

WENDLBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Wendlebury Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 18 October 2006.

Present: Cllrs A McDonagh, J Hucker, K Sharp, C Abbott, Dist. Cllr. A Fulljames, Shirley Parker (Parish Clerk). Cllr J Brown arrived late as she was attending the ORCC meeting on the Council's behalf. 1 member of the public attended.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F Shouler and K Wilce, Cty. Cllr. C Shouler.
2. There were no declarations of interest at this time.
3. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 July 2006 - with 1 amendment - were approved and signed.
4. Statutory business:
 - a. Payments for churchyard lighting, noise consultants fees, minibus shopping trips, churchyard maintenance, newsletter, audit fees, Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association subs, grants to Village Hall Play Maintenance fund and Wendlebury Woodland Project as per the agenda were approved plus £30 for petty cash.
 - b. The audit opinion for the year ended 31 March 2006 was accepted and approved.
5. Matters arising:
 - a. Storm drainage, Church Lane - this is ongoing - the Chairman briefed the Council on events to date and informed them that that a meeting is to be arranged in the near future between the owners of the four cottages, herself and the parish clerk to progress this matter.
 - b. Newsletter - next issue is to be the end of November - suggestions for inclusion were passed to Anna and Kathy.
 - c. Community Mini-bus - The three month trial run for shopping trips had been completed at a cost of £73.60. Kerry had left a written report which was distributed at the meeting. It is not viable to run the shopping trips with the frequency of the trial although 'one off' trips may be considered, however, as the bus itself has not been self-funding it is unlikely to have its insurance renewed in November. The Council considered whether it should subsidise the bus further (approximately £600 per annum - ½ insurance costs) and it was decided to place an article in the next newsletter asking for the views of the community - all funding from the Council would be via the precept - no money would be available until April 2007 at the earliest.
 - d. Speed in Village - A 'box' which counted vehicles and noted their speed through the village had been placed next to the play area at the Village Hall by

the County Council Road Safety Team at the request of the council. A verbal report as follows had been received and a further in depth report will be made available to the Council at a later date when it is received.

There were 2 methods of calculation used -

i. the 85th percentile (i.e. 85th driver) and

ii. The mean average speed

Southbound - 33mph (85 percentile) 27.7mph (mean average)

Number vehicles over 7 day period - average 637 per 24 hours

No vehicle travelling over 40mph - vast majority 26-30mph - small no. 31-36mph and 36-41mph

Northbound - 32.4mph (85 percentile) 26.3mph (mean average)

Number vehicles over 7 day period - average 454 per 24 hours

Over 40mph - 1 vehicle, vast percentage 26-31mph

The Police do not enforce until over 35mph with camera evidence and usually up to 40mph will only warn.

Mr Woods, Road Safety expert, view is that Wendlebury has a good safety record and overall we have no problems. He did offer the Council some temporary weatherproof signs which we can put up where and for how long we wish - the Council asked the clerk to obtain these signs.

e. Wendlebury website - This is now 'live' - all councillors had seen the website in particular the Parish Council link. All the councillors plus the County and District Councillors gave their permission for their telephone numbers to be published on the site. The clerk will write to Jack thanking her for all her hard work in setting up the site and offering to pay towards the cost of hosting the website as they were unable to purchase gifts from Parish precept funds.

f. Meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council - the clerk had attended an Environment and Economy meeting where talks had been given on highway matters and its funding and also on recycling and following from this had requested a weight restriction through the village. The request has been added to the list and an assessment would be made in due course but no progress would be made before the end of the financial year. Jackie had attended 2 Village Hall meetings (2 others had been cancelled) and as matters discussed had no relevance to the Parish Council she questioned the need to attend - Parish Council have always attended these meetings as the Village Hall is built on land in the ownership of the Parish Council (community asset) and should the charitable trust for the hall cease to exist the hall would then become the responsibility of the council. The clerk will ask for an agenda prior to each meeting so that a decision can be made as to whether a representative of the Council need attend and also for a copy of the accounts for the play maintenance fund. Kathy is to attend the Parish Liaison meeting at Cherwell District Council on 9 November.

