

# Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016

## Public Participation session: 15 minutes maximum

The following queries were raised:

- Why had no gates had been erected on the B430 north of the village? It was explained that the gates had been purchased but would not be erected until the outcome of the Phase 1 Southfield Farm development had been finalised, with the possibility that the 40mph limit be extended northwards.
- The leak in the mill-race was getting worse. Cllr. Roper had brought this to the attention of the landowner (Mr Wilcox) via Trevor Bywater who'd indicated that he would do something about it.
- The beech tree in the Old Vicarage garden was dying and was due to be felled.
- Several of sheep that were being kept in the "school field" had died. Various authorities had been notified. If being reported then photographic evidence is critical.

## Council Business:

**16.304.1 To receive any apologies for non-attendance**  
All councillors were present.

**16.304.2 To receive any declarations of interest**  
None received

**16.304.3 To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June (approval of accounts) and 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016**  
22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016 – approved  
6<sup>th</sup> July 2016 – the statement that was read out at the meeting by the Chairman had been handed out at the meeting to councillors and a copy would be attached to the July minutes that went into the formal records.  
16.303.7 – the last sentence was changed to "The Clerk was asked for his opinion and he indicated that he welcomed the decision".  
The rest of the minutes were approved as read.

**16.304.4 Past Subject Matters – for the purpose of report only**  
Village gates had been erected. The gates for the north end of the village (B430) would be erected once the outcome of the Southfield Farm development was known.  
Bus Service – a response had been received from Stagecoach who indicated that they were were unwilling to come into the village as existing customers were already frustrated at the delays already incurred on the S5 route. Discussions were ongoing with Wendlebury regarding their community bus. Villagers need to be asked as to their real interest in a community bus for providing a service to hospitals, doctors, weekly shopping, etc. Wendlebury had carried out a similar exercise but had only received firm support from one villager. Discussions would continue once holiday period finished – Wendlebury organiser on extended annual leave. Information on the COMET community bus scheme (similar to the dial-a-Ride) had recently been introduced by OCC and information on this would be circulated to all villagers.  
Mirror at junction of Church Close: Highways had been informed that the Parish Council wanted to erect a mirror which would be situated on the grass verge immediately in front of the fence of Jubilee Cottage and would be making a formal application to do so. One of the conditions for approval, irrespective of any other

conditions was that the Parish Council would need public liability insurance of £10 million. We do have this already but not to cover eventualities coming from the use of the mirror. The £10 M liability would only be in force if the mirror had formal approval from OCC/Dept of Transport. Highways had provided a list of requirements for having a mirror. One of those requirements is that it has to be outside a 30mph limit. Another requirement is a history of accidents at the site. Investigations into the erection of other traffic mirrors at other sites in the area have demonstrated that these mirrors have been erected with no permissions from anyone.

As for the new white lines at the junction of Church Close there was a consensus of opinion that Peter Egawhary (Highways) had offered and councillors had agreed to accept that the lines be put in place and he indicated that this would be done in July.

Hole in side of Bletchingdon Road. There was a difference in opinion between Highways and BT as to who should pay for the work and the work (outstanding since March) was still waiting to completed.

**16.304.5 To approve following items of expenditure:**

1. Village Hall (Queen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations)	£254.00
2. Continental Landscapes (June 2016 – grass collection)	£384.00
3. Grass cutting – Kieran Evans)	£200.00
4. Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA Inspection - play area	£ 92.40
5. Duchy of Cornwall – playing field rent	£591.26
6. R. Hessian – Clerk's salary	£947.25

Agreed to withhold the Playsafety payment until the matter of the playing field inspection (not just the play area) had been resolved. All other payments agreed.

**16.304.6 To receive information on Planning Applications and note decisions and discuss.**

A list of current applications and recent decisions was circulated to councillors at the meeting (see attached). Additional comments from Clerk were as follows:

16/00276/F – Some of the concerns raised by Parish Council had been covered in the conditions of the approval.

16/00574/REM – the time for consideration of the application has been extended to October 7<sup>th</sup>. The notes of a meeting between councillors and Cherwell had been circulated previously.

**16.304.7 Proposal to form a Planning Committee – see draft procedure attached.**

Cllr Bohm explained the proposal. It was agreed that the three parish council representatives on the Planning committee would be Cllrs. Bohm, Davis and Donne. It would also be possible to co-opt non council members to this committee if appropriate.

**Addendum to 16.304.5**

The Clerk explained that the 2015-16 Annual Return had been approved by the external auditors (BDO) who had raised one minor issue which related to leaving a box blank whereas it should have been completed with either "N/A" (not applicable) or "NIL".

The Clerk also explained that a formal notice about the accounts + one other

notice , had at some time been removed before the statutory time period had elapsed. This had been explained to BDO who advised that he should consider the notice had been up for the requisite time.

**16.304.8 Approve the expenditure of funds to pay for the cutting of hedges at the entrances to the village and roadside hedge of Playing Field.**  
Cllr. Bohm addressed this proposal. The idea was to encourage villagers to look after the village, cut grass, trim back hedges, etc. Cllr. Miller explained an quotation received from a local contractor, Mr Grey, who would cut hedges and verges, doing as much as he could possibly in one day for £400.00. He is an approved contractor for OCC Highways.  
It was agreed that all the problem areas would be reviewed (and photographed if possible) and a list drawn up as to whether the owner or highways should be approached and asked to cut back hedging, etc., before organising it ourselves.

**16.304.9 Proposal to release monies received from Mr B Wilson for the purchase of Defibrillator**  
Mr B Wilson had originally offered monies in order to purchase a bus shelter. That didn't materialise because of the imminent withdrawal of the bus service. The W.I. and the Village Hall were approached as to how best to spend the monies and a defibrillator was the item of choice with any surplus monies being spent on a new bench. It was agreed that this money would be released.

**16.304.10 Update on Neighbourhood Plan**  
Cllr Bohm summarised the current status of the Neighbourhood Plan and explained the meetings and processes that would be taking place over the forthcoming weeks/months.

**The meeting was closed prematurely at this point.**

**16.304.11 To receive report on Playing Field, Play Area and Village Pond**  
Not reported

**16.304.12 Date of next meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016**  
Other meeting dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016

