

CURBRIDGE AND LEW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Parish Hall, Curbridge, Monday 14 March 2016, 6.00pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Glenn Gannon (Chair), John Courtney, Patrick Foley, Mark Wilson, Tony Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Nigel Parker - Clerk & RFO.

141. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Sue Richman, C. Cllr. James Mills, D. Cllr. Ben Woodruff.

142. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Cllr. Gannon in Agenda Item 6, employee wages.

143. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2016, which had previously been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, with 1 amendment: Note 138 - the Playground Report signed off was for January not December.

144. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

Monies from local building development - the Clerk reported that he had written to Mr Phil Shaw at WODC Planning, putting forward a case for a number of projects in the Parish. Mr Shaw had replied saying that he had passed on the paper to the policy team; he pointed out that S106 money was made available in response to "harms any particular development causes and that the monies then mitigate."

RESOLVED: that the Clerk should respond querying this statement and Mr Shaw's implied assertion that the responsibility for funding application was entirely that of a Parish Council and not that of Planning to advise when funds might be available.

Highways and potholes - the Clerk reported that Highways had been in touch to say that the 'Dragon Patcher' would be employed on Main Road. The biggest hole had now been filled but the state of this road and Well Lane was still very bad.

Asset Register - Cllr. Gannon had obtained the papers necessary for the Council to register the Playground land; the Clerk had the application in hand.

Facebook – it transpires that Curbridge and Lew already have a Facebook page; Cllr. Gannon is investigating its administration.

145. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

None this month.

146. FINANCE

Employee wages - the Clerk reported that the SLCC recommendation for pay rises was 1%; this would give the Clerk an increase of £2 per month before tax. He recommended that he forgo the increase, deferring it to next year. He also recommended that there should be no increase in cleaning wages since the Hall bookings were down and the amount of work had not increased.

RESOLVED: to accept both recommendations, Cllr. Gannon abstaining.

Payments

RESOLVED: that the following accounts should be paid: Clerk (Mar) £176.00; Cleaning (Mar) £64.00, WODC (various services, including late billing) £381.82, Clerks & Councils (annual subs) £12.00, OALC (annual subs) £133.07, OPFA (annual subs) £40.00, SSE (Parish Hall) £111.25, N Parker (Clerk's expenses Sept 2105 - Mar 2016) £49.22, Land Registry (Playground) £30, G Gannon (Chair's expenses 2015/16) £2.32.

Bank balance 1 March 2016: £6,982.39.

147. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

16/00496/FUL Yew Tree Cottage, Lew - change of use of buildings (part retrospective). RESOLVED: object on grounds on size of development relative to size of Lew, increase in traffic on single track lane and increase in noise for neighbours. The Clerk to query also various aspects of the application.

16/00471/FUL Magnolia Cottage, Lew Road - conversion of outbuilding to annexe. RESOLVED: no objections.

Grange Farm site: Cllr. Gannon had met with Mr Tim May and the Developer; he had set out the views of the Council on requirements needed for the proposed development to be in keeping with Curbridge.

15/04527/FUL Beecham Cottage, Lew Road - agricultural land to domestic garden. Approved by WODC Planning.

16/04497/S73 Brookfield, 100 Well Lane - non-compliance on roofing. Approved by WODC Planning.

16/00366/HHD Blenheim Cottage, Church Row - single storey rear extension. Approved by WODC Planning.

15/04342/HHD The Cottage, Main road - single storey extension. Approved by WODC Planning.

15/03449/HHD Willow House, Lew Road - 2 storey extension and garage. Under appeal to Secretary of State, against WODC Planning refusal.

148. PARISH HALL

Cllr. Gannon hoped to obtain soon a third quote for the major works. Applications for funding could then proceed.

149. HM THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

RESOLVED: Cllr. Gannon to ask the Lord Kitchener to organise this event, on the lines of their forthcoming Easter event. A budget of £100 to be set aside to cover marquee hire and other minor expenses.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to contact RAF Brize Norton, alerting them to the probability of a beacon lighting in Lew on 21 April, Cllr. Foley organising.

RESOLVED: since there is no school in the Parish, not to purchase commemorative coins.

150. THAMES VALLEY POLICE REPORT

None received this month.

151. WELL LANE PLAY AREA AND PLAYING FIELD

The Council's Inspection for February was signed off by the Chair.

152. SUNDRY NOTICES

RAF Brize Norton noise survey - the Clerk said that he would collate those responses received and reply.

Horse grazing - the Council were concerned about the reappearance of a horse grazing on the corner of Well Lane and the A4095.

RESOLVED: to erect a suitable sign; Cllr. M Wilson to investigate; budget of £60 agreed.

Next Meeting - Monday 11 April 2016.

Cllr. Glenn Gannon, Chair of the Council
Signed 11 April 2016

Note: Prior to the opening of the Council meeting, an informal meeting was held at which Witney Holdings outlined their plans for the proposed development in Downs road, north of the Golf Club. Present for the Developers were David James, Simon Bullingham and Will Scawn. The development is on a 25 acre site and is for a 60 bed hotel, 40,000 sq ft of office space and 250 houses.