

# WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of a Parish Council meeting held in the Committee Room, Village Hall Woodcote 6th October 2010, commencing 7.30pm.

## **PRESENT**

Chairman	Mrs. M. Edmonds
Vice Chairman	Mrs. D. Hadaway ( arrived 9.30pm)
	Mr. P. Tyler
	Mr. J. Lynch
	Mr. R. Pierce
	Mr. C. Edwards
	Mr. A. Allen
	Mr. K. Grady
	Mr. D. Sexon County Councillor
Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham

## **1.To Receive Apologies For Absence**

Mr. Peter Stevenson.

## **2. To Receive Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Lynch declared he lives in West Chiltern but not close enough to the proposed Planning Application for discussion on the agenda.

## **3. County Councillors Report**

Councillor Sexon reported on the new Area Stewards for Oxfordshire. The original number of 14 has been Reduced, SODC will have one steward for the whole area. The existing Steward is leaving, the new steward Keith Stenning starts in post of 18<sup>th</sup> October. Councillor Sexon reported that the scheme has made it easier to engage people to come out and look at issues.

*(Councillor Sexon then left the meeting).*

## **4. Public Forum**

Large amount of the public present, also representatives from Soha Mr. Steve Lynch and Mr. Matt Wondrha. Chairman invited them to speak on the subjects they wished to raise.

Mrs. Fiona Preston spoke for the 3 members of the Youth Club committee who were present and expressed their concerns regarding the funding for a Youth Worker. They requested the Parish Council to continue to budget for a Youth Worker into 2011/12. Also that the Chill-Out Funding that was paid to the Parish Council was not fully used as the Youth Worker left post before the end of the year. The Youth Club Committee requested that the balance be paid back to them. It was agreed that the Parish Council will look into the history and report back.

The other members of public present were all either residents of West Chiltern or Goring Road to express their strong objections to the planning application P10/E1249. These objections were heard and noted to be included in communication on this planning application from the Parish Council to the Planning Officer.

## **5. To Approve Minutes of Meeting held on 15th September 2010**

Minutes of 15th September 2010, Approved.

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

None.

## **7. Planning**

### **7.1 Applications**

**P10/E1249** Land at West Chiltern, Woodcote, Erection of one detached house with access and parking. The planning application had been reviewed and site inspected, Councillors unanimously agreed to **REFUSE** this application. Clerk to write a letter to Planning Officer including all the objections. Councillor Peirce District Councillor will ensure this application is highlighted to the Planning Officer.

**P10/E1260** Little Acre Beech Lane Woodcote conversion of existing attic to habitable accommodation to include roof lights to bedrooms on the south west elevation roof light to bathroom on the south east elevation and roof light to shower room on the north west elevation.

Approval

**7.2 Applications Granted by SODC:**

**P10/E1207** Removal existing porch, erection front porch with single storey rear extension. 3 Beckley Close Woodcote RG8 0SZ.

Granted

**P10/E1222** Demolition of existing two storey extension to the rear. Erection of two storey extension with orangery garden room. Masseys Pightle, Tidmore Lane, Woodcote. RG8 0PH

Granted

**P10/E1149** Erection of part two storey, part single storey side and rear extensions to create annexe. Swevenings, Goring Rd, Woodcote RG8 0QE

Granted

**7.3 Applications Refused BY SODC:**

**P09/E0934 33 Whitehouse Rd,** Erection of 3 x two bed and 1 three bed dwellings. This application was refused letter received of Notification of appeal against refusal for response by 27<sup>th</sup> October. Clerk to send letter.

**7.4 Other Planning Matters.** Proposed SOHA Redevelopment former Queens Bus Depot Long Toll.

Mr. Steve Lynch reported that SOHA had already started looking at this site to ascertain if it is suitable for development for Social Housing. The site is currently owned by Millgate Homes who previously had tried to gain planning for private houses which had been refused, they now wish to sell the site. Mr. Lynch expressed that he felt previous developments in Woodcote had highlighted the need for more Social Housing.

It was established that the site has been deemed an employment site and that SOHA would be treating the site as an exception site. Draft mock-ups of the proposed development plan were handed round and there is an employment building on the plan, and eight houses, it was confirmed that the employment building would not be developed, the housing would take priority. The Housing would be shared ownership and always remain as such, the residents could only ever own 80%. If the uptake from local Woodcote residents does not fill all the houses, then the availability is cascaded to neighbouring villages and then out to the County as a whole if not filled.

