on behalf of the VHMC asked the PC for support in correcting this, pointing out that the VHMC's resistance was in the interest of the safety of young children many of which attend the VH almost daily. He also noted that the VHMC was going 90% of the way towards the Scouts and felt that 1 metre of retained wall was only a small point in relation to their proposals. Dr Wright pointed out that the VHMC had taken independent legal advice and this included – (i) that the position of the old entrance was shown in the plan attached to the August 2000 Land-Swop deed between the Scouts. and the PC (this deed being demised to the VHMC in their 2002 lease from the PC) and was also given in the 1968 deed as an easement to the Scouts land title as currently registered with the Land Registry – it also specifies the 12ft wide entrance which the Scouts have accepted; (ii) that any internal bollards that may be erected within the Scouts car park would be an infringement of the VH's right to cross and recross this land; (iii) that the Scouts do not have the legal right of access to the rear of their new building and (iv) that the Land-Swop deed needs to be revised.

Mr Rossiter pointed out that a wooden bollard was approved by the WODC planning consent and that this was therefore not illegal. Dr Wright however reminded the PC that planning consent is not the same as legal consent which also has to be obtained, and also noted that WODC officers (it was officers who had made the decision – not councillors – despite the VHMC's recorded objection) had later agreed that the 1 metre length of wall could be approved by them if the Scouts agreed. The VHMC had repeatedly told the Scouts that they would only agree to the new entrance on this basis and he asked the PC to support the VHMC's position at their last meeting when they resolved to point out to the Parish Council that the deeds need to be 're-jigged' and for an expression of support from the PC. They had also asked via their solicitors for a copy of the Scouts fidelity insurance, but this had been refused by the Scouts.

However after discussion the majority of the PCllrs felt unable to give the support requested to most of the issues raised (Dr Wright and Mr Green dissenting), but it was proposed by Mr Miller and seconded by Mr. Andrews that the Clerk should write to the Scouts asking for confirmation that they held fidelity insurance that would cover the entrance to the area that would be effective if an accident took place – the last was agreed unanimously.