

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Parish Council meeting held in the Committee Room, Village Hall, Woodcote, 3rd March 2010, commencing 7.30pm

<u>PRESENT</u>	Chairman	Mrs. Fiona Preston
	Vice Chairman	Mrs. D. Hadaway Mrs Maureen Edmonds Mr. Robin Peirce Mr. Peter Tyler Mr. John Lynch Mr. Den Griffiths Mr. Colin Edwards
	County Councillor	Mr. D. Sexon
	Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham

(1) APOLOGIES

None

(2) To received declarations of interests

None

(3) Public Forum

No members of public present

(4) To Approve Minutes of the Meeting held on February 17th 2010.

Approved

(5) Matters arising from those Minutes not on the agenda elsewhere

None

(6) CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

From the chair, Mrs. Fiona Preston reported that PCSO Mark Bell is holding a meeting on Tuesday 9th March 2010, Village Hall, covering Security for your home and has requested that members of the Parish Council attend.

Mrs. Preston reported on the copy letter we received from the Aston Parish Council's to SODC objecting to the proposed changes to planning process. Mrs. Preston will be writing to SODC expressing objections regarding the changes as Parish Councils will have less influence on planning matters if these changes are accepted. All Councillor's support the points to be made in the letter.

Mrs. Preston reported that Mr. Kevin Grady has expressed interest in one of the vacancies for Parish Councillor. Action Mrs. Preston to make contact with Mr. Grady.

(7) PLANNING

7.1 Applications:

P10/E0172 Bonny Elm, Behoes Lane. Loft Conversion with 2 front dormers & 1 rear dormer. Cllr. Hadaway had inspected the site and recommended that this application now be approved, Cllr Lynch seconded.

7.2 Applications Granted:

P09/E1342 Conway, Reading Road. Erection of two storey 3 bedroom dwelling with integral double garage and new vehicular access.

Cllr. Pierce reported in respect of Olga Mowforth House application at the Planning meeting held on 24th February 2010 that he had attended. The permission has been granted with 27 conditions. As some of the conditions are subject to legal conditions he stated it will be several weeks before the official notice is received.

7.3 Applications refused:

None

(8) FINANCE

To Approve payments:

Cheque	Payee	Amount (£)	Date	Reason
3113	Citizens Advice Burea	£1,000.00	3.3.10	Contribution
3114	SwiftClik	£16.33	3.3.10	Waste toner
3115	OALC	£5.87	3.3.10	Accounts excel
3116	K. Smallbone	£125.00	3.3.10	Litterpicking
3117	Cancelled	£97.65	3.3.10	Feb overtime
3118	J.Welham	£10.82	3.3.10	Feb mileage

Approved accept for Cheque 3117 which was cancelled as calculated without deductions.

To Note receipts:

COIF (Allotments) fixed Interest Dividend £199.35 to current account 26 February 2010.

8.1 Bank Mandate

To appointed authorised signatories and to remove old signatories

It was resolved that a banking relationship will be maintained with National Westminster Bank Plc (the **Bank**) in accordance with this Mandate and that:

The individuals identified as **Authorised Signatories** may, in accordance with the **Signing Rules**, sign cheques and give instructions for Standing Orders, Direct Debits, electronic payments, banker's drafts and other payments on the Accounts even if it causes an Account to be overdrawn or exceed any limit.

Any **Authorised Signatory** may give other instructions or requests for information to the Bank in relation to the Accounts; opening accounts with the same **Signing Rules** and **Authorised Signatories**; closing accounts; or other banking services or products.

The Bank may accept instructions that do not have an original written signature provided the Bank is satisfied that the instruction is genuine and subject to any other agreement the Bank may require for those instructions.

The Customer will provide to the Bank a copy of its constitution and any amendment to the constitution, certified as correct by the Secretary.

This Mandate will continue until the Customer gives the Bank a replacement Mandate of the Customer passes a resolution changing the **Signing Rules** and/or adding or removing an **Authorised Signatory** by completing and returning the Change of Signing Authority form in which case this Mandate will continue as amended.

Internet Banking.

The Clerk will need to continue investing Internet Banking when the new Bank Mandate is passed to the Bank

(9) DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr. Pierce reported that the Precept will not have any increases but significant savings will need to be made, which means services across the board will receive cuts and be affected. Further job posts are being cut and some of the glossy publications will be cut and another tier of management are having to re-apply for their positions so this could result in further job cuts.

(10) COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Sexon addressed the meeting asking for feedback from the Cllr's with regard to the bad weather and snow. There is a proposal that in the future that a list of local people willing to clear the snow from roads in their villages be held but there are liability issues with this. Cllr. Sexon

Cllr. Sexon also is requesting that the Woodcote to Pangbourne road be made Priority 1 for gritting it is currently Priority 2. Cllr. Lynch raised the point that local farmers and builders could be provided with snow ploughs to help clear roads and keep the hills clear, during the bad weather some did plough the road without permission. He also raised the point that the Woodcote PCSO Mark Bell arranged a lot of help for the elderly in the village and felt that further co-ordination should be arranged from the Council and / or Social Services.

