

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th July 2009

Present Peter Lemaire (PL), Chair Vernon Miners (VM) Paul Humphrey (PH)
Melissa Fletcher (MF) David Cooper (DC) Sue Hill (SH)

- 52. Apologies** – Theresa Redgewell (TR)
- 53. Declarations of interest** – MF - Planning - High House
- 54. Minutes of last meeting** –
RESOLVED – All agreed they were an accurate representation.
- 55. Matters arising** – to be reported under relevant sections.
- (a) Volunteer tractor drivers –
RESOLVED – VM offered to supply gloves and goggles to be kept in container with tractor. To be done **VM**
- (b) Barbeque – insurers were not keen to add to the policy, SH to let Anne Critchley know. **SH**
- (c) New step by the village hall play area is a possible trip hazard.
RESOLVED – VM to put a banister rail at both sides of it. **VM**
- (d) Agreement for village hall passageway –
RESOLVED – PL to pass to the Jays for their comments **PL**
- (e) RAF liaison –
RESOLVED - TR/PL to meet to agree a way forward with communication and discuss a joint approach from local parishes. **TR/PL**
- 56. District Councillor/County Councillor reports** –
Sue Cooper –
DC read report from Sue – an update on new waste collection and parking at Lewknor
- 57. Accounts & Administration** –
- (a) New income and expenditure reported as per the form attached to minutes.
RESOLVED - All invoices paid to date.
- (b) SH presented the monthly financial report.
RESOLVED – report noted.
- (c) Internal audit report – SH listed the issues raised in the report
RESOLVED – noted. SH to copy this to the finance team **SH**
- (d) Interest on bank deposit account
RESOLVED – SH to look for a higher interest account. **SH**
- (e) Paperwork for external auditor – this had been altered slightly due to the auditor comments about treatment of petty cash –
RESOLVED – all agreed that relevant paperwork be signed.
- 58. Access behind Village Hall** –
Legal documentation relating to access alongside and behind the hall - after consulting with the Charity commission the village hall management committee (VHMC) informed the council that the parish council, as custodian trustees, were not empowered to make decisions about the day-to-day running of the hall. These were to be made by the VHMC as managing trustees.
RESOLVED – all agreed that the agreement needed to be amended to reflect this and that the decision about the wheelie bins made at the June meeting should not have been made. **PL**
- 59. RAF** –
RAF Families Day was to be held in July. The RAF charity motorcycle event had been held and despite locals not being notified this year, residents were pleased that the event had been held further away from houses.

- 60. State of roads/bus services –**
 (a) Travel to Wallingford school –
RESOLVED – PL had received confirmation that for this year there would be free transport to Wallingford school for all children.
 (b) Land surrounding ex-BT box –
RESOLVED – VM to contact land owner **VM**
 (c) Footpath by phone box -
RESOLVED – OCC to redo properly and to repair damage to the hall wall. VM reported that the kerbstones need raising.
- 61. Play area/pavilion –**
 (a) VM proposed that council consider purchasing some second hand gang mowers which were for sale.
RESOLVED – Councillors agreed to take a look at them. VM to follow up. **VM**
 (b) Play area bark needs topping up.
RESOLVED – SH to get a quote for smaller volume of bark **SH**
 (c) VM reported that the last water bill had been higher than normal and proposed that meters be put on both the cattle trough and the wicket water point.
RESOLVED – all agreed that if this could be done for less than £300 then VM should go ahead, with both meters. If not then just the water trough should be metered. Ewelme Cricket Club reported that they had mended the leaking water point by the wicket.
 (d) VM had arranged to purchase red diesel from Ford's Farm for running the tractor on as it was only used off road.
RESOLVED – noted
 (e) Pavilion upgrade – PH offered to organise a volunteer group to paint the outside, mend the gutter and make safe behind the pavilion before the end of September.
RESOLVED – all were happy for him to do this.
 (f) Basketball equipment/cross bars –
RESOLVED – VM to move away from the play area and store in the container or behind them.
 (g) Gang mower cover – SH reminded council that these should be covered for safety and protection.
RESOLVED – all agreed, but to felt a decision should be made after seeing the second hand mowers.
- 62. Common car park & stiles –**
 (a) Replacing of stiles – MF reported that work had started and that good comments had been received.
 (b) Car park – MF proposed the following alterations to the car park:
 - Remove lower branches of trees on either side of the gate to the common to create more parking spaces
 - Straighten up the bank on either side of the barrier to square off the car park and create more spaces.
 - Re-surface with markings for parking bays to help people park more efficiently
 - Insert gravel boards to prevent movement of gravel down the bank.
 - new notice board to be placed near the gate or the barrier when the changes had been made.
RESOLVED – all agreed, MF/SH to get quotes for the work. **MF/SH**
- 63. Village Plan –**
 PL reported that Hugh Fallon wished to relinquish the chair of the transport group. SH proposed that once a new chair had been found, that the topic of speeding be on the agenda for council (August or September).
RESOLVED – noted and agreed **SH**
- 64. Health & Safety –**
 None

- 65. Watercress Beds/brook –**
 More volunteers needed for Watercress Beds.
RESOLVED – Councillors suggested advertising in Ewelme News. **VM/PL**
 SH reported that Sidleys agent will be coming to look at the brook bridge to the manor.
RESOLVED – Councillors suggested that Des Dix be invited to meet with the agent as he had cleared the blockage. **SH**
- 66. Planning -**
Planning decisions made between meetings:
 None.
For decision:
 High House – appeal was noted. Councillors decided to write to reiterate their decision that it was the look and the position of the new property they were against and not the infill. **SH**
- 67. Correspondence –**
Items discussed under relevant sections:
 None
Items for discussion at meeting:
 None
Councillors informed ahead of items not for discussion:
 (a) Mrs M and Ms V Johnson, Hampden Way - Development of Hampden Way garage site. PL read out the letter plus the response by the clerk.
 (b) Nicholsons – Duty of care tree survey offer.
Consultations, Councillors to comment on as they wish:
 (a) SE England RSS - Partial review: Somewhere to live – planning for gypsies, travellers and touring show people
 (b)ORCC - Invite to Flu Pandemic Emergency Plan evening, 29th July, 7pm, Kennington Village hall
 (c)ORCC - Rural affordable housing information and training event, Thurs 17th Sept, 12-3pm, Denham College, Marcham
- 68. Other issues raised for possible future discussion –**
 (a) VM reported that there had been a day time burglary in the High Street.
RESOLVED – noted.
 (b) Andy Climpson enquired as to the ownership of the hand roller
RESOLVED – SH would check list of items given to Cricket Club, but all were in agreement that this should be included on the list if not already there.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date:

Date of next meeting – **Wednesday 12th August 2009** at 7.30pm, Village Hall