

Wheatley Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 4th December 2017 in Merry Bells at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Bell (RB), Bignell (PB), Cooper (AC) Foster (KF), Gregory (PG), Harding (RH), Harrison (PH), Hood (Pho), Lamont (DL) (Chair), Shields (MS), Tully (LT), Willmott (PW) and OCC Cllr Kirsten Johnson (KJ)

Officer: Michelle Legg, Clerk to the Parish Council (Clerk)

Members of the public: approx 8

No Item

169. APOLOGIES for Absence – Cllr Roberts

170. DECLARATIONS of Interest

Cllr Willmott – Wheatley Playing Field Trust and Wheatley Rugby Club
Cllr Lamont - Wheatley Playing Field Trust

171. MINUTES and ACTIONS from previous meetings held on

i) Monday 6th November

Cllr Bell asked for it to be noted that minute item 156 should read ‘trust’ not lease. The minutes were amended and signed as a true record of the meeting

ii) Tuesday 14th November (EGM)

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

172. TO CO-OPT ONE PARISH COUNCILLOR – no candidates came forward so this will be carried over to the next parish council meeting.

173. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR KIRSTEN JOHNSON

i) Cllr Johnston’s bus motion has been passed by OCC and with an OCC working group hopes to have further details available on improvements to rural bus services.

ii) Oxford/Cambridge Expressway Action Group update looks as though NIC may favour an A34 route and the Action Group have been identified as a stakeholder.

iii) Cllr Johnson urged the Neighbourhood Plan to complete the environmental studies.

iv) Cllr Johnson also asked for the lighting proposal for Ambrose Rise to be considered.

174. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR TOBY NEWMAN

No update was provided. It was agreed that the Chair would write to Cllr Newman.

175. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK

The Clerk informed the committee that the WPC activities at the Christmas fair raised £50 which has been recorded and handed to Geoff Coleman. The money will be combined with any additional surplus from the event and shared between the Wheatley Scout group and The Maple Tree Centre.do

Green waste was removed from village square before the Christmas fair.

New noticeboard installed and now in use by the Triangle.

Play area repairs complete at Church Road Rec.

Parish Office will be closed between 24th Dec until 2nd Jan with regular building and

post checks being carried out.

176. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE

No update was provided.

177. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE WHEATLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

An update was given by John Fox (previously circulated to councillors) and shared his caution if councillors are approached by developers.

John Fox confirmed that the SEA was for Miss Tombs Field only.

Traffic issues will be addressed in partnership with OCC and SODC traffic planners.

8.06pm The Chair proposed, seconded by Cllr Hood to take the meeting out of session. This was agreed and opened up the meeting to the public,

Sarah Howes – Ambrose Rise

Spoke about her request for an additional (3rd) street light in Ambrose Rise.

Michael Vaughton – Barlow Close

Raised issue about Coopers Close footpath.

Clerk and Cllr Johnson will chase this with the developers and OCC.

Adrian Sheppard - Windmill Lane

Offered to assist with WPC grass cutting contract. He also Raised issues about grass cutting at Wheatley Playing Fields as he spotted the Rugby pitch was spiked but not the football pitch. **Cllr Willmott agreed to investigate this.**

PW

The chair declared the meeting back in session at 8.15pm

178. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE FLOOD ADVISORY GROUP (FAG)

An update had previously been circulated and focussed on two issues

1. Capacity of water storage required to alleviate potential flooding. This has been measured and passed to Monsons.
2. Natural flood alleviation (log jams, low berms) to slow water down and supplement the larger storage solution may be suitable in the railway cutting in Littleworth.

Landowner's permission would be required along with financial support.

FAG met recently and Monsons will approach the Diocese/School about using the woodland area near Shotover.

R Bettes asked for blocked drains to be reported to Fixmystreet or direct to him.

179. TO CONSIDER AN APPROACH TO THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EA)

There have been several instances of diluted but untreated sewage has been released into the stream along London Rd. Thames Water and EA have been invited to Floods & Drainage Committee but have not accepted.

The committee would like the support of the Parish Council to persuade EA to meet and discuss the issues.

It was agreed for Cllrs Hood, Lamont to organise an EGM and to invite EA.

Pho/DL

Cllr Harding asked for another parish councillor to join the Flood Storage Group and for one member to sit on the Floods & Drainage Committee.

Cllr Cooper asked if there was a chronological list of issues R Bettes will provided this Cllr Cooper agreed to join the Floods & Drainage Committee.