Cllr. Griffiths commented on the lack of knowledge of road conditions during the bad weather by the local police and expressed his disappointment in their lack of communication.

Cllr. Sexon reported that gritting resource is shared across the County, but cuts had reduced the coverage to 19% during the bad weather.

Cllr. Sexon report Pothole repairs are now an ongoing job with 5000 per month being carried out but the work will not be complete and back to normal until July 2010. He commented that the process of repair, initially marking with white marking around the pothole before repair, it is done this way due to shared resource and control of budget. The Parish Council need to encourage residents to report potholes, the website and telephone number should be put into the next Woodcote Correspondence. **Action** Cllr. Hadaway

Transport Plan, Cllr. Sexon reported that there had been no input from Woodcote PC. Cllr. Preston responded stating that due to reduced numbers of Councillor's currently this had not been covered. All PC Cllr's felt that the bus route from Woodcote to Goring should be reinstated.

Cllr. Pierce requested that further weight restriction signs be erected in the village to stop over weight lorries using the road from Woodcote to Pangbourne, this road being a feeder road from M40 to M4. Traffic calming is also an issue with this road, Cllr. Sexon reported that the Council are reluctant to put in traffic calming as resident's who oppose it are equal to resident's who require it.

Cllr. Pierce requested that Cllr. Sexon be sent the email from Thames Travel re the bus services to Woodcote, in particular the X39. The other issue with the bus stops in the village is resolved as the stops are request stops so residents must hail the bus from either stop. Action Cllr. Hadaway to advise residents, put into Correspondence.

Cllr. Edwards raised the question to Cllr. Sexon in regard to Chillout Funds as he had attended a Youth Club meeting and it was raised. The position is that a request for Chillout funds has to be put forward with a case supporting the request, it is normal for the Parish Council to match the amount, Cllr. Preston expressed that the PC do match the amount. Cllr. Sexon agreed to put together some information on how to submit an application, Cllr. Edwards advised that Mr. Steve Curran from the Youth Club will be contacting him.

Cllr. Sexon reported that OCC will be making 500 redundancies, will have a tax increase of 2.75% but SODC will not have any increase. Precept will be kept the same for this year. He stated that cuts are likely across adult services.

Cllr. Sexon left the meeting at 8.25pm

(11) ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Date proposed at previous meeting is not possible as the Village Hall is booked. New date is now Tuesday 13th April 8pm Pavilion Room, Village Hall. Agenda points discussed were Update on Parish Plan, Update on Finance, Planning Role of Parish Council, Village Green, PCSO Mark Bell, Conservation Group, War Memorial Group, County Councillor, District Councillor. **Action** write to representatives to invite them – Clerk. Date to be published in Correspondence Cllr Hadaway.

Cllr Tyler had received a quote for a banner to advertise the meeting, agreed wording for banner Woodcote Parish Council Annual Meeting next Tuesday. **Action** Clerk to order banner

(12) TREE WORK

Cllr Preston reported on the costing obtained for the tree work at the back of Folly Green houses and alleyway in Wayside Green. The amount quoted was £2200 further quotes to be obtained.

Action – Clerk

Cllr. Edward asked if letter had been written re Cherry Tree next to Somerfields, Action already being done by the Clerk.

Cllr. Pierce & Preston reported that the hedge on boundary of properties Danetree and Roseland on Folly Orchard Road was overgrowing the boundary and growing over the footpath. **Action** – Clerk to write to OCC to ask them to contact residents to cut hedge back to boundaries.

(13) CORRESPONDENCE

Website Costings – Clerk had been in touch with Webmaster and received breakdown of costings. **Action** forward email to Cllr Griffiths to investigate.

Thame Council have an iPhone application requesting if Woodcote PC would be interested.
Noted.

SWCAA Allotment Survey, requesting information about allotments in Woodcote.
Noted.

Dog Bin collections, email received from SODC stating that the previous increased charges were incorrect and that paid invoices will be credited and re invoiced at the correct lower charge. **Action** – Clerk send copy email to Cllr. Pierce.

Letter from Chairman of Whitchurch Hill Parish Council to Whitchurch Bridge committee expressing disappointment and objections to their plans.

Action Clerk to write letter from Woodcote Parish Council stating we support their views.

Parish Council Clerk Training, various information received from SLCC for Clerk training and also joining the Society. To be raised as agenda item at the next meeting so finance for this can be approved.

(11) EMERGENCY QUESTIONS

Cllr. Tyler had a complaint from a resident on Greenmore regarding speeding cars along this stretch of road. The request is for further speed repeater signs to be erected.

Action – Clerk to write to Highways office.

Cllr. Edwards reported on attendance at the Youth Club meeting, major point was Chillout Funding, he reported that Steve Curran had reported on different options, the Parish Council continue to match the amount of funding. The Senior Youth Club group continue with bad behaviour , getting on the roof, abusing the equipment which affects other people’s attendance. Junior Group is operating well, Cllr. Preston commented that this should be encouraged as when they move to the Senior Group will appreciate and respect the facilities.

(15) DATE OF Next Meeting

Wednesday 17th March 2010, 7.30pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10. 15 pm.

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE

