

CURBRIDGE AND LEW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Parish Hall, Curbridge, Monday 13 February 2017, 6.00pm.

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

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

Cllr. Gannon opened the meeting with the news that Captain Charles Radclyffe of Lew House had sadly passed away. Some time ago, Captain Radclyffe had served on the Parish Council; he had also been Vicar's Warden at Holy Trinity Church, Lew for nearly 60 years.

104. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Patrick Foley, D. Cllr. Ben Woodruff.

105. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None.

106. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2017, which had previously been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

107. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

Housing development at Downs Road (East) - the Clerk had been told by WODC Planning that the proposed attenuation pond in the field south of the bypass was not to do with the housing development but was connected to the planned new exit from the bypass. The Clerk to follow up with OCC Highways.

Verge cutting - Cllr. Gannon said that HA King would be issuing a revised invoice after the Clerk had returned the original for clarification.

Traffic Calming Measures - OCC Highways had informed the Council that there was no money for a feasibility study, no money for design and no money for implementation; should the Council wish to proceed, they should approach a private contractor.

RESOLVED: Cllr. Gannon and the Clerk to consider next steps.

108. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS/UNITARY AUTHORITY

These two agenda items were merged. There was some debate about the opposing arguments/campaigns of the County Council and WODC. Much literature and emails had been received while Cllr. Courtney and the Clerk had attended meetings on the subject. C. Cllr Mills joined the discussion and gave some of the points in favour and against both Unitary and Devolution. The feeling amongst the Councillors was unanimous.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk should respond to the appropriate authorities that the Council was in favour of Devolution on the grounds of cost savings (shared services/20-20 Vision), retaining local services and localised government.

109. FINANCE

Parish Hall

The Clerk announced that Thames Water had pulled out of their retail business and that the account was now in the hands of Castle Water.

On the Electricity side, he had been approached by Utility Aid, an organisation who, free-of-charge, look for the best deal for the likes of charities. The Clerk recommended their proposal for a 36-month deal with SSE, the current supplier. The Clerk said that this new contract would save 28% (£457 pa) and would avoid likely energy price rises over the next 3 years.

RESOLVED: to sign up for a new contract.

Payments

RESOLVED: that the following accounts should be paid: M Wilson (trees and stakes for Village Green) £221.12, Castle Water (Parish Hall) £19.81, HMRC (PAYE Quarter 3) £180.00, T Richman (Parish Hall renovations) £1,000.00, J Gannon (Parish Hall refuse sacks) £24.20.

Bank balance at 1 February 2017: £8,542.24

110. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 16/03333/HHD & 03343/LBC Morgans Farm, Lew - conversion of granary to annexe. Application withdrawn.
- 16/04002/HHD Mallard Cottage, Lew Road - removal of garage, erection of 2 storey side extension. Approved by WODC Planning.
- 17/00168/HHD & 00169/LBC Duttons House, Lew Road – demolition of boundary wall to provide new access. RESOLVED: no objections.

111. PARISH WEBSITE

The Clerk had produced a flyer to publicise the new website. With a few changes, this was agreed.

RESOLVED: that the flyer should be printed and distributed. Cllrs. Richman and Courtney and the Clerk offered to distribute throughout the Parish.

112. PARISH HALL

The Council were very impressed by the work on the wooden panelling done by Mr Tom Richman.

113. STATUTORY REGULATIONS

The Clerk recommended that the following be re-adopted: Transparency Code, Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Risk Assessment (with an addition from the Clerk re. the website), Financial Regulations, Child Protection Policy (with an alteration from Cllr. Richman).

RESOLVED: to adopt all the policies for a further 12 months.

114. WELL LANE PLAY AREA AND PLAYING FIELD

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

115. SUNDRY NOTICES

WODC/Town and Parish Meeting - Cllr Courtney handed out notes on the meeting that he had attended. The Chairman thanked him for his efforts.

Green Waste Collection - the Clerk confirmed the new, charged-for system operative 1 April.

Community Led Plan meeting - Cllr. Courtney offered to attend a meeting 15 February 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange, to be chaired by the Mayor of Witney.

Next Meeting - Monday 13 March 2017.

Cllr. Glenn Gannon, Chair of the Council
Signed 13 March 2017