



EYNSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Council Meeting
in the Bartholomew Room at 7.30 pm
on Tuesday 12 May 2015

MINUTES

Present: Councillors - Mr G Beach (Chair), Mr R Andrews, Ms J Baldwin, Ms S Brown, Ms P Crowley, Mr P Emery, Mr A Mosson, Ms S Osborne.

Also In Attendance: 1 member of the public.

15/160 Election of Chair: Councillor Beach was elected as Chairman for the year 2015/16. The Acceptance of Office was signed and witnessed.

15/161 Election of Vice Chair: Councillor Andrews was elected as Vice Chairman for the year 2015/16. The Acceptance of Office was signed and witnessed.

15/162 Apologies for absence – Mr A Bickley, Mr D Stukenbroeker, Mr N Relph, County Councillor Charles Mathew.

15/163 Acceptance of Office and Register of Members Interests. The forms were distributed. It was **RESOLVED** to allow until 2 June 2015 for the signing of the Declaration of Acceptance forms by absent members, Mr Bickley, Mr Stukenbroeker and Mr Relph. Councillors to return Register of Members interests to council meeting on 2 June for the Clerk to return to West Oxfordshire District Council.

15/164 Declarations of Interest – Ms Brown declared an interest in the item concerning alterations at the Village Hall.

15/165 Minutes of the meetings held on 7 April 2015 – It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be signed as a true record.

15/166 Public Participation – none.

15/167 Correspondence

- The council received a letter from Witney Citizens Advice Bureau thanking them for the S107 Grant.
- The council received a letter from a resident regarding positioning a bench at the bus stop on Hanborough Road. The Clerk to investigate whether it is possible to install flip up or perch seating under the existing shelter or whether to investigate replacing the bus stop with a new shelter that includes seating.
- The council received an email from Eynsham News who are returning a S107 grant payment. The chairman thanked Joan Stonham for the gesture.
- Email from Siemens requesting the use of the two car parks as overflow on their Fun Day on Saturday 20 June. The Council **RESOLVED** to allow this.

15/168 The Clerk's Report was received and discussed.

- The Council discussed the four vacancies on the council following the election. It was **RESOLVED** that the council would advertise for nominations on the website, in the newsletter and on the notice boards. Councillors were also encouraged to approach local contacts to encourage new members.
- The Council discussed the current arrangement with WODC/Ubico concerning the grass cutting. No contract has been signed but the council **RESOLVED** to continue to contract them

on a fortnightly basis. A quote had been received by an alternative contractor but it was not competitive.

- The Council discussed the options regarding the future of the Public Toilets at Oxford Road Playing Field. The Council **RESOLVED** that the preferred course of action was to demolish the building rather than continue to spend money repairing damage caused by vandalism. The Clerk to contact WODC to discuss this option and how it can be facilitated. Ms Brown, Ms Osborne and the Clerk had helped the Playing Field Managers' Committee to clear some space in the Pavilion for storage. The clerk to obtain costs for a container to be stored in the compound. Further quotes to be obtained for the demolition of the building. The council did not feel that a water supply should be retained although it should be accessible should an alternative building be erected.
- The Clerk to confirm ownership of the land at Hawthorn Road.
- Ms Osborne and the Clerk informed the council that a Walk and Talk event has been planned for Saturday 13 June to mark the next stage in the development of the Wharf Stream Way. Ms Baldwin advised that the walk may be eligible for an Oxford Preservation Trust award.
- The council **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact Oxfordshire County Council regarding available land to be used for a cemetery. The preferred location is in the area neighbouring the new Assessment Centre and Chilbridge.
- The Council **RESOLVED** that the circus be allowed to use water from the Pavilion as they are no longer allowed to use water from the Public Toilets.

15/169 It was **RESOLVED** to allow the Acre End Playgroup to make alterations as requested at the Village Hall

15/170 The council considered Planning Applications:

- **15/01084/ADV:** New image forecourt signage. Tesco Express. No objection.
- **15/01184/FUL:** Erection of 13 dwellings with associated access, parking and open space. Land at Newland Street. The Council **RESOLVED** to object to this proposal. The proposed development, as with the two previous rejected applications for this site; 07/1024/P/FP and 08/1504/P/FP, represents the partial loss of one of the few remaining undeveloped open spaces in the oldest part of the village and will change its appearance from that of a well established rural setting in the heart of the conservation area to one dominated by residential development. The central 'block' of apartments is a substantial building that would dominate the view, especially during the winter months when the summer leaf screen has gone. The engineering works to create the access would be detrimental to the appearance of the attractive wall and tree belt along the site frontage and the unspoilt frontage in general. This proposal would also urbanise the view when entering the village via the Cassington road in the same way as the recent application by the developer Gladman to build a number of houses in the paddock to the west of Station Road Eynsham (14/01863/OUT) which was rightly rejected by WODC. As such this proposal would be harmful to the character and appearance of the Eynsham Conservation area and also to the settings of the listed buildings in the immediate vicinity of the development, which would be contrary to Policies BE5 and BE8 of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 and to the equivalent policies in the emergent 2015-2031 plan.

