

ORWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Unapproved Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the (back room) of the Village Hall on Wednesday 15th July 2009 at 19:30 hrs.

Present: Cllrs: R Bryant (RB) – Chairman, Mrs K Reid (KR) – Vice-Chairman, J Chapman (JC), Mrs J Graham (JG), Mr M Kenyon (MK), Mr R Primett (RP), Mr C Watson (CW), Mr W Talbot (WT)

In attendance: Cllr Kindersley (County Councillor), Cllr Bird (District Councillor) and Mrs J Damant (Clerk)

There was one member of the public in attendance.

57/7/09 Apologies for absence:
Apologies were received from Mrs J Avery

58/7/09 Declaration of interests for items on the agenda:
There were no Declaration of Interests declared.

59/7/09 Minutes of the last meeting: 17th June 2009
It was proposed by RB and seconded by RP that the minutes of 17th June 2009, be approved as a true record, agreed by all members and signed by the Chairman. RP asked for clarification on item 55/6/09. RB stated he was keen to reduce the time spent discussing the agenda item 'Areas of Responsibility'. He asked that those members who have a significant input ie, Village Hall; ORCA and Police Liaison provide a written report for distribution, for all members and the Clerk, by hard copy or email before the subsequent meeting. If there were any other items members wish to briefly mention or question then they could do so but the aim is to avoid ponderously working through the existing list of 14 items.

60/7/09 CCC Report:
1 – Condition of Footways
Cllr Kindersley has been in contact with the Highway Department who are presently waiting to see what budget they have. They will be collating all the complaints received on SCDC sweeping equipment which may be responsible for the damage sustained by the footways.

2 – Junction on A603/Hurdleditch Road
Cllr Kindersley is still waiting to hear whether his proposal to paint double white lines at this intersection has been agreed by the Highway Department.

3 – Grass cutting on the verge of A603/Fishers Lane

This has now been done

4 – Lay-by on A603/Wimpole turning

This lay-by is **not** a bus stop. Cars are permitted to short term park in lay-bys providing they do not cause an obstruction to the immediate residents.

5 – Leaden Hill/Hurdleditch (seeping water)

It was suggested that the Clerk arrange a meeting with Cambridge Water Company, Anglian Water Company and the Highways Department (CCC). If all parties are present at the same time then some of the confusion may be alleviated. Cambridge Water Company had visited the site, but did not believe that the drain in question was their responsibility.

Foul water – Anglian Water

Surface water – Highways CCC

Clear water – Cambridge Water Co.

Action: Clerk

6 – Damaged Footway adjacent to 7 High Street

Highways are aware of the situation, Cllr Kindersley expressed concern as pedestrians are having to walk into the road in order to pass.

7 – Cemex

The Barrington cement liaison met on the 9th July. With effect of August 2009 the works will no longer be used as a distribution centre. Clay may be brought onto the site for stabilisation purposes; this will be conveyed by rail. The Environment Agency has stated that if Cemex wish to reopen the works they will need to apply for a new permit. The proposal to enlarge the site is still under consideration as it remains as part of the Mineral and Waste Plan.

Page 569

Cemex continue to encourage local charities to apply for funding, they have money available to support local communities, in particular those communities where ex employees are living.

8 – Congestion Charges

The findings from the survey will be published next week.

61/7/09

SCDC Report:

1 – Damaged manhole adj to No. 1 Lordship Close

The manhole cover has now been replaced and the damages surround has been repaired.

2 – Spraying of weeds in Lordship Close

Cllr Bird enquired from SCDC as to whether MK, who kindly offered to spray the numerous dandelions in the verges around Lordship Close, could have permission to proceed. This has now been given and MK will carry out the work.

Action: MK

3 – Corporate Plan

The Corporate Plan Objectives for 2009/10 are now available on SCDC website.

4 – Governance Toolkit for Parish & Town Councils

Will be available soon.

62/7/09

Financial Matters:

1 – July Financial Statement

Proposed by RB and seconded by WT, all agreed that the financial statement was correct, this was then signed by the Chairman.

2 - Payments and Additional Payments for July

Proposed by RB and seconded by RP, all agreed. Cheques were then signed by RB and JC. Additional payments are shaded.

