

Wootton Rivers Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th July 2017

Present:	Cindy Creasy	Chair
	Dean Cowley	Councillor
	Steve Rawlings	Councillor
	Neil Worthington	Clerk
	Jerry Kunkler	Wiltshire Councillor
Apologies:	David Butler	Vice-Chair
	Nick Jones	Councillor
	Glenn Leech	Councillor
	Anne Swift	Councillor

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising.

The Minutes of the Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 22nd May 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

Matters arising:

- Cutting back trees above car park bays – Neil Worthington reported that he had been in contact with Mr Tucker’s agent who had emailed that the remedial work was now ‘in hand’. This was to be kept under review and a reminder sent if necessary.
- Cuckoo’s Knob hill – Councillors had looked at the condition of the road edges and agreed that no work was necessary at this time.
- Play equipment inspection – to be carried out shortly by Neil Worthington and Tony McGarry.
- Teresa Herbert had issued the requested information regarding the 20mph speed limit.
- Nick Mitchell-Briggs had notified people on his email list that communications will now be sent regarding forthcoming Parish Council meetings etc.
- The PCAP request for a list of suggested road resurfacing works had been submitted – it was understood that these would be sent to the Area Board for comment and to help decide on priorities for the next 12 months funding allocation.
- BT had been chased up about the redundant phone box which had now been removed.
- Glenn Leech was in the process of completing the review of the Clerk’s salary.
- Anne Swift was updating the welcome pack for new residents and it was confirmed that this included information on the BEAM scheme and the Police Community Messaging group.

2. Declarations of Interest and the granting of dispensations.

Councillors were reminded of the Code for Conduct and the need to declare any interest relating to the items on the Agenda. None were declared and no dispensations were requested or granted.

Councillors who had not yet completed the Register of Members Interests were reminded that this was a legal requirement and should be done as a matter of urgency.

3. Report from Wiltshire Councillor

- Jerry Kunkler reported on Wiltshire Council and Pewsey Area Board recent activities:
- There was a consultation on the draft Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan but this would only affect the East of the County as suitable provisions had already been made in our area.
- The consultation on the bus service alterations will close soon and decisions will then be made about any changes in the timetable.
- At the last Area Board meeting there had been widespread criticism of the Parish Steward scheme and it seemed clear that the its success was dependent on how each individual Steward was involved. It was agreed that more effort should be made to communicate directly with our Steward to ensure closer co-operation. This should be put in place prior to his next visit due on 19th July. *Action: Clerk*
- The construction phase of the new Pewsey Campus had commenced.
- Wiltshire Council's new 10 year business plan would be agreed at the next Council meeting. There is a requirement to save £11million in the next year.
- The application for planning at Church Farm is still be considered and the planning officer is negotiating with the applicant to achieve a suitable scheme. It is likely that there will be further amendments coming forward to the Parish Council for consultation. (Post meeting update: approval to the application was granted by Wiltshire Council on 17th July 2017)

4. Canal & River Trust Meeting

David Butler attended the liaison meeting with the C&RT, other parishes and canal users. He had passed on concerns regarding large vans parked near the canal which were causing obstructions in the road and had put up notices asking for the road to be kept clear during the harvest.

Concerns were expressed from the floor about bikes and wheelbarrows being left near the bridge and boats seemingly permanently moored. The C&RT were to be notified about one particular boat which seemed to be in breach of their licence.

Action: Clerk

5. Report from Community Police Officer.

Wiltshire Police had issued their report for July. Dwelling and non-dwelling burglaries continue to be a priority and this effort has resulted in a decrease of burglaries in the Pewsey and Marlborough area from 39 to 22 over the period May/June. Six of these

were in the Pewsey area – 1 residential property, 2 business properties and 3 sheds/garages.

There have been 9 thefts from cars mainly from beauty spots in the Devizes, Marlborough and Pewsey area.

Other work included speed enforcement, hare coursing and illegal off-roaders.

None of these reported crimes had occurred in Wootton Rivers but the police continue to urge vigilance when leaving vehicles unattended and to check security for homes and outbuildings. There are still problems with hare coursing and the police ask that any vehicles seen acting suspiciously especially with lurchers on board are reported.

The police also report that they have received complaints about vehicles parked dangerously at Milton scrap yard and are carrying out patrols and enforcing any identified offences.

6. 20mph Speed Limit

The procedure and implications of establishing a 20mph speed limit were discussed. It was agreed that there needed to be widespread consultation to see if this was something the community would support. It was agreed that Nick Mitchell-Briggs would put together a summary outlining the pros and cons of a 20mph limit for consideration at the next meeting. Options could then be put out to the community to find out if there was support from villagers who would be prepared to take part in a community speed watch programme.

7. Neighbourhood Development Plan

The NDP was with the examiner appointed by Wiltshire Council and Tony McGarry had asked for a progress report which had not yet been received.

(Post meeting update: the independent examiner's report has now been received. The steering group will review this and take any issues requiring consideration or response to the Parish Council.)

8. Planning

The following application had been considered since the last meeting :-

17/05218/TCA – Young House. There was no objection to fell the tree.

17/04283/FUL – Upper Farm House. There were no objections to the erection of a greenhouse. The application 17/05269/LBC had been withdrawn.

The following new application was considered :-

17/06214/TCA Bay Tree Cottage –there was no objection to the proposed tree works.

Wiltshire Council had proposed to stop sending paper copies of plans to Parish Councils as a money saving exercise and would in future only send an electronic link to the drawings on Wiltshire's website. This was considered to be detrimental to the proper consideration of planning applications as most Parish Council's would not have suitable printing facilities to print out full size plans especially for larger schemes. PCAP will be discussing this at their next meeting and it was agreed that we should also write to Wiltshire Council and object. *Action: Clerk*

9. Finances

No cheques had been issued or money received since the last meeting.

Lloyds Bank had cancelled the un-presented cheque no 515 to Last Landscaping.

The following cheques were authorised and signed :-

- St John's College, Cambridge – rent for recreation ground - £175.00 (it was noted that the rent should have been reviewed this year following the expiry of the current fixed period)
- Last Landscaping – grass cutting recreation ground 1st quarter 2017 - £348.50 (the un-presented cheque 515 for £348.60 was added to this payment – cheque total therefore £697.10)

Lloyds Bank had forwarded the signature mandate for completion online and Cindy and Dean agreed to be added to the list.

The Parish Council are required to make a declaration to the Pension Regulator to confirm that the PC have addressed their legal obligations to provide pensions to their employees. *Action: Clerk*

10. Correspondence received.

Notice of a road closure at Clench had been received. Nick was to be requested to publicise by email.

A request for a donation to Citizens Advice had been received. The previous Parish Council policy to only considering donations for matters that have a direct effect on Wootton Rivers was discussed and agreed to be maintained.

11. Matters raised by the public / AOB

Information about the My Wiltshire app for reporting maintenance issues were to be publicised in the next Contact.

Nick Mitchell-Briggs reported that he continued to sign up new BEAM members – 4 this month.

Steve Rawlings reported that there had been an incident with a large lorry trying to turn at the top of South Bank. With any future incidents the owner and the registration number should be recorded so that further action could be taken.

The maintenance of footpaths and bridleways were discussed and Cindy undertook to contact Wiltshire rights of way team to find out details of their programme for cutting back vegetation. *Action: Cindy Creasy*

Date of the next meeting – 11th September 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.