



EYNSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL was held in the
Bartholomew Room on Tuesday 3 August 2010 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillors - Mr G Beach (Chairman), Mr P Emery, Mrs V Hughes, Mrs M Jones, Mr J Miller, Ms S Osborne, Mr D Rossiter, Mrs M Sheppard, Mr P Staley, Mr D Stukenbroeker, Ms J Tinson & Dr F Wright.

In Attendance: County Councillor C Mathew, District Cllr Mrs M Stevens, Malcolm Anderson, Clerk to the Council & 8 Members of the Public.

10/47 Apologies – were received from Mrs A Beavis and Mr R Andrews.

10/48 Declarations of interest from Councillors – Cllr Mrs Hughes declared a Prejudicial Interest in item 10/54 as her husband was being paid for work he had carried out on behalf of the Council.

10/49 The minutes of the meetings of 6 July 2010 – It was RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record.

10/50 Acceptance of Office – Cllr Emery signed his Acceptance of Office form, witnessed by the Clerk.

10/51 Public Participation –

- Mr Brown said that the rent for the Police rental of the Village Hall should be reduced. Dr Wright replied that they already received a competitive rate. Mr Green would like to object to the Community Orchard. In the past there had been anti-social behaviour and this might encourage further problems. He would like local residents to be consulted before a decision was taken.
- District Cllr Mrs Stevens advised that a resident would like to do a survey of the condition of pavements and their suitability for use by disabled scooter users. There are fifty scooters or disabled cars in Eynsham. He would like to include overhanging trees in the survey. This will be considered by the Street Furniture Group, but the Council had no objection to him starting the survey when he wishes.

10/52 Youth Work in Eynsham – a presentation was made by Mike How, Youth Worker and four young people from the Youth Committee.

- Lee, Chairman of the Youth Committee - they have a monthly meeting of the Committee which is made up of eight officials. They do various fundraising activities.
- Beth - Integrated Youth Support Services representative advised that they meet three times a year to discuss issues of shared interest. Beth thought the lack of things to do in the village was the main problem and would like to see the Youth Centre open more frequently than the two days a week.
- Sean – The Club partake in a range of activities and residential away days.

- Dan – A refurbishment at the Youth Centre had taken place and there had been investment in several items of IT and media equipment. £12000 had been raised for the refurbishment. They do fundraising activities, but support they receive from OCC has been cancelled.
- Mike How reported that during the last year there has been a doubling in the number of young people attending the Club. An after-school club had been introduced and is a major success. They Club is fully staffed with Mike and three sessional staff members.
- Events that have taken place include boxing, rock climbing, inside sky diving, a committee residential visit to Poole. A May Day musical event had been poorly attended, but will be tried again in future. Canoeing day is planned plus another residential week of activities.
- There was concern over the future of the Youth Service because of the financial situation, but County Cllr Charles Mathew thought that the Youth Service will be a high priority.

10/53 Clerk's Report – the Report was noted. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase three “Dogs on lead in playing field” signs for the playing field.

Cllr Mrs Hughes declared a Prejudicial Interest in the following item, as her husband was being paid for work, and left the meeting.

10/54 Finance

- It was **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as presented
- The income & expenditure for the year to 31 July 2010 was noted

Cllr Mrs Hughes returned to the meeting

10/55 A Meeting with the Probation Service – It was **RESOLVED** that the Probation Service could use the Pavilion as their base and storage area. The County Council should be requested to pay for the skip, but if not the Parish Council will hire one and also pay for any materials required. It was requested that the County Council would cut the foliage at the centre of the roundabout.

10/56 Green TEA proposal to plant a Community orchard – It was agreed that a joint consultation with Green Tea should be carried out with the residents in the neighbourhood before deciding on the acceptability of the project. There were some reservations expressed concerning a seat being placed around the tree and over the maintenance cost that may become the responsibility of the Council in future years. The Clerk would contact Green TEA to suggest a joint consultation.

10/57 Oxfordshire County Council's decision on the planning application for a MUGA on the Eynsham Primary School – Cllr Wright had attended the Committee Meeting representing residents. The Planning Officers had been given delegated authority to finalise the positioning of the MUGA. The Parish Council has to be consulted on a Management Agreement Plan.

10/58 A Draft lease between the Village Hall Management Committee and the Police – The Police have agreed have agreed a side letter to negotiate with the Village Hall Management Committee if rate relief is reduced. The draft lease was received and it was **RESOLVED** that this was acceptable.

