

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE
HELD ON THURSDAY 13 MAY 2010 IN THE VILLAGE HALL
FOLLOWING THE APM

Those Present: Mr M Grove (Chairman)
Mrs C Manos

Mrs C Mudge
Mr P Rouse
Mr K Macdonald
Mr K Wallace
Mr P Willis
Mr C Freeman (Clerk)
Mrs J Milton (Wiltshire)

9 residents & visitors were present

Election of Chairman: Cllr Martin Grove was proposed by Cllr Manos and seconded by Cllr Wallace. There being no further nominations Cllr Grove was deemed elected Chairman.

Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman: Cllr Grove declared, and signed, Acceptance of Office as Chairman of the Parish Council in front of the Proper Officer, the Clerk, who signed it.

Election of Vice Chairman: Cllr Paul Rouse was proposed by Cllr Mudge and seconded by Cllr Manos. There were no other nominations and Councillor Rouse was deemed elected as vice-chairman.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising: **Defibrillator** – The Clerk reported that he had received the forms which he thought he had forwarded to the Councillors but as no one had received them he would forward them after the meeting. The Application Form appeared to consist of some 15 pages of questions. It was agreed that the Councillors would consider the forms when the Clerk had circulated them.

Football Goals – Cllr Willis was now in possession of the goal nets and the Clerk had obtained pegs to hold them down in the ground and they would be erected as soon as possible.

Sustrans Cycle Path – The Clerk had been in touch with Alistair Millington, the Sustrans contact, and understood that he had obtained the services of the Future Jobs Fund Team who would be clearing and resurfacing the path as soon as the materials were available.

Councillor Training – Councillor McDonald has attended a training course which he found very informative.

Village Hall Trees – The Clerk and the Chairman still had the pruning of the Village Hall Trees on their list of jobs to be done.

Bus Shelter Glass – The Clerk reported that he would install the new bus shelter glass as soon as he had some time.

BT Kiosks – The Clerk awaited a response from Wiltshire Council regarding the desire to purchase the BT Kiosk for a nominal sum.

Bell Field – It had previously been agreed that a feasibility study for the School’s use of the Bell Field should be undertaken. It was agreed to establish precisely the School’s needs and Cllr Willis agreed to make a list of items that need doing or opportunities that present themselves for the improvement of the Bell Field. Cllr Willis would follow up on the contact from temporary Head Teacher, Colin Jones, and request that all of the school’s requirements be put in writing and endorsed by the Governing Body for the future.

Rights of Way - Cllr McDonald reported that a meeting with the Rights of Way Officer, Esther Daly, would happen at some time and the matter was being left in the hands of Cllr Milton (Wiltshire) and Cllr McDonald. The blocked bridleway close to Meadow Cottage could be referred to Ridgeway Trails Team or the Ramblers Association but as the matter was sub-judice there was no point in doing that.

Cycle Track – Following the report that part of the Cycle Track adjacent to the Kennels appeared to be cared for as if it were a garden of the Kennels the Chairman and Clerk had visited the area. The Chairman had spoken to the owner of the Kennels on the telephone, Mrs O’Keefe, and she had reassured the Chairman that she was simply trying to look after her bit of the neighbourhood and there was absolutely no land claim involved. A subsequent report that the path had been blocked by a fence at this point had been immediately investigated by the Clerk who reported that no such blockage existed. The Cllrs were concerned that it was important to protect the public interest and the Clerk was asked to write to both Wiltshire Council and Sustrans requesting that signage be erected to ensure cyclists were not intimidated into not using this area and taking the apparent diversion.

Finance:

Annual Return: The Parish Council approved the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2010.

Annual Governance Statement: The Parish Council approved the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2010.

Payments: A current statement of the financial position of the Parish Council was distributed by the Clerk. The following payments were made:

WALC subscription	£139.64
Southern Electricity - Power	£181.96
Community First - Insurance	£345.33
Printing of Dragon - 2 months	£18.00
Clerk’s Salary	£258.47
WALC Cllr Training	£41.13
Edwards Sports - goal net pegs	£8.46
South Electric Contracting	£64.50

The Clerk advised that the renewal of the insurance included a new section described as Commercial Legal Expenses which increased the overall net premium by £21 but after some discussion it was agreed that it was a useful addition to the policy and it should be included.

Planning:

Outcomes of planning applications since last meeting:

E090111 Microlight school at Lower Upham – Appeal rejected

E091629 Golf Course - Granted

E100049 Parsonage Piece – No Objection – Granted

- Church Lane: Cllr Mudge had brought the state of Church Lane to the Clerk’s attention and he asked the Parish Steward to fill the holes where possible. He had also reported it to the Highway’s Dept who had raised a work order for one of their cyclic gangs to repair the loss of material when possible. They also asked the Rights of Way Officer to see what she could do with the piece after the Highway’s Dept ends after the bend.
- Consultation on Gypsies and Travellers: The criteria for establishing suitable sites for Gypsies and Travellers were such that the Parish could not fulfil them and was therefore ineligible for such sites. Cllr Milton was keen to point out to the consultation that very close to the border with the Parish was an established transit site that was within the area of Swindon Borough Council.
- Flood Survey It was suggested that the pooling of water on back road from the village to Chiseldon be noted. Previous flood issues around Park Farm House had been resolved by gully work that had taken place to properly drain Aldbourne Hill.
- Declaration of Interest The Clerk would obtain copies of the members’ declaration of interest so that they may check that they are current.
- Area Board Representative Cllr Willis agreed to become the new Area Board Representative to replace Cllr Wallace who was thanked for his attendance and diligent reports.
- Slip Road Potholes It was again reported that the slip-road was seriously potholed but it was noted that the slip-road would be repaired and resurfaced as soon as manpower was available.
- Village Gateways A Cllr enquired as to whether the gateways were to be painted but it was agreed that they were preferred in their natural state. It was agreed to ask the Parish Steward to ensure that any growth around the gateways be kept to a minimum to ensure that they were well seen.
- Community Fruit Orchard Cllr Manos suggested that if the Bell Field were no longer required for recreation it should be turned into a Community Fruit Orchard.
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.08. The next meeting would be held on Thursday July 8th 2010.