

CURBRIDGE AND LEW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Parish Hall, Curbridge, Monday 11 April 2016, 6.00pm.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: C. Cllr. James Mills, D. Cllr. Ben Woodruff, Nigel Parker - Clerk & RFO.

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

02. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None.

03. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2016, which had previously been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

04. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

Monies from local building development - the Clerk reported that he had had further contact with Mr Phil Shaw at WODC Planning, putting the record straight on past correspondence. While nothing was likely to be forthcoming from the Downs Road (east) development, the Parish Council had stated its case firmly and was in a better position to benefit from any futures opportunities.

Highways and potholes - the Clerk reported that he had chased Highways for a date for the "Dragon Patcher" and was waiting for a reply. Cllr. Courtney informed the Council about a possible collapsed main also in Main Road and said that he had alerted Thames Water about this.

Grange Farm site - Mr Tim May of Brecon & Brecon had provided the Council with some very outline ideas for this site.

Horse grazing - a horse had again been lunged on the corner of Well Lane and the A4095, causing damage to the grass. Cllr. M Wilson had obtained a quotation for the production of "Horses Prohibited" signs but D. Cllr. Woodruff offered to get them produced free of charge. The Council expressed their thanks to the Councillor.

05. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

C. Cllr. Mills had circulated his report in advance. He emphasised the need to keep up pressure on OCC Highways to despatch the "Dragon Patcher".

D. Cllr. Woodruff spoke of the debate about local devolution and the contrasting views of the County and WODC.

06. FINANCE

Payments

RESOLVED: that the following accounts should be paid: 2015/2016 Thames Water (Parish Hall) £21.49, WODC (Playground Inspections) £26.64, Creative Play (Playground) £234.00, HMRC (PAYE Quarter 4) £180.00, 2016/17 Community First (Parish Hall annual sub) £50.00, Clerk (Apr) £176.00; Cleaning (Apr) £64.00.

Bank balance 31 March 2016: £6,089.71

The RFO presented the financial figures for the year end (31 March). He said that the deficit for the year of £442 was very much better than that budgeted at £1,878; while Parish Hall income was much reduced and more money had been spend on the Playground than had been anticipated, expenditure was down on Insurance and no money had been spent on Contingencies. With the increase in the Precept for the new year, the RFO said that this would help the Council to achieve some of its goals for the Parish Hall and the Playground.

He said that he was about to complete the Annual Audit for adoption at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: to appoint Mrs Stephanie Zollman to conduct the internal audit.

07. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

16/00471/FUL Magnolia Cottage, Lew Road - conversion of outbuilding to annexe. Approved by WODC Planning.

16/00825/HHD 2 Nursery Cottages, Malthouse Nurseries, Main Road - single storey extension and garage conversion. RESOLVED: no objections.

08. PARISH HALL

Cllr. Gannon said that he had now approached another Builder, in order to obtain the required third quote. The Clerk informed the Council that 8 June was the deadline for the final round of applications to WREN.

09. CURBRIDGE MAINTENANCE

RESOLVED: to continue the contract with WODC for grass cutting, weed control, litter picking, dog bin emptying and playground inspections, at a 1.0% increase in the fees.

10. HM THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Cllr. Gannon said that the Lord Kitchener had agreed to organise this event on Sunday 12 June. A budget of £100 has been set aside by the Council to cover marquee hire and other minor expenses.

The proposed beacon lighting on 21 April in Lew had proved to be impractical but there was to be one in Witney.

11. THAMES VALLEY POLICE REPORT

None received this month.

12. WELL LANE PLAY AREA AND PLAYING FIELD

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

13. SUNDRY NOTICES

Parking on verge in Main Road - the Clerk said that he had received a complaint from a Parishioner about cars/vans being parked on the grass verge on the opposite side to the Church. This was ruining the grass and causing an obstruction to vehicles leaving the estate located there.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk should write to the person believed to be the 'offender'.

Police Commissioners Election - in the Parish Hall Thursday 5 May.

Next Meeting - Monday 9 May 2016. The Clerk reminded the Council that this would be the Annual Parish Meeting, the Annual Parish Assembly and the AGM of the Charity Field.

Cllr. Glenn Gannon, Chair of the Council
Signed 9 May 2016