

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

Present: Anna McDonagh (Chairperson), Councillors Chris Burton, Kathy Sharp, Justine Brown, Frank Shouler, Jackie Hucker, County Councillor Charles Shouler, District Councillor Andrew Fulljames, Parish clerk Shirley Parker.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Caroline Abbott.
2. There were no declarations of interest at this time.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2007 were approved and signed with the addition of Justine Brown added to those present.
4. Statutory business:
  - a. Approval of payments: payments of £20 churchyard lighting, £100 newsletter, £58.75 audit fees, £30 OPFA subs, £250 grant to the play maintenance fund were approved and seconded.
  - b. The audit opinion for the year ending 31.03.07 was approved and accepted. The clerk reported that the Parish council was now a registered employer of the clerk and Justine volunteered to be the internal auditor as per the recommendations received from the auditors.
5.
  - a. Storm drainage: renewed and satisfactory in front of The Willows and side of Manor Farm Cottages.
  - b. Flooding: replies from all letters sent have been received and the clerk will follow these up.
  - c. Meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council: Anna attended a Bicester Town Council meeting in connection with planning for the Business Park and its traffic issues which was both helpful and informative. Anna and Frank attended a reception held at Trinity College. Frank attended a meeting on development control which again was informative and reported that the District Council were keen to hold more meetings to enable connection and lobbying. Kathy attended a meeting on the Cherwell Recreation Strategy and reported that the meeting itself was not very informative as it mainly concerned plans for larger settlements. Carline will be attending the Parish Liaison meeting.
  - d. Dog Litter Bins: installation of these bins will not be progressed - most respondents to the survey were not in favour and felt that those pet owners who did not clean up after their pets now would not do so either if bins were provided.
  - e. Traffic monitoring: the clerk will chase the monitoring officer for this.
  - f. Wyvale Garden Centre: at the request of the Parish council the Highways department had erected a new traffic sign encouraging vehicles to use the Chesterton overbridge to access the A41.

- g. Notice board: still waiting a quote from George Dumbleton, the clerk will chase.
- h. Weight restriction: this is an ongoing issue. The Highways department have informed the Council that it will be progressed during this financial year and that they estimate that consultation will take place at the beginning of 2008.
- i. Village of the Year competition: The £100 won in 2006 was donated to the Village Hall committee and has been used towards the cost of the new picnic benches – one of which is ‘disabled friendly’. The 2007 competition is now complete and the village was ‘Commended’.

#### 6. Reports:

- a. County Council: Rises in Council Tax for 2007/08 is likely to be 4% maximum dependence upon Central government. ‘106 agreements’ which is a tariff on new developments will stay in the local area. A report is being sent to the cabinet on secondary schooling. Traffic counts have taken place recently and the report states that over the last 5 years the traffic using the A41 to jct 9/M40 has not increased, the A41 bypass to Rodney House has risen by 13% and the A34 south of the M40 has stabilised. Charles reported that the County Council has been offered a site adjacent to the South West Option for a remote Park and Ride for Oxford and asked for personal views as to its suitability – most councillors felt that it was too remote a location.
- b. District Council: work on Bicester Town Centre is due to start soon. Restructuring and re-organisation of the District Council is now complete.
- c. Planning: The council endorsed the following – external seating for the Red Lion PH for which no objections/observations were made has since been withdrawn. Outline planning approval for Larkhill Cottage – no objections/observations made has been approved. Objections were made for the application of London Metro for the Business Park. Retrospective permission for the conservatory at The Chestnuts has been approved – no objections/observations made. The Tree Preservation order for Orchard House has been approved.

#### 7. Other matters:

- a. Newsletter: Mike and Diana Broun have volunteered to assist with the compilation, editing and issuing of the newsletter and it is hoped to issue one in the near future.
- b. Possible subsidised Xmas Shopping trip: discussed as a one-off, no date or destination at present set, an article will be placed in the newsletter.
- c. Proposal for new bus stop: Kathy attended a site meeting. There are funds available to improve and support disabled access, the only available site in the village is in front of the notice board (kerbing etc. required) but this will encroach on the drive to Rose Cottage. The scheme will not be designated ‘high priority’
- d. Request for funds to update Village Hall: supporting information was not available until a late date – this matter will be discussed at the

next meeting. Anna will speak to Kerry as Chairperson of the VHC to ask about disabled facilities that could be undertaken in conjunction with other works.

- 8. Date and times of meetings for 2008 – all to take place in the Village Hall starting at 8.00pm – dates will be confirmed at the next meeting.
  - January 16 – Parish Council
  - April 30 – Annual Parish Council
  - May 14 – Annual Parish Meeting
  - July 9 – Parish Council
  - October 8 – Parish Council

Chairman..... date.....