

# *WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL*

**MINUTES** of a Parish Council meeting held in the Function Room, Village Hall Woodcote Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011, commencing 7.30pm.

**PRESENT**

Chairman	Mr. R. Peirce
Vice Chairman	Mr. G. Botting
	Mr. D. Booth
	Mr. K. Grady
	Mr. P. Tyler
	Mrs D. Hadaway
	Mrs. S. Harrison
Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham

## **1. To receive apologies for absence**

Mr. P. Stevenson.

## **2. To receive declarations of interest**

None

## **3. Public Forum:**

Mr Andy Crockett, who spoke regarding the Woodcote Rally Funds, which are up 30% on last year's figure, he requested that the Parish Council give consideration to which charitable projects should be proposed for donations. The Chairman suggested that Councillors give this some thought and that this matter be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Richard Greenford a Parish Councillor from Goring Heath had attended to gain information regarding Traffic Calming measures that had been undertaken in Woodcote.

## **4. To approve Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011.**

Approved (with two typing errors corrected.)

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

District Councillor Quinton requested if the Council could discuss the use of CCTV cameras around the village hall and car park and give their decisions especially in view of the recent fire at the village hall and further vandalism to the playground. The Chairman pointed out that the matter had been discussed at the meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> September and that more detail is required. Councillor Tyler is working with the Village Green Committee to obtain this detail and advised that it will be available for the meeting early November. It was resolved that this be an agenda item for the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November when the detail is available, The Chairman also requested that we request an expert from Thames Valley Police to attend that meeting.

## **6. Chairman's Address & Questions**

The Chairman thanked Vice Chairman Botting for covering for the last two weeks and also for running the meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> September.

## **7. County Councillors Report**

County Councillor Dave Sexon not present.

## **8. District Councillors Report**

District Councillor Quinton reported that he had seen the new planning application P11/E1511 for James Farm and noted that the Parish Council had approved the original application which had been refused due to scale. He advised that he has requested this new application is called into the full planning committee meeting.

The Chairman stated that it is possible that a member of the Parish Council will be requested to speak at this meeting. This application is on the agenda to be covered under planning.

**9. Planning Applications:**

P11/E1511 Demolition of existing single storey side and rear extensions, erection of two storey, front and rear extensions and replacement of single storey rear extension. James Farm South Stoke Rd Woodcote RG8 0PL. Recommend Approval.

P11/E1327 Replacement of existing wall and fence with 1.8 metres high close board fence on boundary of the property. Recommend Refusal, boundary issues as fence would now border right up to the highway and loss of green space.

9.1 Applications Granted by SODC:

P11/E1322 Construction of new two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and replacement enclosed single storey entrance porch. Waverley Cottage Goring Rd Woodcote RG8 0QE.

9.2 Applications Refused by SODC:

None.

9.3 Other Planning Matters

Whitchurch Bridge Application – Update. As County Councillor Sexon was not present no update. The Chairman stated that this application is likely to be decided in the coming weeks and that as previously Woodcote Parish Council will support the views of Whitchurch Parish Council, this was agreed.

Footpath at rear of Wayside Green abutting Hilltop Field – possible encroachment of two rear fences from properties of Wayside Green. An Email had been received from Oxfordshire County Council’s Field Officer regarding this. The Chairman who resides in Wayside Green confirmed that the original fence line was no longer straight and it appeared that some fences had been set further back. Action Clerk to reply to the Field Officer.

Email from Village Hall Manager requesting the Parish Councils acceptance to a wrought iron fence to enclose the bin area to prevent further fire hazards.

The Council agreed that this seemed to not be the most effective deterrent, especially if the top of this enclosure was still open. Council requested that the Clerk reply asking if the VHMC has taken advice from their insurers regarding the best course of action, they currently do not endorse this fencing.

**10. Finance** To approve payments. To note receipts. **NONE**

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
	<u>Paid</u>	
G.Hawthorne	£75	Repair office Door
K. Knight	£121	Litter pick Sept
OALC	£72	Planning Training
K. Smallbone	£25	War memorial Sept
Langtree School	£4,000	1/2 yr grant YC
Village Hall MC	£1,375	2 <sup>nd</sup> half year rent
SG Creative Solutions Ltd	£110	Web Maintenance
Langtree School	£4,000	Youth Club payment
Open Spaces Soc	£40	Annul sub

**APPROVED** with exception of the payment to Langtree School. The Chairman stated that as this was Youth Club grant that this amount should be paid into the Youth Club accounts and the YC then to handle any transactions and arrangements they conduct with Langtree School.