Name	Cheq	Amount	Desc	Power
J Damant	1426	£370.01	Salary	LGA 1972 s 112
J Damant	1427	£ 6.52	expenses	LGA 1972 ss 9/10
Inland Revenue	1428	£104.42	PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s 112
Melreth PC	1429	£ 60.93	office rent	LGA 1972 s 226
Methodist Church	1430	£265.00	electrics	LGA (misc) 1976 s.19
Harry Stebbings	1431	£2,435.93	Notice boards	LGA 1972 s 226
Local Council Review	1432	£ 13.50	Membership	LGA 1972 s 143
P Adamson	1433	£ 18.00	Window cleaner	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
Trident Officepoint	1434	£2,910.60	Chairs for VH	LGA (misc) 1976 s.19
Meadow Nursery	1435	£ 200.00	grass cut 6	OSA 1906 ss 9/10
Clerk salary	1438	£ 384.32	August salary	LGA 1972 s 112
Inland Revenue	1439	£ 108.40	PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s 112

LGA – Local Government Act, OSA – Open Space Act

3 – WT will attend the Risk Management Training Course on 20th July 2009. All agreed.

4 – Money has now been received from the Village Hall Committee (£16,000) which was received via a donation from Rugby Cement.

5 – The new notice boards will be delivered to RB next week and once Mr Dennis Vacher has returned from vacation, the Highway Department have agreed to position them. RB will take possession of the cheque and will pay the company when the goods have arrived.

63/7/09

Planning:

Planning meeting held on 3rd July 2009

21 Stocks Lane, S/0605/09/F. Parish Council recommended approval with comments which stated that there had been some concern from a neighbour about overlooking issues.

SCDC Decisions:

85 High Street, S/0582/09/LB – Permission has been granted for the replacement of 5 upvc windows on front elevation with timber casements (regularisation of unauthorised work).

Page 570

85 High Street, S/0631/09/LB – Permission has been granted to alter the pitch of the rear lobby roof and install slate tiles.

Malton Farm, S/0473/09/F – conversion of outbuildings to self-contained annexe and domestic changing rooms. Amended Plans (for information only)

Meeting Closed at 8.33pm
Meeting Opened at 8.42pm

64/7/09

Community Grants:

1 – Combined grant for play equipment and outside gym update.

There is to be a meeting at the end of July with all relevant parties. There maybe further grants available from other sources, as well as Play Pathfinder and SCDC. Grants will be applied for on behalf of the Parish Council.

2 – Repair of Play Equipment

Quotes have now been received but only one was within budget, however WT has asked for some clarification on the quote. Once this has been received it was proposed by RP that RB and KR, if in agreement, accept the quote. Payment will be made from the £5,000 allocated for the play equipment in the 2009/10 precept.

Action: WT, RB & KR

65/7/09

Correspondence and Clerk's Report:

Read out:

Concern expressed from a resident about the turning right from Hurdleditch onto the A603.

South Cambs Parish Forum – new dates 23rd Sept or 8th October

WT & RB to attend Planning Parish Forum held by SCDC to discuss Gypsy & Traveller Issues on 30th July at Cambourne.

All other items of correspondence have been circulated.

Clerk's Report:

Malton Lane:

Highways have agreed to cut the verge (near the bridge) and fill in potholes

Textile Bank:

SCDC have been informed that the Parish would like to have a textile bank positioned at the Village Hall carpark. CW is aware that the bank should be positioned soon. RB will advise residents once it has been installed.

Action: RB

66/7/09

Parish Plan:

Has been sent to Cambridgeshire ACRE.

WT has received the new format for Parish Action Plans, he will work on them over the summer, some of the items have now changed.

Action: WT

67/7/09

Standing Orders:

1 – WT will coordinate the comments from Councillors on the financial Risk Assessment.

Action: WT

68/7/09

Village Maintenance:

1 – Insurance update for damaged bench in recreation ground.

Quote from Mills & Douglas has been received, which has been amended from the original quote. Clerk to get two further quotes.

Action: Clerk

2 - Meadowcroft Way bench – still awaiting Mills & Douglas to complete

MK has contacted Mills & Douglas who have yet again agreed to paint the bench.

3 – Remainder of benches in the recreation ground – to be painted.

Meadow Nursery have submitted their costs. It was proposed by RB and seconded by MK, all in agreement, that Meadow Nursery be asked to carry out the maintenance for the wood/concrete bench on the recreation ground and also the wood/concrete bench at Fishers Lane at a cost of £25 each.

