

Notice of  
Meeting of the Parish Council on

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2004**

**at 20:00 h**  
in  
**The Village Hall**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest
3. Minutes of previous meeting
4. Matters arising
5. Current tasks
  - Play area
  - RAF
  - State of roads
6. Planning
7. District Councillors Reports
8. Correspondence
9. Accounts & administration
10. Any other business
11. Next meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2004 8pm

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## Minutes of a meeting of Parish Councillors

held on

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2004

<b>Present</b>	Neil Blake (NB)	Peter Lemaire (PL)
	Brian Benson (BB)	Sue Pryce Jones (SPJ)
	Dee Rosier (DR)	John Lockyer (JL)
	Sue Hill (SH)	

	<b>Details</b>	<b>Action</b>
1.	<b>Apologies</b> – none	
2.	<b>Declaration of interests</b> – to be stated within agenda (Planning)	
3.	<b>Minutes</b> – Agreed with changes made.	
4.	<b>Matters arising</b> –	
	Tasks still outstanding from previous non quorate meetings:	
	<u>June meeting</u>	
	• Notice board – discuss under AOB	
	• Maintenance jobs done by school. SPJ to raise at next governors meeting on 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept. BB to give SPJ info on Friends of war memorials association before the meeting.	<b>SPJ</b> <b>BB</b>
	• Cat lane footpath – SH to keep hassling OCC	<b>SH</b>
	• Litter picking – SH to discuss with Martin Spence	<b>SH</b>
	• Play area – disclaimer notices NB to deal with. SPJ to look into physical education grants, BB to investigate use of cricket pitch by Grundons.	<b>NB</b> <b>SPJ</b> <b>BB</b>
	• RAF – BB to contact them about the fencing at Green Lane.	<b>BB</b>
	• Bridleways – SH to contact the Bridleways Officer to see if this was progressing.	<b>SH</b>
	• Pond Management Plan – All agreed that the plan was a sensible way forward and DR proposed that it should be adopted as a working model. PL seconded.	
	• Parking – Main points raised during the discussion: it was felt that the school was unable to enforce parking issues; there was a greater problem in the afternoons; a possible one way system is encouraged by the school, but there was doubt as to its effectiveness; the problem is that the dangers/problems need to be reinforced to parents by an official. SH to contact traffic warden.	<b>SH</b>
	• Environmental Improvement Grant – no appropriate ideas had been raised.	
	• Bus shelter – SH to see if someone could clear the leaves for a few months in the winter. Paving stones were broken in the shelter. SH to see if Vernon Miners can replace.	<b>SH</b> <b>SH</b>
	• Twinning – Village Hall Management Committee was asked to find a solution to display items donated to the village by Nolay.	<b>PL</b>
	<u>July Meeting</u>	
	• Parking on pavements – DR to write for Ewelme News	<b>DR</b>
	• Litter bin for play area – rubbish from a bin would have to be taken to the roadside for collection. At the moment Cynthia Winfield picks up any rubbish in the area and puts the pavilion rubbish bin for collection by the road each week. A vote of thanks was recorded for her help with this.	

- OCC signs by the Village Hall – SH to make sure it's done. SH
- Nolay Street / Close / Avenue – SH to write to SODC re the suggestion for naming the next new road in Ewelme. SH
- Bus timetables - SPJ to draft a letter for PC to send re the unsuitability of the bus timetable changes. SPJ

#### August meeting

- TOE grant - SH to let Vernon Miners know when the quotes will be discussed at council meeting. SH
- Play wall – SH to find if there is a cheaper way of providing this facility. JL had a letter from a resident informing Council of the problems with youths on the pavilion roof and play equipment in the evenings. There were objections to the play wall idea because of the noise. NB to respond. All felt that council had made provision for the younger children in the village and it shouldn't neglect the older children if possible. DR offered to find out who the youths were and ask them what they would like to have in the village. BB suggested that since the bus shelter was no longer used, that it be converted into a meeting place for youngsters. JL and SPJ were very concerned about the effects on residents and felt that it would be better to give them some activity focus and that the common would be the best place for that. NB
- Football – Benson football teams had booked up for more practice sessions and games. JL raised the issue of whether they should be asked to pay for practice sessions as well as games played. Councillors agreed that a £5 contribution per session/game was very inexpensive and not unreasonable since there are maintenance costs involved in them using the area. JL to let them know. DR
- Insurance – SH to carry forward. JL

#### 5. **Current tasks –**

**Play area** – nothing new

**RAF** – Apologies had been received from the RAF for the noise from the motor cycle event and the families day display. It was agreed by all that better communication would work in their favour. Councillors had sent condolences after the death of a station member in Iraq.

**State of roads** – nothing new

#### 6. **Planning –**

**Tree preservation order** - 2 horse chestnuts in garden of 10 Eyres Close

**Mountview, High Street** - Change of use from agricultural land to residential cartilage including alteration to boundary fence (retrospective).

Granted by SODC

**Ewelme Lodge** - Provision of an oil storage tank to rear of garage.

Granted by SODC

**Kingspool House** - Replacement glasshouse 2.9 x 5.1 metres, erected on brick and constructed in powder coated aluminium finished in green.

