

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF
OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD ON
THURSDAY 14 JULY 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

Those Present: Mr M Grove (Chairman)
Mrs C Manos
Mrs C Mudge
Mr K Macdonald
Mr P Willis
Mr C Freeman (Clerk)

Apologies were received from Mr K Wallace Mr P Rouse & Mrs J Milton (Wiltshire)

9 residents were present

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

Matters Arising: **Clerk's review** – The Chairman advised that due to pressure of work and unfortunate personal circumstances of one of the remuneration panel members, he asked, with the Clerk's consent, that the working party on the Clerk's remuneration delay meeting for another few weeks.
Parish Forum – The Chairman reported that he would attend the second meeting of the new Parish Forum on 19 July.
Area Board – The Chairman and Cllr Manos had attended the last Area Board meeting where they were involved in approving a grant to Aldbourne Scout Group of £800. Cllr Tonge of Highways at WC advised that speeding in villages was a priority and these were resources to address the problem.
Rights of Way – Cllr Macdonald said he had not undertaken his further footpaths and stiles survey as yet but it was work in progress. The Clerk had written to the Head of Rights of Way, Richard Broadhead, and awaited a reply.

Finance: **Payments** - A current statement of the financial position of the Parish Council was distributed by the Clerk. The Clerk advised that he had been able to secure better terms for the PC's insurance so that the approved expenditure of £291.14 was now void. The new electricity supplier, Scottish Power, had supplied a contract and the rate was guaranteed until June 2012. The following payments were approved:

Aon Insurance	£260.99
Bawden	£607.20
SEC – Maintenance	£71.23
Southern Electricity - Power	£125.53
Scottish Power	£76.96
Printing of Dragon – 2 months	£24.00
Clerk's Salary	£258.47

Planning: **Ashwood House** – No Objection – Granted
Hallam Farm – Amendment to previous permission - No Objection – Granted
6 St Georges Close – No Objection
Chantry Meadow – Comment was invited from the floor and lively discussion followed. Parishioners at the meeting made the following comments, some of which are speculative and not relevant to the application (listed in no order of priority):

- There were many fundamental errors in the application which rendered it questionable
- The manure dump immediately adjacent to the neighbour's garden, which caused an environmental nuisance. The Environmental Health Act 1990 required 'manure/bedding must be stored as far away as possible from neighbouring properties to avoid causing nuisance'.
- Comment was made on the location of both the Stables/Loose boxes and the manure dump being so close to the neighbour's property.
- The suggested access 'through the applicant's garden' was considered wholly misleading as large horse boxes from the Applicant's company were regularly parked close to the stables.
- Access had been obtained through the gateway next to Faun's Close which had been substantially enlarged; there was no information in the application regarding Highways dept notification of this access.
- Some thought that there was a danger that a well established tree may be felled to provide better access at this point.
- It was noted that the farm where the applicant's horse boxes are currently parked at night was on the verge of being sold and it was suggested that it could be the intention to park the vehicles in Chantry Meadow in future.
- The application stated that it was solely for the private use of the applicant and family but concern was expressed as to future use as commercial livery stables.

Further to these comments Cllr Manos advised the PC that it needed to be mindful of people who had spoken to Councillors in favour of the application as well as those people attending the meeting who objected to the application. Cllrs Manos and MacDonald also noted that other mobile stable blocks had been erected in the Parish without planning permission which could be regarded as a precedent.

The Chairman then broke the issues down into two sections, firstly the change of use from agriculture to mixed agriculture and equestrian and the Councillors agreed in principle to this. Secondly the application for the retention of the stable block and it was agreed to have a site meeting to continue to formulate a response to this.

Village Hall:

The Parish Council had been asked by the PCC whether it would be willing to fund all of the Solicitors costs involved in creating a new lease for the Village Hall. The PCC treasurer, Mr R Cobbold, advised the meeting that the PCC's share of the costs had been estimated at a minimum of £650+VAT. The Clerk advised that the PC should not accept a minimum figure, only a maximum and it was decided in principle to accept a cost to the Parish at this figure. The Clerk would discuss with the PC's solicitors the possibility of combining the activities of the two solicitors to reduce costs and possibly obtain a capped fixed fee. Mr Cobbold reported that their solicitors had not yet incurred any costs.

Coronation Garden:

The Clerk reported that Matthew Coplestone of Earthline, who had built the walls of the Coronation garden originally, would arrange for them to be rebuilt following the damage caused by the accident in September 2010. As the driver of the vehicle involved was uninsured it was unlikely that the PC would recover sufficient net funds from insurers or the Motor Insurance Bureau so it was agreed that Cllr Macdonald would look into the costs of a replacement bench for the Coronation Garden.

Village Website: Cllr Macdonald was concerned that Paul Scott who had created the village website had paid hosting fees himself. The Clerk stated that the PC had already agreed to meet these costs and the bills should have been made out to it. He requested the accounts for reimbursement. Cllr Macdonald asked that the PC carry a vote of thanks to Paul Scott for the work he had done on the PC's behalf. This was unanimously agreed.

Cycle Path Cllr Manos had requested that the new Friends of the Railway Path be supported by the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would advise accordingly and if appropriate arrange for a presentation by the people steering the group.

Development: It was reported that a window had been installed in a property in Bottom Lane, Eastholme and the Clerk would contact Development Control to enquire whether it needed planning permission.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.15. The next meeting would be held on 8th September 2011.

Signed as a true record:.....
Paul Willis – Chairman – 8th September 2011