

# **CURBRIDGE AND LEW PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Parish Hall, Curbridge, Monday 14 December 2015, 6.00pm.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Glenn Gannon (Chair), Sue Richman, Mark Wilson, Tony Wilson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Nigel Parker - Clerk & RFO.

### **102. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs. John Courtney, Patrick Foley.

### **103. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

None.

### **104. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2015, which had previously been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **105. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA**

North Curbridge/Downs Road development - meeting between Cllr. Gannon, D. Cllr. Woodruff and Mr Shaw of WODC Planning still to be arranged. Cllr. Gannon had sent Mr Shaw past correspondence regarding "Curbridge concerns".

A4095 Main Road Junction to Witney Roundabout and Downs Road - the hedge cutting along the footpaths had now been done, by Mr Julian Wade. However the work had taken 4 hours, rather than Mr Wade's estimate of 3 hours.

Telephone Kiosk - following an approach to BT, this had now been cleaned.

### **106. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

No report.

### **107. FINANCE**

#### 2016/17 Budget

The Clerk presented the budget for next year. In preparation, he had made estimates for the year end 31 March 2016. These showed balanced income and expenditure instead of a budgeted deficit of £1,878; the difference was due to reductions in costs of Insurance, WODC services and Miscellaneous. For 2016/17, the Clerk's budget showed an increase in expenditure of £3,000 over the current year end estimate; this was due to the need to make significant allowance for Parish Hall and Playground running costs. Given also a further drop in Hall bookings income, the budget for next year could only be balanced

by an increase in the Precept from £9,000 to £11,000 and by drawing down £1,225 from Reserves.

RESOLVED: to accept this initial budget for 2016/17.

#### Precept

The Clerk recommended that, to support the 2016/17 budget, an application should be made for a Precept of £11,000; this would put it back to the level of 2010/2011.

RESOLVED: to accept this recommendation..

#### Pensions

The Clerk reported that he was following Government legislation that all employers set up a pension scheme. While he had established that neither of the Parish Council's employees qualified for 'automatic enrolment', nevertheless he still had to set up a scheme.

#### Payments

RESOLVED: that the following accounts should be paid: Clerk (Dec) £176.00; Cleaning (Dec) £64.00, Society of Local Council Clerks (annual sub) £70.00, Windrush Press (Newsletter) £25.00, Citizens Advice West Oxfordshire (donation) £100.00, H A King & Sons (hedge cutting) £144.00.

### **108. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

15/03513/HHD Manor Farm, Lew - erection single and 2 storey extension. Approved by WODC Planning.

15/03532/HHD Manor Farm, Lew - new, detached garden pavilion, gym & pool outbuilding. Approved by WODC Planning.

15/03587/HHD & 15/03589/LBC Thatched Cottage, Lew - new engine house and green house. Approved by WODC Planning.

15/03449/HHD Willow House, Lew Road - 2 storey extension & detached garage. Refused by WODC Planning.

15/04075/FUL & 15/04076/LBC Caswell House - barn extension to holiday, event and tourism accommodation.

RESOLVED: no objections.

### **109. VILLAGE HALL**

RESOLVED: to accept the recommendations of the Working Party viz: to obtain three up-to-date quotations for both the major renovations and the replacement of the panelling and to investigate funding opportunities. Cllr. Gannon to pursue the former and the Clerk the latter. The Clerk reported that he was currently exploring funding from WREN and from WODC Communities Facilities Grant.

### **110. ASSET REGISTER**

The Clerk reported his investigations had revealed that all land owned by the Parish Council should be included on the Register. Cllr. Gannon was looking into obtaining a 'Red Book' valuation of the Playgroundland, based upon its current use.

### **111. THAMES VALLEY POLICE REPORT**

Circulated previously.

**112. WELL LANE PLAY AREA AND PLAYING FIELD**

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

**113. SUNDRY NOTICES**

Letter from Volunteer Link-Up - requesting a donation.

RESOLVED: that, since the Council's budget for donations was already fully used, the Clerk should reply in the negative.

Letter from the Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire - requesting that all Parishes should organise an event around HM The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 11/12<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

RESOLVED: that this proposal be adopted and that the Council should start considering ideas.

Next Meeting - Monday 11 January.

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