Granted by SODC

**Ewelme Almshouses** - Change of use of master's flat from residential to educational for a temporary period. Views were divided amongst councillors. Whilst they understand that the school wishes to house Foundation Stage children and needs to maintain viability of the school, they have concerns about the suitability of the almshouses for this purpose and whether the residents mind having young children on site. Also concerns about the safety aspects of access to the flat. Form sent in between meetings. SH to write to planning office to voice considerable concerns that the council have over this and to ask that the residents be

SH

consulted.

**3, Lower Farm Barn** - Erection of a single storey rear extension. (Garden room). BB declared an interest. Parish Council voted to object to this since they believed that the original covenants of the barn conversion did not allow any external alterations.

**Grundon's liaison committee meeting** - all councillors had been invited to attend a short presentation on planning applications at the meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. PL and BB to attend.

**Outstanding issues** - SH to write to planning office for an update on outstanding issues of enforcement and copy to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council and Boris Johnson. SH to write to Post Office Counters re post office in Ewelme.

PL/BB

SH

SH

**7. District Councillors' Reports –**

**Sue Cooper –**

New planning act comes into force in October so a number of items of Supplementary Planning Guidance have recently been approved. (Any new policies will have to be dealt with in conjunction with the new Local Plan and it may therefore take longer to bring them into force.)

So, we have: (i) a planning brief for the redevelopment of Chinnor Cement Works, (ii) Conservation area character studies for Henley, Dorchester & Ovary, Great Haseley, Aston Tirrold & Aston Upthorpe. (One for Ewelme should be started soon), (iii) a booklet giving advice on Repairs to historic buildings.

The new licencing regime should start on 7 Feb 2005. The draft SODC Licencing Policy is now out for consultation.

Health provision in the area is being investigated, with initial focus on rural areas. Councillors suggested that lack of NHS dentists was a concern. DR to liaison with Sue Cooper re ideas from Elm Club/Almshouses. Any residents with concerns about health service provision should contact Sue Cooper on 835631.

Councillors had a discussion on planning enforcement problems at SODC and possible causes. Recent amalgamation of planning and building control sections may help.

**Felix Bloomfield –**

Wallingford Area Forum on 5<sup>th</sup> Oct, SODC. All welcome

SODC's Leisure and Countryside team will have a marquee at Henley Show on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Forum for Town and Parish Councils on 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept. BB to attend.

Defence Airfields review being done and may affect Benson, due for completion next year.

Ofwats recommendations for prices of water/sewerage for the next 5 years are available from Public Amenities, SODC on 823473

Crime in South Oxfordshire is down by 14%. CCTV and police community support officers should reduce this.

Boris Johnson question/answer session in Benson Parish Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept.

**8. Correspondence -**

Roy Troth - Following discussion last meeting that some village areas needed regular maintenance, a quote had been received for cutting grass around Kings Pool, pound and play area. Councillors decided that these areas only needed to be cut every other week. Also that leaves around the bus shelter needed sweeping up fortnightly during Sept – Nov. SH to ask if that job could be added to a revised quote.

SH

SODC - Licencing consultation for village hall. SH had completed and sent off between meetings.

- Countryside Agency - Nominations sought for the Chilterns Conservation Board. Interested residents may apply. Contact SH for details.
- Ewelme Church Council - Response to donation, request for an increase. Councillors queried what the money had been used for since the new churchyard had not really been kept tidy this year and any work that had been done had been done by volunteers. BB suggested that they consider work done in kind (by one of Council's contractors on a monthly basis) rather than an increased donation. SH to respond. **SH**
- SODC - Invite to Town and Parish Council Forum on 22nd Sept. BB to attend. **BB**
- OCC – Invite for all residents to a debate on Future of Waste Disposal in Oxon. SH had put notice on board.
- OCC - Service 125, Wallingford to Watlington. Changed timetable. New timetable on board.
- Environment Agency - Thames Waterway Plan Consultation. Not relevant to Ewelme
- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister - Consultations on (i) code of conduct and (ii) political activities of local authority employees and (iii) pay of political assistants. No comments
- OCC - Oxfordshire Transport Co-ordinator post. SH to ask Richard Baker if he has any comments. **SH**
- 9. Accounts & Administration –**  
 Invoices paid: Paul Wyatt (£763.75), Richard Winfield (£1100), Clerk wages (£187.50)  
 Payments received: £252 for ads in Ewelme News, £50 from Benson Football teams.  
 External auditor had requested a couple of alterations to the audit form. Councillors approved and initialled. SH to send off. **SH**
- 10. Any other business –**  
 DR had visited the new Watlington Hospital, was disappointed at the low number of NHS beds.  
 BB asked by how much the rateable value of the new dwellings in the village will increase our precept.  
 BB mentioned that people were drowned in Ewelme in the 1780's in floods. BB to write to Environment Agency and request a risk appraisal. **BB**  
 All agreed that the new notice board to be placed at the watercress beds near the pub should be glazed, hardwood and the 8 x A4 size. Lettering to acknowledge the watercress management committee should be done by SH. The decision to go ahead and purchase was proposed by DR and seconded by JL. All in favour. SH to order. **SH**  
 BB reported that 2 men calling door to door re checking that the government safety leaflet had been received are con men trying to gain access. Do not let them in.  
 Cynthia Winfield reported that one of the swings in the new play area was squeaking loudly when used and that parents had complained about it. SH to follow up with Trevor Stewart. **SH**
- 11. Meeting ended at 10.20pm**
- 12. Date of next meeting – 6th October 2004 at 8pm in the Village Hall**