Page 571

MK will inspect the benches at the Clunch Pit and the churchyard/burial ground and will report back at the next meeting. The estimate received from Meadow Nursery stated that the cost per bench for Wood/Concrete = £25; wood/metal = £50; all wood = £45.

Action: MK

4 - Clearance of brambles along the ditch on Hurdleditch Road
RB still to meet with Mr D Vacher (Highways)

Action: RB

5 – Tree at Pearman's Close/Stocks Lane

Albeit that Pearman's Close is an adopted Road, SCDC and CCC take no responsibility for the offending tree and surrounding ground. KR to suggest to the householder to enquire with the Land Registry Office as to who owns the land. RB to enquire with the land owner (prior to the development).

Action: RB & KR

69/7/09

Forward Planning – (Replacement of the Village Hall):

1 – Where – (potential sites)

Areas within the village envelope:

Recreation Ground

Village Hall Car park

Existing Village Hall

Land adj 60 High Street

Exception Sites – Hurdleditch Road, Fishers Lane, Leaden Hill, Barrington/Malton Lane, The verge at the entrance into Meadowcroft Way, rear of Volac and behind Manor Farm. These are only suggested sites, some areas may be unsuitable or unavailable.

Car parking is a major issue and needs an area which can cater for up to 50 cars.

Next item to be discussed is: **How** (financing)

70/7/09

Committee Reports and Areas of Responsibility:

Village Hall

The next meeting will be on 4th August. The old chairs could be used for outdoor functions and so should not be thrown away. Would it be possible to have a storage facility at the car park to store the chairs. Suggestions for a shed or container was expressed, need to look into how much and planning issues (if any).

ORCA

MK reported that he has noticed that the side of the tennis courts near the hedge appear to be breaking up. Clerk to contact the company.

Action: Clerk

There also appears to be some sort of staining on the surface. KR reported that the surface was due to be washed with an anti fungal treatment.

Police/Neighbourhood Watch

Next Police Panel meeting is on 22nd July in Haslingfield.

Footpaths

RB has been in contact with Mr Andrew Stimpson (CCC) concerning footpath 5.

Meeting to be arranged with Mrs Ward, a family representative, Andrew Stimpson and RB

Action: RB

Glebe Field

The vegetation in the area of the lower kissing gate has now been removed, this was kindly done by Simon Damant at no charge to the Clunch Pit Management Trust.

Allotments

Jenny Clerk (SCDC) is still awaiting response from the landowner.

Youth Club

The youth club will be closed until September, due to lack of supervisors.

71/7/09

Councillors' Reports:

WT

Has been in contact with Mr Graham Borgonon (Meldreth Parish Council), some of the computer problems being experienced by councillors could be due to an incompatibility with the Outlook Express software. WT will provide further software which should address this. Meldreth have submitted a proposal for a new system.

Page 572

RB

Affordable Housing Update:

RB had requested Cambridgeshire ACRE (Catherine Shilton) to close the housing needs survey. A combination of the Housing Needs Survey and SCDC Housing Register showed 37 people with Orwell connections were interested in obtaining affordable housing. It is the ACRE recommendation that 15 dwellings are built; it appears that the Cambridge Housing Society will be the developers. Changes in the planning regulations suggest that the SCDC planners will now be the ultimate authority in deciding whether the scheme goes ahead whereas previously it was the village residents that held that role. RB to organise a public meeting for residents in September, representative from ACRE, SCDC and Developers will be invited to attend.

Action: RB

MK

MK has spoken with Geoff Clark (SCDC) who agreed that he would provide the costs of the village grass cutting maintenance programme, SCDC have a five year contract with the present contractor. Notwithstanding, MK would like to see the figures to see if, in the future, it would be cost effective for the Parish Council to take over the grass cutting contract, as other villages have done.

WT/KR

The Chequers pub is now officially closed, however Punch Taverns have informed WT that the pub will reopen within a few months under new management.

KR

Attended the Low Carbon Lifestyle meeting. Report has been circulated. WT is sceptical whether some of the issues raised should be included in the Parish Plan, as suggested by KR.

72/7/09

August Meeting:

It was proposed by RB seconded by RP and agreed by all that there should not be an August meeting, however Planning Meetings will take place as and when needed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15pm

Next meeting: September 16th 2009

For the avoidance of doubt the only legally acceptable version of the Minutes of Orwell Parish Council are those signed in Public Meetings by the Chairman. They are available for public inspection from the Clerk.

Chairman:

Date: