

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

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

PRESENT

Chairman	Mrs. M. Edmonds
Vice Chairman	Mrs. D. Hadaway
	Mr. J. Lynch
	Mr. P. Tyler
	Mr. K. Grady
	Mr. D. Sexon – County Councillor
	Mrs. S. Harrison
Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham

1. To Receive Apologies For Absence

Mr. Peter Stevenson. Mr. A. Allen. Mr. R. Peirce. Mr. C. Edwards.

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest

Councillor Grady declared interest in the Planning Application P10/E1526 and will therefore not participate when this application is discussed.

3. New Councillor To approve the co-option of Mrs Stephanie Harrison as Councillor to serve until the Council Elections in May 2011. **Approved.**

4. Public Forum:

No members of the public present.

5. To Approve Minutes of Meeting held on 20th October 2010

Minutes of 20th October, Approved.

6. Matters arising from those Minutes not on the Agenda Elsewhere

Councillor Lynch had examined the footpath raised in an email from a local resident regarding overgrown areas he reported that the footpath was overgrown in places with holly, also residents houses next to the footpath some of the hedging and shrubs needed cutting back. Clerk to write to the houses in questions and request a quote from the grass cutting contractors to cut back the holly.

7. Chairman's Report

The Chairman advised that the Parish Councillor elections will be May 5th 2011. The Chairman then reported that the poppy wreath had been ordered and that the cost of the wreath and a donation would be £50, as per the budget figure, this amount to be approved under finance. It was agreed that the placing of the wreath during the service on Sunday 14th November will be performed by Mr. Jack Nutt, Councillor Tyler to advise Mr. Nutt. The Chairman also reported that Benson Parish Clerk had approached Woodcote Parish with a proposal to jointly fund the cost of a Youth Worker, suggest this be an Agenda item at another meeting.

8. Planning

8.1 Applications

P10/E1526 Two Storey side and rear extension Denver House Beech Lane Woodcote RG4 9LS.

Councillor Grady expressed a personal interest so will abstain from voting.

Application passed to Councillor Stevenson who was unable to report due absence, so he had passed his findings in a report to the Clerk. The Chairman read the report to the Council meeting and Councillors examined the plans. **It was resolved to recommend Approval.**

Emergency Item proposed for the Agenda as the planning application P10/E1399 had not been included, it was resolved to include this item.

P10/E1399 Division of single dwelling into 1 x 2 bed, 1 x 3 bedroom dwellings with attic conversion, dormer windows to the rear and porches to the front elevation, erection of a new shed.
Following a site visit it was felt the site would be over developed, development is out of keeping with other housing in the vicinity, the development is proposing 3 storeys, increased traffic from the access drive onto the Reading Road which is very busy. Previous planning application for this site had been granted and the applicant had stated that they were not going to divide the property into two separate dwellings. **It was resolved to recommend Refusal.**

P10/E1468 Two storey side and rear extension 91 Whitehouse Road, Woodcote RG8 0SA.
Plans had been examined and there was a lack of information in respect of the building finish and materials to be used, also the site when visited it was noted that the footings appear to have been started prior to planning being granted, also the planning notice had not been displayed. **It was resolved to recommend Refusal.**

8.2 Applications Granted by SODC:

None Granted.

8.3 Applications Refused BY SODC:

None Refused.

8.4 Other Planning Matters.

P10/E1249 Land at rear of 4 Goring Road, North side of West Chiltern, Woodcote RG8 0RX, Erection of one detached two storey 2-bedroom house with access and parking.
This application previously submitted has been withdrawn.