10.1 Quotations/Grants received for approval.

NONE.

**11. Core Strategy November Hearing session** pre hearing submission from Parish Council.

Vice Chairman Botting gave an update confirming that Woodcote Parish Council have reserved a slot to speak at the meetings either on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> of November. Richard Thompson a resident of the village who has professional expertise is drafting a response which is not yet available. The deadline is 13<sup>th</sup> October so there will not be time to discuss this document before the next Parish Council meeting. It was resolved that this document be circulated to the Councillors for their inputs/comments as soon as it is ready and it can then be sent to SODC for the deadline.

**12. Traffic Calming** – Council to consider options.

Councillor Grady requested that this project be reviewed and that a “working group” of the Parish Council be formed to look at the possibilities and details of any further traffic calming measures. He also stated that during the Woodcote Festival several residents had requested action be taken re the speed of Traffic through the village. The Chairman gave some background for the benefit of Richard Greenford Parish Councillor from Goring Heath and new Woodcote Parish Councillors on previous initiatives, costs were not available as OCC had not charged Woodcote Parish Council at that time. The Council had raised some funds locally via their precept . It was resolved to set up a sub committee, Councillors Booth, Harrison, Tyler and Grady all agreed to attend, also to include Councillors from Goring Heath and to include County Councillor Sexon to liaise with OCC Highways on the viable options. Richard Greenford PC from Goring Heath to liaise with the Clerk regarding names and contact details.

**13. Committee Reports** – Update & Reports from the various Village Committee’s.

Vice Chairman Botting gave an updated on the first meeting of the Neighbourhood Steering Group. Over 12 people attended as volunteers. Vice Chairman Botting was voted to Chair this group, Christopher Quinton will be Vice Chairman, Jerry Green with be Treasurer, no Secretary was voted, so it was agreed that the minute taking and recording be passed to different individuals at each meeting. The first task will be to present several different views of the vision of what Woodcote should look like at the end of the planning cycle in 2027. A letter will be published in the November Woodcote Correspondent requesting residents to send their views to the Neighbourhood Steering Group, the information will then be collated. Chairman Botting also has invited residents to volunteer to become a small critical group to critic the main group. The group has invited a member from SODC to join the meetings and so far they have declined, Chairman Botting advised that he will be ensuring that SODC are kept up to date and copied on all information and actions taken and will continue to invite them to meetings.

Chairman Peirce stated that this Group are not set up as a subcommittee of the Parish Council, but the Parish Council will have to finally accept and endorse the recommendations that the group recommend.

**14. Matters for Council to Consider.**

Email from OCC Field Officer regarding the footpath that runs from Lackmore Gardens past the back of Ashlee Walk and through to the recreation ground. The email stated that the stile at Lackmore Gardens was in a bad state or repair and the one at Ashlee Walk was not used as there was a gap were the fence has fallen down and people walk through. He has requested if the stiles can be removed entirely by OCC. Chairman Peirce requested that Councillors go and look at the pathway and stiles to report at the next meeting so a decision can be reached.

Oxfordshire County Council – Review of subsidised Bus Services – review and respond.  
Chairman Peirce will review the documents and he also agreed to attend the Open Meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> November if he is available.

Consultation on Draft Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Plans – PC response.  
Chairman Peirce stated that it does not affect the Parish and that Councillors should respond individually if they have views.

## **15. Correspondence**

### **15.1 Matters for resolution**

Lions Club Goring – requesting if the PC would be interested in them planting a Diamond Jubilee commemorative tree in the Parish Boundary. Parish Council agreed and the Clerk to reply.

Letter from CPRE Oxfordshire regarding planning changes. Noted. Clerk to reply stating that Woodcote are already a front runner for the Neighbourhood Plan.

### **15.2 Matters for information**

Letter from South & Vale Carers Centre requesting a donation. Noted, Clerk to reply.

The Council returned to the discussion regarding the funding available for allocating to worthwhile charities, projects from the Woodcote Rally. Chairman Peirce stated that in the past this funding had been used to enhance existing groups activities such as the Scouts and Guides.

The Council felt that to use this funding for installation of CCTV cameras was not appropriate. Councillor Harrison suggested that the Youth Club could benefit from some of the funds. It was resolved to include this as an agenda item for the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> October, so Councillors can check the Rally website to see where previous donations had been made and to have more time to consider worthy projects within the village.

## **16. To note date of the next meeting: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011.**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date/Chairman**

Meeting closed at 9.45pm.