g. Village of the Year competition - Wendlebury were placed runners up (1 of 6) in the small village category. Justine had attended the ORCC AGM earlier this evening and had on received on behalf of the Parish Council a certificate and a promissory note for the £100 prize. An article will be placed in the next newsletter asking for ideas on how to spend this money with a final 4 or 5 ideas to be voted on at a later date. Jacky will arrange for this to be placed on

the website.

h. Road markings - Kathy had met with Charles Shouler (County Councillor) and Louise Harrison (County Council Highways) - the County Council will white line the bends to the south of the village.

i. Bus -route 25 - speed and reliability - the clerk reported that following her letter both the Bus Service Manager (OCC) and RHS Transport (bus operator) had replied that unless the Council could give dates and times of these problems they were unable to follow up and comment. An article will be placed in the next newsletter asking for feedback from users of the service.

6, Reports:

a. County Council - no report

b. District Council - Cherwell District Council is undergoing re-organisation following the arrival of the new Chief Executive which will be completed by April 2007. Recycling is averaging at 7.8kg per household - Wendlebury recycles 9.4kg. Development plans for Bicester Town Centre have been on display. Amended plans for the SW option were awaited. Cllr. Fulljames will enquire as to what retail outlets are to be at Blooms Garden Centre.

c. Planning - Applications for Dumbleton's Woodyard and Larkhill Cottage have been withdrawn. The amended application for The Villas and the GRP Kiosk for the Environment Agency have been approved. Objections and observations for the SW option and Motocross applications were endorsed. Notification of the planning appeal for OS Parcel 2000 adj. A41 and NE Rectory Close on 28 November has been received. Notice of a request by the Red Lion PH for tourism signs has been received from OCC Highways - they have no objections and the clerk will reply. Motocross application - although this had been withdrawn a noise test had taken place on Friday 13 October. The test had been arranged by the applicants for the District Council and the Parish Council had been invited by Mr Duxbury (Planning) to observe and make comments. Justine raised the question as to whether the Parish Council should have objected to the test taking place. Anna, as Chairman, re-affirmed her e-mail of 9 October that as this was normal practice to hold tests and did not need to seek the permission of the Parish Council to hold them and by allowing these tests to go ahead the Parish Council were not accepting that they were happy to have the motocross. The land is in private ownership and as such can hold a number of motocross events without planning permission it was felt that had the Parish Council not attended they would have lost a valuable opportunity to gather information. Discussion took place on whether meetings should be held on an ad hoc basis for planning applications - it was felt that this was a good idea for major applications but would be too onerous for every one. Kathy gave Anna a vote of thanks for all her hard work on this planning application and Anna gave a vote of thanks for all the village residents that had given their time to ensure that the Parish Council made an in depth reply to this application. The only feedback from the District Council concerning the noise tests were that an interesting phenomenon had occurred - noise from the motorway decayed with distance - noise from the Motocross

does not.

7. Other matters:

a. Noise levels - following complaints from village residents in respect of noise from the Red Lion PH the District Council had written to both the licensee and Punch Taverns pointing out reports of excessive noise and their entertainments licence has been amended to no music etc. outside after 2300hrs. Hopefully this will alleviate any more problems but should they re-occur further steps will be taken.

b. Road Bridge - The hydrology survey stated that the Main Road bridge could be a possible pinchpoint for the water course. The County Council bridge inspector will investigate for any local build up of sediment or weed growth.

8. Dates and times of meetings for the year 2007

All to take place starting at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

January 10 - Parish Council meeting

May 16 - Annual Parish Council meeting (following elections to be held early May)

June 13 - Annual Parish meeting

July 4 - Parish Council meeting

October 10 - Parish Council meeting

The clerk will book the Village Hall for these dates and confirm at the next meeting.

Date..... Chairman.....