

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Committee Room, Village Hall, Woodcote 19th September 2007.

PRESENT

Chairman	Mrs. Fiona Preston
Vice Chairman	Mrs. Karen Woolley
	Mr. Colin Edwards
	Mr. Ken Ison
	Mr. John Lynch
	Mrs. Marilyn Maddock
	Mr. Robin Peirce (from 8.45 pm)
	Mr. Peter Tyler
	Mr. Peter Woods

(1) APOLOGIES

Mrs. Diana Hadaway

(2) TO AUTHORISE the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th September 2007. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted and signed.

(3) REVIEW OF ACTIONS

No updates reported. See Appendix.

(4) TO ADJOURN THE MEETING

(5) CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS No report

(6) PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

P07/E1093 Mallorns, South Stoke Road, Woodcote Erection of new dwelling and detached double garage to side of existing house.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend Refusal: Ridge Height of proposed building is believed to be 1 metre higher than Mallorns. The size of the property is excessive and dominates Mallorns which is one of the nicer houses in the street. The garage is also thought to be too big. In 1995 the inspector turned down a previous appeal to build a property on this site due to the increased danger of the access. The property cannot accommodate sufficient car space and needs to be set further back away from the road to avoid parking in a rather narrow lane. A site visit is recommended.

P07/E1094 Mallorns, South Stoke Road, Woodcote Erection of garage.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend Refusal: Size and pitch of roof of the garage is unacceptable.

P07/E1099 67 Whitehouse Road, Woodcote Erection of two storey side extension with dormer windows, erection of orangery to rear, conversion of garage and insatllation of solar panelling and two wind turbines. Associated alterations.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend Refusal: The higher roof and "busy" fenestration at the back of the property is effectively creating a three storey property not in keeping with neighbouring properties. The increased roof height sets it unacceptably higher than both adjacent properties. The Council question whether the turbines will create noise unacceptable to the neighbours.

P07/E1028 17 Bridle Path Woodcote Single Storey Rear Extension

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend Approval.

P07/E1174/RET 14 Bensgrove Close, Woodcote Conversion of garage to living accommodation (retrospective)

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend Approval.

P07/E1046 89,91 Whitehouse Road, Woodcote Part single garage/porch and part 1st floor bathroom extension to no.89. Demolition of existing single storey extensions to 91 and erection of part single and part 2 storey extensions comprising; garage, utility, breakfast,living and room and 2 bedrooms.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend Refusal: The flat roof on the second storey extension is unacceptable. The council also note that the proposed kitchen has no external windows.

The Clerk to register Mrs. Woolley to attend the planning meeting of 10th October 2007 and speak against plan P07/E0635, the proposal to build behind 89/91 Whitehouse Road.

CLERK - done

P07/E1145 Woodcote Garden Centre, Reading Road, Woodcote Change of use from shop to living accommodation. First floor front extension.

Postponed to next meeting.

(7) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS GRANTED, REFUSED AND OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS GRANTED

Parish Council
Recommendation

P07/E0664 45 Goring Road
P07/E0772 Behoes Cottage
P07/E0971 15 Wayside Green

Approval
No strong views
Approval

PLANNING APPLICATIONS REFUSED None

The Clerk was asked to report to the Enforcement Dept. two unauthorised developments reported at Deer House, Beech Lane and Hazel and Jeffries site at Shirvells Hill.

CLERK - done

(8) FINANCE

(i) Payments in August 2007

The following Payments were agreed:

2793	Petty Cash		85.10
2794	HM Revenue		509.73
2795	Mrs. Preston	Chairmans Expenses	30.00
DD	BT Direct Debit	Telephone Charge	22.00
DD	Thames Water		19.00
DD	AOL		17.99
SO	Mr. Jordan	Sep '07 Pay	646.51
SO	Mr. Fordham	Sep '07 Pay	601.52
SO	Mr. Giles	Sep '07 Pay	628.55
	Total		£2,560.40

(9) REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(i) Village Hall Management Committee

St. Johns Ambulance Fire Training for Mr. Fordham was approved. Clerk to register him for 27th November 2007 course in Bracknell.

CLERK - done

(ii) Parish Plan

Mrs. Fiona Preston reported on the results of the survey of businesses carried out by the Parish Plan Committee.

(iii) Recreation Ground Committee

The Council agreed to give permission for a circus to be sited on the Recreation Ground. He was also to inform the organisers to reach agreement with the Recreation Ground Committee as to exactly where the tents and sideshows should be sited and the amount of any contribution to go towards the Recreation Ground Committee funds.

CLERK - done

Mr. Peter Tyler and Mr. Ken Ison agreed to redraft certain parts of the grass cutting contract to improve the grass cutting quality of the Recreation Ground and to improve the supervision to ensure the standards to be set by the Recreation Ground Committee are kept.

PT/KI

All councillors were asked to think of work in the village that could be given over to the Community Service and inform Mr. Sam Peates accordingly.

ALL

(12) CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

The following Correspondence was noted except where specifically annotated.

A.

B. For Information, Not Requiring Action

- SODC Grant Survey
- Invoice ML and SJ Higley Invoice

The Council agreed that work should not be done by contractors without a proper order. It was agreed that the Clerk raise a cheque for this invoice and inform the Higley Brothers accordingly.

