

## WENDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Wendlebury Parish Council Meeting held at Manor Farm House on Wednesday 12 July 1006.

Due to a double booking of the Village Hall a decision was made to move the meeting to Manor Farm House – at 8.00pm there were no members of the public to inform of this last minute decision – the dog club who had also booked the hall was asked and agreed to send any members of the public arrived to Manor Farm House. The meeting started at approximately 8.10pm.

Present: Cllrs A McDonagh (Chairperson), K Sharp, J Hucker, J Brown, C Abbott, F Shouler, Cty. Cllr. C Shouler, Dist. Cllr. A Fulljames, Shirley Parker (Parish Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. K Wilce
2. There were no declarations of interest at this time
3. The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 26 April 2006 were approved and signed.
4. Statutory business.
  - a. Payments for Churchyard lighting, Disabled parking scheme, ORCC subs and ½ year clerk's salary were approved.
  - b. Following an article in the Clerk and Councils Direct magazine on whether Parish Councils' should continue to pay the clerk's subs to the SLCC it was decided that in future the clerk would be responsible for hew own subscription.
5. Matters arising:
  - a. Storm drainage – Church Lane – proposals for extra drainage at the bottom of Church Lane had been made, however, one resident of the 4 cottages involved was unable to agree to them – the County Engineer had offered to meet with this resident – the Parish Council felt that it was unable to help with this problem any further as agreement between residents could not be made. Whilst talking to a resident of the Cottages the clerk had been asked about bollards placed by the entrance to the garden centre – access to the path/cycleway was now further down the slip road – this was passed to the Highways department for investigation and also following jetting of storm drainage at the bottom of Church Lane it now appears that the stream bed has been raised – the County Council confirmed that they jet backwards to stop any rubbish being put into the stream – the clerk has asked the Environment Agency to investigate – no report as yet.
  - b. Newsletter – the next issue is in production and it is hoped to distribute within the next 2 weeks – a discussion followed as to the contents and size of the document and whether 3 times a year was too many but the Council decided that no matter how small it should be issued at least 3 times a year.
  - c. Community Mini-bus – Kerry had sent a report – there have been 2 outings so far (one was cancelled). Three passengers

each time. They were going to Milton Keynes on the 11 July with 2 new passengers booked in. The conclusion to date is that there is not enough demand to warrant the service continuing beyond the trial period. A discussion followed on whether the scheme had been advertised enough – each household had received a copy of dates and destinations - and whether it would become more popular by ‘word of mouth’ advertising through the various organisations within the village.

- d. Bicester police Station – a reply had been received following the letter sent by the Council in respect of the new opening hours and had been circulated to councillors previously.
  - e. Speed limit in Village – the clerk had requested that SID (Speed Indicator Device) for the village – no date had been given and the clerk will ask if there is a date available in the near future.
  - f. Wendlebury website – the clerk had obtained a quote for setting up and maintaining a website for the Parish Council and this was distributed at the meeting – an article is to appear in the next newsletter in respect of this. Councillors will look at the quote and this item will be forwarded to the next meeting for a decision.
  - g. Meetings attended on behalf of the Parish council – there were none. Cllr. F Shouler is to attend a meeting on the Council’s behalf at the Environment and Economy Department on the 26 July.
  - h. Annual Parish Meeting – this had taken place in May – very few attendees other than those giving their reports. This is a statutory meeting although hosted by the Parish Council it is not a Parish Council meeting and there is no specific layout – the Council will discuss further at the January meeting content etc. that may make it more appealing to residents.
  - i. Villages of the Year competition – the village has been shortlisted and 3 people have been invited to attend the final presentation – suggestions as to delegates were the Chairperson, perhaps Cllr Wilce as he is involved in many of the village activities and a young person.
6. Reports:
- a. County Council - following the issue of a EU document disposal of Municipal waste into landfill sites must be reduced , starting in 2009, if targets are not met fines will be levied. The County Council is concerned that contracts for the disposal of excess waste would be expensive. The South East Plan 201602026 is now at the public enquiry stage. Housing numbers are to be increased and it has been reported that the Secretary of State has identified Central Oxfordshire for additional growth. Financial cuts in the NHS will inevitable lead to further costs being placed on the Social care within the County.
  - b. District Council – The planning application for the development of Bicester town centre is likely to be received in Sept/Oct 2006. Road plans for the S West option were not final and did not at present comply with Cherwell’s requirements. If the application

is 'not determined' it is likely to go to Appeal. The District Councillor asked if the Parish Council had had any fly tipping problems whilst the amenity site had been closed – no extra tipping had been reported. The District Council will give a grant for the workshop at the Village Hall.

- c. Planning – Following advice from the OALC the decisions made by the Parish Council on planning applications will be named and endorsed and minuted at Council meetings. The Council was asked to retrospectively endorse decisions for the previous two years – which was proposed and seconded and passed. This action follows a request from a member of the public for information – the method in previous use by the Parish Council is not illegal and is in use by many other small Parish Councils – the clerk will, in future, also sign planning application returns rather than the council's correspondent. The appeal in respect of land N East of Rectory Close did not take place as scheduled and a new date has yet to be received. The GRP Kiosk for the Environment Agency has been approved. A new application for Larkhill Cottage, College Farm has been received (the first had been withdrawn). An application had been received for a Moto-Cross at Weston Park Farm – this will be distributed to councillors and a date will be made for residents to view this proposal at the Village Hall. Applications have also been received for the development of Dumbleton's Wood Yard and a Shed for The Villas – all of which will be distributed. The document for the Local Development Framework for Banbury and North Cherwell has been received – this does not cover the Wendlebury/Bicester area.

#### 7. Other Matters

- a. Road markings – Cllr Sharp expressed concern over the amount of traffic, seemingly on the incorrect side of the village roads in particular on the bends. She felt that more white lines may be the answer. Charles Shouler, our County Councillor offered to take this matter to the Highways department on our behalf, which was accepted.
- b. Bus speed – it was felt that at times the speed of the bus for the village route was at times excessive and on occasions irregular. The Clerk will write to the bus company for their comments and will also send a copy to Dick Helling at Speedway House as this is a subsidised route.
- c. Charter 88 – a campaign for a modern and fair democracy - a request had been received for the Parish Council to join this endeavour – a decision was made not to join.
- d. Freedom of Information Act 2000 – a telephoned request had been received by the Chairperson for information – the clerk had written to the caller asking for the request to be made in writing as per the Council's policy on 30 May 2006 – to date no such request has been received.

8. Date of next meeting is 18 October 2006 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. Councillors were asked to bring 2007 diaries to this meeting as dates for 2007 need to be agreed.

Chairperson

Date

Following the close of the meeting it was reported that a resident of Manor Farm Cottages had approached the Chairperson in connection with the hedge being cut back (presumably by the County Council) – she was not ‘happy’ – the hedging is on her property – the boundary is not where the fence is – the Council asked the clerk to write to the County Council reporting this incident and asking them to contact the resident direct in an effort to resolve this problem and to inform the Parish Council of the outcome.