The Parish Council does not believe that this development can make the case for approval on the basis of need given that other developments are already underway to produce in excess of 70 properties within areas that HAVE been identified for development by the emerging

WODC Local Plan 2015-2031. As such the proposal is contrary to the Policy H7 of the WODC plan 2010 and to the equivalent policies in the emergent 2015-2031 Plan.

The Parish Council must also express its concern regarding the arrangements for the communal Orchard. If the Orchard is to become a *community asset* then it should be passed out of the hands of the present owners to a suitable organisation to own and manage it. If it is to be a *communal asset*, with very limited access then the fear would remain that this is part of a plan for future development of the paddock utilising the access to the highway via this proposed development. Experience has proved that developers and land owners can often be very patient in waiting for a suitable time to propose further development e.g. Fruitlands/Pye Homes (15/01445/OUT and 15/00597/TPO).

If the development was to be approved by WODC then the Parish would need assurances regarding the future of the Orchard and would need the developer to enter into a suitable S106 agreement to help fund local infrastructure projects. Based upon the Swinford Green development in the village the S106 amount for the Parish Council would be £40,300 index linked to the Swinford Green agreement date.

- **15/01456/S73:** Conversion of seven residential apartments with associated parking and landscaping. (Variation of condition 3 of Planning Permission 14/0524/P/FP to alter car parking space from 9 to 8). 33 Acre End Street. No objection.
- **15/01231/HHD:** Single storey extension. 2A Witney Road. No objection.
- **15/01199/HHD:** Removal of valley roof and infilling of roof to extend 2nd floor of a duplex flat. New layout to 2nd floor and minor alternations to layout of 1st floor. 6 Thames Street. The Council RESOLVED to object to this proposal. The house lies at the very centre of historic Eynsham facing the market square. As such it is also at the centre of the conservation area. The plans indicate a relatively sympathetic treatment of the frontage of the property but the rear of the property will be an inappropriate 1960s style block completely out of keeping with the buildings around it. It is the Parish Council's belief that this building work would be in contravention of policy BE5 and BE8 in the 2011 Local Development Plan and the equivalent policies in the emerging 2011-2031 Plan and that the application should be refused.

15/171 Committees

Senior – Mr Beach, Mr Andrews, Mr Mosson, Ms Osborne, Mr Stukenbroeker.

Finance & General Purpose – Mr Beach, Mr Andrews, Mr Bickley, Mr Mosson, Mr Relph, Mr Stukenbroeker

Planning – Mr Stukenbroeker, Mr Beach, Mr Andrews, Mr Bickley, Mr Emery, Mr Mosson, Mr Relph, Ms Baldwin

Play Areas – Mr Beach, Mr Andrews, Mr Bickley. Ms Brown, Ms Osborne

Communications – Mr Emery, Mr Beach, Mr Andrews, Ms Osborne, Mr Stukenbroeker, Ms Crowley

Fishponds – Ms Osborne, Ms Brown, Ms Baldwin, Mr Beach, Mr Andrews

Footpaths – Ms Osborne, Mr Beach, Mr Andrews, Mr Bickley, Ms Brown

Gravel & Minerals – Mr Emery, Mr Beach, Mr Andrews, Mr Mosson, Mr Bickley

Emergency Planning – Ms Crowley, Mr Relph, Mr Beach, Mr Andrews

15/172 Appointment of representatives to outside bodies.

- Allotments (1 member) – Mr Bickley (nominally)
- Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (1 member) – Mr Emery
- Worton Farm Liaison (1 member) – Mr Beach
- Playing Fields Management Committee (2 members) – Ms Brown and Ms Osborne

- Traffic Advisory Committee (4 members) – Mr Beach, Mr Andrews, Ms Osborne, Mr Stukenbroeker, Ms Crowley
- Transport Representative – Mr Stukenbroeker
- Village Hall Management (2 members) – Ms Crowley, Ms Baldwin, Mr Andrews.
- Eynsham Charities (1 member) – Mr Mosson
- Bartholomew Sports Hall Management Committee (1 member) – Ms Crowley
- Neighbourhood Plan/Eynsham Futures – Mr Andrews, Ms Baldwin, Mr Stukenbroeker
- Broadband Champion – Mr Relph
- Brize Norton Liaison Group – Mr Beach
- Playing Field Alarm Co-ordinator – Mr Beach, Mr Andrews

15/173 Finance - It was **RESOLVED** to pay the accounts as presented. The income & expenditure reports were noted.

15/174 To note dates of the next Eynsham Parish Council meetings:

- Planning – 2 June 2015 6.30pm
- Council – 2 June 2015 7.30pm
- Play Area – 9 June 2015 at 6.30pm
- Fishponds – 9 June 2015 at 7.30pm

The Meeting closed at 10pm