CLERK

- Ken Ison - Firewardens Course
- AOL Broadband
- Zurich Municipal
- Langtree School

Clerk to draft a reply to be agreed by Mrs. Karen Woolley.

CLERK/KW

- Standards Committee Training
- Circus on Recreation Ground
- SODC Parish Council Forum 8th October 2007
- OCC Bus Stops

Clerk to inform Highways that the Council formally accepted the proposals.

CLERK

(13) EMERGENCY QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Woolley was asked to chair the allotment meeting of 2nd October 2007 and she agreed to draft the agenda. **KW**

The meeting closed at 10.30 pm.

..... CHAIRMAN

..... DATE

OUTSTANDING ACTION LIST – 19th September 2007

Allotments – Page 46/47

12. Grass Cutting

The Clerk reported that he was investigating the apparent failure of Berinsfield Community Business to cut the allotment grass twice a month. Mrs. Cork and Mr. Peirce agreed to prepare a plan showing which areas of grass including paths should be cut in future. **FC/RP**

Ongoing.

Reports from Committees – Page 77

Mr. Peirce agreed to complete the Strategic Objective questionnaire on behalf of the Council following any comments from the other councillors to be provided within a week. **RP**

Ongoing

Correspondence Received – Page 83

VHMC Linda Burton Ground Subsidence

The Clerk to ask Mark Hatt to look at the problem. **CLERK**

Written to Mark Hatt. Response received will look at when weather improves. Chasing letter sent. Second chasing letter sent in September 2007.

Questions to the Chairman – Page 105

Mrs. Cork asked about the lighting in the new Oratory School car park on the old golf driving range field adjacent to Greenmore and Reading Road. The lights are on throughout the night and are clearly visible across the field from Greenmore and Reading Road. Also, the Parish Council had requested footfall lighting in its response to the planning application for the car park, but some lights are about 6ft above ground. It was agreed to write to SODC enforcement seeking clarification of what type of lighting had been approved and to draw their attention to the lighting being on all night. She also raised the issue of the new Oratory School sign that had appeared at the entrance to the school in Reading Road. Clerk to inform the Planning Department. **CLERK**

Letter written to SODC Enforcement. Acknowledged.

Chairmans Address – Page 109

The Clerk was asked to arrange for replacement bollards to be installed next to the bottle bank. **CLERK**

Quote requested from Higleys. Bollards replacement now dependent on resurfacing of car park.

Chairmans Address – Page 122

Mrs. Preston told the meeting of the profitable meeting they had had with SOHA on the future of Mowforth House. A follow up meeting was required in about six months time.

CLERK

The Clerk was asked to obtain quotations to relay the Reading Road car park.

CLERK

Now dependant on underground bottle bank.

Questions to the Chairman – Page 147

Mrs. Woolley asked for the Folly Orchard Road sign to be repaired.

CLERK

Email request sent to SODC.

Wayside House was too brightly lit up at night. The Clerk was asked to contact Planning.

CLERK

Ongoing

Correspondence Received – Page 18

- Builders Ede Ltd.

Invite Ede Ltd. To come and talk to the Council about future development at the Folly, South Stoke Road.

CLERK

Letter sent. Telephone call - Jonathan Ede will let us know in advance when he proposes to attend.

Chairmans Address – Page 24

Mrs. Preston reported that the direction sign at the memorial crossroads had been stolen. It was suggested that a flyer be prepared for the next Correspondent to ask villagers to return any pieces that they might find.

KW/CLERK

Mrs. Preston to inform PCSO Mark Bell.

FP

Allotments – Page 26

Since the Clerk had identified problems with the definition of allotment plots causing interference with the cutting of grass areas between the plots it was agreed to propose to

an allotment holders meeting, to be held on 2nd October 2007, that paths should be half metre wide and plots should be defined with a small trench around the outside. Clerk to arrange this meeting.

CLERK

Room booked. Meeting Called.

Mrs. Woolley also agreed to contact Julia Wheeler of the Police Security Department on the matter.

KW

To Adjourn the Meeting – Page 43

Mrs. Marilyn Maddock agreed to put an article in the Correspondent to call for new ideas for entries in the new Village Directory.

MM

Chairmans Address – Page 43

Following the adjournment **IT WAS RESOLVED** follow up Mrs. Frances Cork's request to acquire a copy of the Affordable Housing survey.

CLERK

The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting between Mr. Chris Fields, the Head Teacher at the Primary School, Mrs. Fiona Preston and Mrs. Karen Woolley to discuss the latest proposal on provision for Primary Schools.

CLERK

Mrs. Preston agreed to talk to Mr. John Steel about siting a no fishing sign at Greenmore Ponds.

FP

Fire Brigade Course – Page 46

The Clerk was asked to contact the Fire service to find a suitable course for the Facilities Manager, Mr. Fordham.

CLERK

Emergency Questions – Page 47

On the subject of the school fence proposal the Clerk was asked to write to the Chairman of the Community SubCommittee inviting them to a future Parish Council meeting.

CLERK