9. Finance

Cheque	Payee	Amount £)	Date	Reason
3208	Henley Standard	£159.80	3.11	Tender Ad
3209	Berinsfield	£821.81	3.11	Grass cutting Sept
3210	Kevin Knight	£150.00	3.11	Litter Picker
3211	K. Smallbone	£31.99	3.11	War Memorial
3212	J. Welham	£65.90	3.11	Oct Expenses
3213	Mrs. J.M.Shepherd	£50.00	3.11	Wreath & Donation poppy Appeal

APPROVED

To Note Receipts

Woodcote Cricket Club	190.00	25.10	Annual payment
VAT refund	1,942.86	1.11	Vat refund

NOTED

8.1 Quotations/Grants received for approval

None

10. County Councillor's Report

Councillor Sexon reported on the current public spending cut backs and the impacts to Oxfordshire County Council. Twenty six to twenty eight percent reduction is required over the next 4 years, with the largest cut backs happening in the first year so the next financial year will be the hardest hit. Large percentage cuts will be made in areas of Youth services, including the Chill Out Funding which should be used for Youth projects and not to fund Youth Workers. Adult services will also be impacted, such as care and support. Highways will be another area to be cut so current repair works to pot holes could see a slower response. The County Council has decided to minimise impact of cuts to Children's Services..

The current government has already made significant cuts to the budgets and Oxfordshire will be hit hard due to the large percentage of public sector workers in the County. All efforts are being made to share services to reduce costs, but predictions are that next year will be a hard year.

Area Stewards for Highways are still going ahead, however numbers have been cut back as funding reduced. Councillor Sexon passed the contact details for the Area Steward to the Clerk to circulate to Councillors. Councillor Lynch asked if the Parish Council could repair dangerous pot holes in the village from Parish Funding, this can be done now and is being encouraged by the Government under the "Big Society" directives.

Whitchurch Toll Bridge closure due next year will have significant traffic impacts for the neighbouring villages, currently OCC are not doing anything as planning is not yet through. However it has been recommended and agreed that OCC will consult with the local Parish Councils regarding traffic recommendations during the closure.

11. 2011/12 Budget Planning.

Budget figures had already been circulated to Councillors with proposed figures for 2011/12. The Chairman reported that this year's Precept had been underpaid by £40, this was noted. Clerk to investigate with SODC. The figures were reviewed, Councillor Lynch felt the increase for Village Communication was too high, **it was resolved** to reduce this figure. Councillor Grady queried the amount charged to the two Sports Clubs for the Recreation Ground facilities, he felt this was rather a low figure. Councillor Tyler to investigate at the next Village Green Committee meeting and report back. Councillor Grady reported from a Youth Committee meeting he had attended the proposal to share the costs for a fulltime Youth Worker between the Parish Councils of Woodcote, Goring, Benson and Cholsey, a detailed proposal is yet to be carried out. Council agreed to a figure of £8000 being placed in next year's budget for the Youth Area. Traffic Calming was discussed and the figure agreed. Councillor Grady requested that Traffic Calming be an Agenda item at a future meeting to discuss in more detail. Chairman recommend a meeting after Christmas, this was agreed.

12. District Councillors Report

District Councillor Peirce had apologised for absence so no report.

13. Other Matters to be raised with Chairman

Councillor Lynch had a letter received for the Village Hall manager regarding a recycle bin being placed on Parish Council land. He questioned this and it was reported that this was the clothing recycle bin that was now sited in the Woodcote Garden Centre car park, which previously had been in the Village Hall car park. Councillor Hadaway requested that other Councillors should participate in the Allotment Meetings with a suggestion that a Councillor should take over the running of the meetings in future. County Councillor Sexon requested that the Clerk write to Highways regarding the new 40 mile hour speed limit on the A4074 from Woodcote Village to Cane End, another serious accident had happened and the new speed signs are as yet not in place.

(Councillor Lynch left the meeting at 9.20pm)

14. Correspondence

1. Letter from SODC – notify of recharges to Parish/town in connection with forthcoming elections in 2011. Noted.
2. Letter from OCC – requesting feedback on concessionary fares scheme. – To be circulated and if possible details published in the Woodcote Correspondent.
3. Email from Thames Valley Police – Re have your say Meetings in November Goring & Woodcote. Noted
4. Letter from SODC – Advising the increased enforcement on fly tipping. Noted.

15. To note date of the next meeting: Wednesday 17th November 2010.

Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.30pm

Signed: _____ Chairman/Date _____