- 180. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM WHEATLEY PLAYING FIELDS TRUST** **PW**
 Report previously circulated. Cllr Bell was pleased that the trust accounts were circulated and was impressed with the trusts annual report.
- 181. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND PROPOSAL BY PAVILION WORKING GROUP TO REPLACE LOWER PAVILION AS FIRST PHASE OF REBUILDING PAVILION/CLUBHOUSE**
 Cllr Willmott's update had previously been circulated with details on the working group's revised plans for refurbishment, taking on board concerns over the cost of the project. The costs would reduce to approx. £1m.
 Cllr Hood asked whether Cllr Shields could join the working group, this was agreed. Cllr Gregory questioned how the project would be financed. Cllr Wilmott confirmed that there would be some funding from sporting governing body but loans are likely to be required on top of earmarked reserves.
 Cllr Wilmott invited parish councillors to visit the pavilion and confirmed DDA compliance will be incorporated into the new build. Copies of the plans are available electronically and in the parish office.
Cllr Willmott to circulate electronic copies to councillors **PW**
- 182. TO DISCUSS REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTING IN AMBROSE RISE**
 Open Spaces Committee had visited the location during the day and had concerns over the light pollution to residents. Cllr Gregory asked whether other residents have been canvassed.
The Chair asked that all councillors visit the site at night to look at the issue before further action is taken. **All**
- 183. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON WHEATLEY BURIAL GROUND**
 Chair wished to thank Cllrs Gregory, Hood and the Clerk for their work. Discussions took place about the options before Cllr Bell made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Lamont for the Clerk to contact Horspath Parish Council in relation to their process of creating their burial ground.
Clerk to contact the Clerk to Horspath Parish Council **Clerk**
- 184. TO RECEIVE THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT -** Received and noted.
- 185. TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**
 i) Section 6 (cheques signed outside of meetings by two signatories)
 ii) Section 11 (value for quote/tender thresholds (amended to £20,000 with increases to the thresholds below this).
 Cllr Harding made a proposal, seconded Cllr Lamont to adopt these amendments. All voted unanimously in favour. **Clerk to circulate the amended regulations.** **Clerk**
- 186. TO RECEIVE UPDATE/MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM**
 i) Open Spaces Committee –previously circulated, next meeting 15th Jan
 Minute No 58 Church Rd Rock Face work is still outstanding.
Clerk has chased tree work and will chase for another fencing quote. **Clerk**
 It was agreed that the WPFT and Pavilion Project should report to Full Council.
Clerk to ensure the reports are agenda's accordingly. **Clerk**
 ii) Finance Committee – previously circulated, next meeting 18th December.
 iii) Planning Committee – previously circulated next meeting on 13th December.
 Cllr Bell shared the reasons for refusing the Park Hill development proposals.
- 187. TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM EXTERNAL BODIES**
 i) Merry Bells Committee – meeting w/c 11th Dec.

- ii) The Howe Trust – Trustees quarterly meeting held and reviewing their management practices and distribution of funds.
 - iii) Wheatley Windmill Preservation Society – looking to establish a disaster fund
 - iv) Maple Tree Centre – update has been circulated and councillors have been invited to their open day. **Clerk asked all Cllrs to confirm their attendance.** **All**
 Cllr Foster is still concerned over parking on the access road to the mobile home park from Maple Tree/School/John Watson. It was agreed for the **Clerk/Chair to write to all parties and the local TVP Sergeant/Inspector.** **Clerk/Chair**
 There is still question over land ownership of the access road/footpath to the mobile home park.
- 188. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**
 To propose that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph X of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, namely private contractual and employment matters
Proposed by Cllr Lamont, Cllr Harding, agreed unanimously.
- 189. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE/MINUTES AND ACTIONS** from the Staffing Committee on Thursday 30th December.
 Minutes and actions have been circulated and an update provided by the committee chair.
- 190. CORRESPONDENCE**
- i) Email from Goring parish councillor to support a request for civil enforcement powers from SODC. A proposal in support of this was made by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Hood. 10 votes were received in favour with 2 abstentions.
 - ii) Ox/Cambridge express way emails previously circulated.
 - iv) OALC November update – previously circulated and Cllrs urged to contact the Clerk if they wish to attend any of the sessions **All**
- 191. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION - none**
- 192. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 8th January 2018**