

CURBRIDGE AND LEW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Parish Hall, Curbridge, Monday 13 April 2015, 6.00pm.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: 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 16 March 2015, 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

Re. damaged posts on the A4095. The Clerk reported that he had received a response from OCC Highways to the Council's offer to remove the posts to the effect, "Go ahead".

RESOLVED: that the Council would remove the damaged barrier, felt to be a potential hazard, Cllr. M Wilson to organise.

On a related matter, Mr Valentine, a Parishioner, attended the meeting for a short while. The grass area on the corner of Main Road and the A4095 had been damaged by a grazing horse/s and had been the subject to a complaint from another Parishioner. Mr Valentine offered to make good this area and repair the hedge.

RESOLVED: that first the Clerk would check with OCC Highways that they were happy with this course of action, since it was OCC land.

05. SPEEDING

The Clerk reported the results of the Police "Speed Indicator Device" work. The figures shown are the number of vehicles checked and the number exceeding 34mph, all of whom have been written to by the Police. Main Road towards Carterton 90 (3 speeding), Main Road towards Witney 206 (10), Lew Road towards Lew 130 (9), Lew road towards Witney 133 (17). The overall level of speeding was 6.8%, which would not be enough to warrant the extra deployment of a mobile speeding camera although this would continue to be used at the Bampton approach into Curbridge.

The Clerk's enquiries of Highways about Section 106 money being made available for traffic calming measures had been met with a "No money available". Cllr. Courtney offered to look back into the records to see what had been offered in the past that was seemingly now not available.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk should look into the cost of flashing speed lights and speed humps.

06. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

D. Cllr. Woodruff reported on the WODC Local Plan, in particular with regard to Developer interest in the land between Curbridge and Ducklington, south of the bypass.

He said also that he had been approached informally by a Developer interested in building houses alongside the west of the A4095, just past Main Road, towards the Kitchener. The Council asked him to convey to the Developer that any such idea would be resisted strongly.

07. FINANCE

The Clerk said he had been in debate with WODC about about several of their invoices and that the matter had now been resolved in favour of the Parish Council. He reported that, with the change of Clerk in October, there had been an overpayment of PAYE to HMRC £109.53 that would be recouped over the coming months.

RESOLVED: that the following accounts should be paid: Clerk (April) £175.63; Cleaning (April) £63.78; Thames Water £19.55, OALC annual sub £133.07, Windrush Press £30.00.

The Clerk reported on the end of year finances and presented a revised budget for 2015/2016, as attached. For the year as a whole, the Parish had a surplus of £45.00 and the year end bank balance stood at £6,145.40.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk should complete the Annual Audit in conjunction with Cllr. Gannon and give it to the Internal Auditor before sign-off by the Council.

08. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: no comment 15/01052/FUL, Thorney Leys, outside Parish boundary.

RESOLVED: no objection to Meggetts Cottage, Lew Road 15/01052/FUL annexe with replacement garage.

RESOLVED: objection, on the same grounds as the previous application, to land off Glebe Cottage 15/01257/FUL erection of 4 dwellings.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk should enquire of Planning the status of the sheds erected for a snail farm at the old railway bridge on the approach to Lew.

09. WODC LOCAL PLAN

This document was being passed around the Councillors for perusal and comment.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk would liaise with Cllr. Courtney to collate any comments and convey them to WODC.

10. THAMES VALLEY POLICE REPORT

Their report had been circulated previously. The Clerk was asked to inform the Police that further possible substance abuse items had been found, discarded, in Curbridge.

11. WELL LANE PLAY AREA AND PLAYING FIELD

The Council's Inspection for March was signed off by the Chair. It highlighted, as did that of WODC, the damage to the shelter.

RESOLVED: to remove the shelter as it was seldom used. A ceiling of £250 was agreed for demolition and removal. Cllr. Gannon to get a quotes. He was obtaining also a quote for re-painting the play equipment.

The Clerk said that he had not yet ordered a delivery of "cushionfall", as agreed at the last meeting. The last delivery had been as recently as June 2014 and he felt it better that the cost be incurred in the new financial year.

The Play Area is inspected each month by both the Parish Council and by WODC; additionally, there is also an annual ROSPA inspection. The Clerk had been investigating and reported that, in order to avoid this duplication, 'someone' would have to go on a ROSPA training course, at a cost of up to £350.

RESOLVED: that the status quo be maintained and that the Clerk should confirm the annual inspection for July.

12. SUNDRY NOTICES

Child Protection Policy. The Clerk had received an emailed document from OCC stating that "Every Parish Council should have a Child Protection Policy". Cllr. Richman offered to deal with this.

Annual Parish Meeting. The Clerk reminded the Council that the May (11th) meeting was also The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, The Annual Village Meeting and the Playing Field AGM.

June Meeting. RESOLVED: that, due to availability problems for both the Chair and the Clerk, the meeting be moved from Monday 8th to Tuesday 9th.

Cllr. Glenn Gannon, Chair of the Council
Signed 11 May 2015