10/59 Correspondence –

- A letter of thanks for a grant was received from the Wychwood Project
- A letter of thanks for a gift was received from Mrs Leslie Gerrans
- WODC's Core Strategy following the revocation of Regional Spatial Strategies was received.
- A letter of thanks was received for a grant from Oxford Samaritans
- A letter of concern was received from Eynsham Day Centre concerning Fire Risk Assessment. The Council were advised that the matter was now in the process of being resolved and the Village Hall management Committee will invite the Fire Officer to re-inspect the Hall and confirm that he is satisfied. The Council requested that a copy of the report of the Fire Officers findings be sent to them. The Clerk will reply to the letter from Eynsham Day Centre.
- An e-mail was received from Oxfordshire County Council concerning proposed changes to contractor working hours at Eynsham Children's Centre. This was to allow working on Saturdays and Sundays during August. It was **RESOLVED** that agreement be given to the proposed changes.

10/60 A Meeting with Oxfordshire County Council re Flooding – Cllr Wright had attended a meeting with Lawrence King, West Oxfordshire District Council to discuss the flooding in Eynsham. The Environment Agency 2008 flooding report neglected to look at the eastern part of Eynsham and the western part of Cassington. Mr King was surprised to see the size of the culverts on Cassington Road. Cllr Wright gave Mr King details of when flooding took place. Mr King will return in September to look in details at areas that had not been inspected on this visit.

10/61 Project Management – Cllr Andrews had submitted a new format for project management and reporting. It was agreed to **RESOLVED** that this method of management and reporting would be introduced.

10/62 Locking Play Areas and Behaviour in Dovehouse "Come and Play" Play Area –

There had been reports of anti-social behaviour on the site. The Police do not believe that there is any correlation between the new play equipment and the anti-social behaviour. The police have already taken action against two people, in an unrelated matter, who they think are responsible for much of the behaviour. The police will call more frequently and at different times during the evening. The police are not requesting the site be locked at night. However it may be worth a one month trial in locking the area to assist in some way.

It was **RESOLVED** that as the Council's contribution to attempting to overcome the problem, Cllr Andrews would lock and open the play area at dusk for a trial period of one month during the school holidays.

The Council received and considered Mr J Green's complaint and the Clerk will respond to his e-mail. There is no evidence of an increase in anti-social behaviour since the new play equipment was installed and those involved seemed to congregate in different areas in rotation. The Council had previously refuted the suggestion that it had not taken into account residents views or communicated fully with them. A residents group is still active and views reported from them.

10/63 Echo Content – Cllr Mrs Hughes was concerned at the extent of coverage of the Carnival on the front page report and would rather see Council business reported. Cllr Emery advised that his attempt was to make the front page eye-catching. He also said that only limited items of Council news had been submitted. Cllr Mrs Hughes agreed that the page was attractive, but requested that more Council news to be forwarded and included.

10/64 Allotment Update – Cllr Mrs Hughes attended the Committee Meeting. Ten people from Eynsham are on the waiting list and eleven from outside of the village. Witney has a two year waiting list for allotments. A second Allotment Newsletter will be printed shortly with a copy being sent to the Council. The AGM is on 12 October 2010.

10/65 Fishponds Update – Cllr Mrs Hughes reported that the old road, closed in 1217, which is an extension of Abbey Road had previously been found and then re-covered. A wall had also been found and re-covered. The volunteers from the Wychwood Project are doing an archaeological dig from 23 to 25 August 2010. The County Archaeologist has been consulted and will be forwarding his agreement to the dig. Two volunteers will be recording the history of the area and detailing the process they undertake on the dig. The metal detecting group have been invited to attend as has the History Group. Cllr Mrs Hughes will discuss with the County Archaeologist whether or not the wall will need to be recovered.

10/66 Committee Meetings - It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes and recommendations of the following Committee Meetings:-

- Planning Committee 5 July 2010
- Communications Committee 5 July 2010
- Emergency Planning Committee – 13 July 2010 Cllr Mrs Stevens had apologised for this meeting
- Traffic Advisory Committee – 13 July 2010
- Planning – 26 July 2010

10/67 The dates of the next Eynsham Parish Council meetings

- Planning Committee – 16 August 2010 5.30pm (if necessary)
- Fishponds Committee – 1 September 2010 6.00pm
- Planning Committee – 6 September 2010 5.30pm (if necessary)
- Play Area – 6 September 2010 6.30pm
- Full Council – 7 September 2010 7.30pm (Cllr Emery apologies)

The Meeting closed at 9.50pm