

# **WENDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at the Wendlebury Village Hall.**

No members of the public attended the meeting which started at 8.00pm

### **Present:**

Parish Councillors: Julian Cordy (Chairperson), Kathy Sharp, Caroline Abbott, Brett Chambers, Alan Rumsey, Anni Thompson

Parish Clerk: Lois Lancaster

County Councillor: Charles Shouler.

1. The Chairperson formally welcomed Lois Lancaster as the new Parish Clerk.

Alan Rumsey was proposed as a co-opted member by Kathy Sharp and seconded by Anni Thompson. Alan completed and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was welcomed by the committee as a Parish Councillor.

2. Apologies for Absence: Justine Brown, District Councillor Andrew Fulljames.
3. Declarations of interest: Julian Cordy declared an interest in respect of planning application 11/01286/OUT.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July were approved and signed

5. Statutory Business:

Payments of £40 for Churchyard Lighting and £133.07 for annual membership of the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils were approved.

It was agreed that the following changes should be made to the bank mandate:

- Replace Jackie Hucker with Justine Brown
- Replace Pam Glanville with Lois Lancaster

Clerk to obtain the necessary forms to carry out these changes.

6. Matters Arising:

- a. It was agreed that the Parish Council would decline a funding request from the Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group. Clerk to action.
- b. Waste & Minerals Strategy Review – no action was required as this was unlikely to have a direct effect on the village. Papers to be kept on file for future reference if necessary.
- c. Snow Plan – Kathy advised that the missing grit bin on the village side of the bridge was to be replaced. The village will receive a cubic metre of salt and will be responsible for clearing roads. Julian will approach a resident to ask if they could store this. It was agreed that the farmers had been of great assistance in previous years and that they would again be asked to clear the two exits to the village. Clerk to obtain the cost of a hand operated grit dispenser and advise.

- d. Youth Club Closure – Every effort had been made to increase numbers and support for the Youth Club but unfortunately it is not sustainable at current levels. Some equipment will be retained should a future group of parents wish to restart this. The funds held on account will be passed back to the Parish Council.
- e. Allotments – No progress as yet, the council await responses from land owners. Charles will provide Julian with the relevant contact details and Julian to provide an update at the next meeting.
- f. Graven Hill Development – The planning application had been submitted and the committee discussed the potential impact on traffic around the village. After discussions it was agreed that a Parish meeting should be arranged to advise residents of the proposal and obtain opinions from them. A provisional date of Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November was set for this. Brett will approach MoD Estates to ask if they will provide information and possibly send a representative. Brett will also prepare a piece for the forthcoming village newsletter regarding this and forward it to the clerk for inclusion in our submission.
- g. Village Deposit Fund – No competitive alternative account had been found and it was agreed to leave the accounts unchanged at this time.
- h. Village Plan – There was little appetite to pursue this at present and it will be revisited towards the end of 2012.
- i. Newsletter – Dr Maggie Patient had kindly agreed to take over as editor. Clerk will act as liaison with her and provide a newsworthy synopsis of relevant agenda items.
- j. Localism Bill / Impact on Local Planning – Charles advised the current position regarding this and following discussion it was agreed that the Council would take no action at this time.
- k. Meetings Attended on Behalf of the Parish Council – Kathy had met with Jane Burrett and the Environment Agency to discuss the situation regarding flood warnings for the village. It appears that the monitoring equipment needed recalibrating and this should happen in the near future. Kathy will provide Clerk with information from the Environment Agency regarding the Flood Warning Service for publication in the newsletter.

Kathy and Caroline had agreed to attend the forthcoming Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November.

## 7. Reports:

- a) County Council – Charles Shouler gave his report:

The budget cuts of £55m continue to be rolled out and further cuts will follow next year. Areas under review include business rates and school funding.

Council Tax will once again be frozen for next year.

Three of the five Park and Ride sites have been returned to the control of the City Council.

The review of Electoral Boundaries continues with little opposition. Wendlebury is likely to become part of a rural group with other local villages.

The new roundabout onto the A41 is making it difficult for traffic from Wendlebury to join the main flow of traffic on the A41. Charles will raise this, along with the fact that the road from the old junction to the new one is narrow enough to perhaps be considered dangerous.

Charles was advised that we had submitted a request for consideration to be given to extending the 40mph speed limit right up to the Junction 9 roundabout to cut down traffic noise in the village.

Three complaints had been received from residents regarding the Hercules plane training parachutists now flying directly over the village. It was agreed that any residents with an issue with this would be asked to write directly to RAF Brize Norton.

Charles advised that the original purpose of the Bicester Transport Committee was to bring minor matters such as double yellow lines etc to the attention of the Highways Authority. Their remit has recently been widened to include wider transport issues in and around Bicester and raise these with the Council.

b) District Council – No report

c) Planning – The committee was apprised of the current planning applications outstanding and no action was required at this time.

#### 8. Other Business

A Jubilee Committee had been formed by Anni Thompson and Julian was the Parish Council representative. The Council agreed to donate funds in principal to a Jubilee Day in the village and Councillors were asked to think of ideas for a lasting legacy that could come from the event.

Julian had recorded an interview with Meridian Television giving the Council's opinion on Chiltern Railways/Evergreen. No transmission date had been set.

#### 9. Dates for 2012 Meetings

Agreed in principal for 8pm on Thursdays:

12<sup>th</sup> January

19<sup>th</sup> April

14<sup>th</sup> June (AGM)

12<sup>th</sup> July

11<sup>th</sup> October.

Clerk to book the Village Hall.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm in the Village Hall.