The employment site opposite owned by Millgate Homes has had limited uptake with only 2 only the units being occupied. However the parking demand on some days seems to exceed spaces so cars are parked along the roadway. Councillors suggested that this proposed development incorporate more parking area. Councillors stated that previous development of this site had been strongly supported by the residents in and around the area, and that the Parish Council had not been unanimous in the final decision. SOHA were requested to survey village residents in Woodcote to make them aware of the principle of the proposed development and gauge response, and also carry out a meeting and presentation to the village.

Action – Mr. Steve Lynch to look into the suggestions and report his next actions to the Parish Council.

**8. Chairman's Address**

Chairman reported that Councillor Hadaway had attended that day the Chilterns AONB Annual Planning Conference. The Conference bus visited Woodcote in the afternoon and Councillor Hadaway and the Chairman attended to answer questions on the Woodcote Parish Plan. They were well received and copies of the Parish Plan booklet were handed to all representatives, these received excellent feedback on content and presentation. Chairman suggested that at some point in the future the Parish Plan progress and actions are reviewed/revisted.

**9. Finance** To approve payments. To note receipts (See schedule)

Cheques for Payment

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Cheque	Payee	Amount £)	Date	Reason
DD	Open Spaces	£40.00	6.10	Annual subscription
3199	Playsafety Ltd	£219.73	6.10	Playarea inspections
3200	K. Knight	£150.00	6.10	Litter Picking
3202	K. Smallbone	£25.00	6.10	War Memorial
3203	J. Welham	£52.28	6.10	Expenses Sept

**APPROVED**

To Note Receipts

CIOF Interest £199.35

**9.1 Quotations/Grants received for approval**

Local Council Administration Book – Charles Arnold Baker. Newest edition £58 inc postage  
Approved providing another edition is not to be published next year. Clerk to Action.

**10. Budget**

Current Budget figures for this financial year were presented, the layout did cause some confusion. Councillors to email the Clerk with their inputs by the middle of next week for inclusion into the Budget for 2011/12. Tree Surgery, Kerb Spraying, Clerk's and Councillor's Training programmes were to be included. Clerk to produce Budget figures and year to date expenditure and predictions to year end for the meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> October.

Clerk reported that the Grass Cutting Contract was into its fourth year, therefore the Parish Council would need to advertise and invite tenders for the contract next year. The invited contractors figures would need to be considered for the Budget. Councillors requested that consideration be given to including provision for extension of time to any new Contract. **It was Resolved** that the Clerk begin the process and place the advertisements.

**11. District Councillors Report**

Councillor Pierce reported on the latest report on the Core Strategy, the closing date for response is 29<sup>th</sup> October. The documents to be circulated to Councillors, an Agenda item for the meeting on 20th October so Councillors can bring their responses.

**12. Other Matters to be raised with Chairman**

Marked Maps of the village were circulated, to be an Agenda item for the meeting on 20th October so Councillors can be allocated areas of the village.

Councillor Grady requested a follow-up with PCSO Mark Bell regarding the survey that had been carried out in the village some months back. The Chairman reported that last time she had spoken to him it was still being worked on and he would report to the Parish Council in the next few months.

The Clerk confirmed that the Church Warden had confirmed that 320 allocated spaces were available in the graveyard. This includes infill.

**13. Correspondence**

1. Letter from Thames Valley Primary Care Agency re application for Pharmacy Wayside Green. – Noted
2. Letter from SODC Planning – asking councils to respond to Core Strategy. Already discussed under District Councillors report.

3. Email from M. Maddox – asking for action to clear an overgrow area to a local footpath. Noted bring to next meeting.
4. Letter from SODC re Leisure Facilities Strategy Consultation – requesting we help to promote in the parish. Noted circulate to Councillors, notice has been placed on Notice board.
5. OCC email on transport consultation, inviting council to comment on the portal. – Noted Circulate to Councillors.

**14. Staff Salaries**

The Clerk left the meeting for this Item.

It was agreed that Chairman review the average amount of hours worked monthly by the Clerk and to check the current status of Local Government Officers increases in the current climate of public spending cuts.

The meeting was declared closed at 10:15pm.

**15. To note date of the next meeting: Wednesday 20th October 2010.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman/Date \_\_\_\_\_