

## WENDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Wendlebury Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 10 January 2007.

Present: Cllrs. A McDonagh, Jackie Hucker, Kathy Sharp, Kerry Wilce, Carline Abbott, Justine Brown, Dist. Cllr. A Fulljames, Cty. Cllr. C Shouler, Parish Clerk S Parker and 1 member of the public.

1. There were no apologies for absence.
2. There were no declarations of interest at this time.
3. The minutes of the Parish council meeting held on the 18 October 2006 were approved and signed.
4. Statutory business:
  - a. Payments for churchyard lighting, ½ clerk's annual salary, newsletter and village hall rent were approved.
  - b. Clerk's salary – (the clerk took no part in this discussion and was asked to minute) It was agreed that the clerk's salary should rise to £620 per annum and for a vote of thanks to the clerk for her work to be minuted.
  - c. The setting of the precept for 2007/2008 was deferred to the end of the meeting.
5. Matters arising:
  - a. Storm drainage Church Lane – Heavy rainfall had once again resulted in flooding of Main Street, Rectory Close and in a least 2 cottages. Concern was raised over health hazards that could occur when waste water mingled with storm water and the clerk was asked to write to Thames Water expressing the council's concern – Caroline will forward a list of potential health problems. It was reported by the clerk that the Highways Department were looking into the storm drainage at the corner of College Farm and the play area and from the end of the gardens of Manor Farm Cottage across to the Willows. It was reported that the drainage pipe on Main Street corner of Farriers Mead was broken and causing concern – the clerk will report this to the Highways department. The flooding of Rectory Close was discussed and this may be caused by blocked drainage ditches in the woods at Orchard House – a working party, with the permission of Mrs Trench (Anna to obtain), may be needed to be set up to clear the ditches. A note will be placed on the website informing residents that the Parish Council is looking into drainage problems (Justine/Jackie to arrange).
  - b. Community Mini-bus – Kerry reported that an individual from the village had loaned this project £600 to make up the shortfall for the insurance so that it could continue. This community asset will never be self-funding and the council agreed to make a small donation of up to £100 in the next financial year should it be requested.

- c. Speed in village – copies of the report given verbally at the last meeting were distributed. It was agreed to ask for the recording box again in 12 months in perhaps another location.
- d. Meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council – Kathy had attended the Parish Liaison meeting held at Cherwell District Council and reported that the website surgery had been of interest and had passed details of a free website to Justine/Jackie to take to the website committee, the recycling presentation had been good and information had been disseminated via the newsletter. Copies of the minutes of the meeting were distributed.
- e. Road bridge – nothing further to report.
- f. Village of the Year competition – Justine reported that she had not yet received the cheque for £100 – no suggestions on how to use this money had been received via the newsletter or the website.

#### 6. Reports:

- a. County Council – Unitary councils – the City and District Councils had not yet declared whether they would be applying to become a Unitary Authority. The City Council had been one prior to 1974. If these types of authorities were set up the County Council would cease to exist – they are opposed. If they were set up they should not cost the taxpayer any extra money. The SE Plan is now open for examination. The Social Services and Education Directors had moved on and replacements were in the process of being appointed. By 2009 the Landfill Directive targets must be met – this will mean a decreasing total of waste going into landfill sites. Other options for waste disposal were being discussed. In 2010/11 the County Council could be facing fines or be purchasing quotas from other areas to dispose of waste. Council tax for 2007/08 is to be a 4% increase with further savings and efficiencies over the next 2 years.
- b. District Council – The application for the development of Bicester town centre is expected at the end of February. The SW option will be before the committee on 18 January and has been recommended for approval – Cllr. Fulljames will be objecting to the proposal on the grounds that it is not in accord with the Local Plan or the non-statutory Local Plan H13 to determine the siting of the perimeter road. The plans also leave land open for future development. Council tax increase is to be approx. 2.6%.
- c. Planning – The appeal against the refusal of the planning application for land SE Rectory Close has been heard but no decision has yet been received. The motocross application has been withdrawn – it had been recommended for refusal and we are awaiting its re-submission. The Council ratified the decision of no objections to outline planning permission for Larkhill Cottage and for the shed at the Village Hall.

#### 7. Other matters:

- a. Format of Annual Parish Meeting – after discussion it was decided that as it will take place after Parish Council elections in May this year it would take the format of ‘come and meet your Parish Councillors, District Councillor and County Councillor’ There will be a short report

from all three Councils. It is worth noting that any member of the electorate can propose a motion at this meeting.

- 4. c. Precept for year 2007-08 – The sum of £3230 was proposed and seconded after discussion – this will cover estimated running costs of the Council for this year.

8. Dates and times of next meetings – all to start at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

May 16 – Annual Parish Council Meeting

June 13 – Annual Parish Meeting

July 4 – Parish Council Meeting

October 10 – Parish Council Meeting

Date.....

Signed.....(Chairperson)

After the meeting closed Kathy asked if anyone had reported problems with the power fluctuating – after discussion the clerk will write to the Power Company reporting problems and will update at the next meeting.