

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD ON THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2009
IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 19:30

Those Present: Mr M Grove (Chairman)
Mrs C Manos
Mrs C Mudge
Mr P Rouse
Mr K Wallace
Mr P Willis
Mr C Freeman (Clerk)
Mrs J Milton (WC)
PC M Bayliss (Wiltshire Police)

3 Residents were present

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on May 28th, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman. The meeting held on 9th July was only attended by Cllrs Grove and Wallace and therefore declared unquorate and abandoned. The Chairman apologised to any members of the public who had attended on that occasion.

Matters Arising: **Clerk's Contract - AGM:** Having properly researched the issue of paying the Clerk under PAYE, Cllr Wallace had modified the opinion he stated at the meeting in March 09 and was now content with the direct payment to the Clerk. This is what Cllr Wallace tried to communicate at the AGM.

There were no matters arising from the meeting on May 28th.

Resignation: The Parish Council had received the resignation of Cllr Smith with regret. It was agreed to write to him expressing gratitude for the sterling efforts and contribution he had made on behalf of the Council.

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

SEC - Maintenance	£63.12
Bawden contracting	£274.68
Printing of Dragon – 2 months	£27.60
Clerk's Salary	£255.91
Bawden contracting	£274.68
Southern Electricity - Power	£180.27
Edwards Sports - Goals	£458.85
Bawden contracting	£274.68
SEC - Maintenance	£63.12
Printing of Dragon – 2 months	£27.60
Clerk's Salary	£255.91

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had received a grant of £200 from the Football Foundation towards the goals.

Planning:

Applications and outcomes since last meeting:
E090111S73 Lower Upham Airfield – Strong objection - Refused
E090569 Cotswold House - No Objection – Granted
E090585 Manor House - No Objection – Granted
E090764/65 Rectory House – No Objection
E090799 Barnview – No Objection
E090848 Golf Course – No Objection
E090994 Ashwood House – No Objection – The Clerk advised that amended plans for this application had been received and circulated to the Councillors a few minutes before the meeting.
Under the Council’s Standing Orders the following applications do not require consideration at a formal meeting but for convenience were considered.

E091079 Churchyard Trees - Cllr Rouse had concerns about apparent random tree felling so Mrs Frost, Churchwarden, gave an outline of the reasons for the application which satisfied the Councillors – No Objection
E091100 Woodbine Cottage – After some discussion there was No Objection.

Traffic Diversions:

Cllr Manos recalled that, some time ago, when the A346 was closed due to traffic incidents the Police had been asked to divert traffic in one direction through Aldbourne. The Clerk had checked the records and reported that the Police had stated that this was not a practical plan due to the narrow streets in Aldbourne and the steep hills. PC Bayliss stated that officers would attend the incident first and if there was spare manpower would assist with traffic diversions. It seemed that there was no facility for calling up and acting on experience from previous diversions to facilitate manpower deployment. It was agreed that there were two bottlenecks; one at the junction of the Main Street and Old Marlborough Road due to large vehicles having difficulty turning and secondly from the junction with Liddiards Green past the school to the end of the village. It was suggested that cars parked in these areas should be moved to enable a better traffic flow and a request made in the Dragon to this effect. Meanwhile it was agreed to report the problem on an Issue sheet through the Area Board and await the outcome. The Clerk would organise. The Chairman stated he did not wish to be associated with a situation where the Parish Council appeared to be criticising the Police when they were handling a possible fatal situation with their limited resources.

School Bus Stop:

The Parish Council was most concerned that the plans to create a school bus stop area had been actioned without consultation with the PC. The Councillors thanked Cllr Jemima Milton for her intervention in the issue and awaited the revised proposals. There was discussion as to whether the school had known about the proposals which clearly did not meet the needs expressed in their original application. There was consensus, guided from the floor by a Governor, Mr T George, that the school was not aware of the proposals before the PC. It was agreed to write to Mr George Batten at WC expressing the PC’s concern that the research document and plans justifying the proposal were flawed and out of date and that the proposal implementation was bungled.

- Digital Switchover:** The Clerk had circulated an email from Digital Switchover that outlined the forthcoming change in broadcasting and provided information regarding the requirements for receiving digital television after March 2010. There were a variety of sources of help for various groups and the Councillors felt that by publicising the switchover in the forthcoming editions of the Dragon it would be easier to determine the parishioners' needs so the most appropriate help could be provided. It was agreed to ask the author of the email, David Farwig, to make a provisional arrangement to attend the meeting scheduled for Thursday March 11th 2010 so that any outstanding questions could be addressed.
- MAVCAP & Area Board:** The Chairman, Cllr Grove, had attended the MAVCAP meeting which he had found very informal with apparently little democracy. He reported that some attendees wondered whether it was a superfluous body considering the existence of the new Area Board. A presentation from the Youth Council of Aldbourne was impressive and showed what could be done by the younger members of a Parish. Discussion focussed on Village Plans and one village represented had created a village plan but other than this hardly anyone seemed convinced on account of the work required to create one. It was suggested that the Parish Council should arrange for a person to attend its meeting to talk about village plans. Cllr Wallace reported on his attendance at the Area Board meeting. He had already circulated his report but emphasised that with the new system of reporting Issues these could be passed the Parish Council's authority and influence in its Parish. Cllr Milton assured the meeting that she would ensure this would not happen and that the protocol surrounding the Issues system ensured that the Parish Councils were fully involved.
- Police Report:** PC Michael Bayliss gave a report outlining the crime incidents in the village during August, details of which had already been circulated to Councillors. He gave out emergency tubs, sponsored by Lions International and approved by the emergency services, which would be used by people who were on medication and kept in their fridge, as the tub contains useful information if the resident is found comatose. He could be contacted if supplies of these tubs were required. He advised that he had been in the village using a speed detector gun and had issued one ticket and warned others. He would be able to ask people playing games in areas where they were possibly not wanted, for example in the school playground if they were rowdy, to leave or to be told to play in the Bell field.
- Service of Dedication:** The Clerk advised that the Councillors had been invited to a service of dedication at Salisbury Cathedral for the new Wiltshire Council. No one expressed interest in attending.
- Village Hall:** Mrs Frost reported that a window in the village hall had been broken and repaired by Mr Merritt.
- Councillor Training:** It was agreed to put the issue of Councillor training on the Agenda for the next meeting. Cllr Wallace suggested that Code of Conduct training for Councillors could be arranged if required.

- Defibrillator: It was reported that Great Western Ambulance Service is keen to locate a defibrillator in the village and train someone to be capable of operating it.
- Football Goals: It was agreed to publicise the new football goals in the next edition of the Dragon to encourage players to use the Bell field. The Clerk was seeking a method of marking out the pitch with white lines.
- Councillor Resignation: The Clerk reported that he had forwarded Cllr Smith's resignation to WC and had the protocol for a replacement which includes a draft ideal candidate specification. It was agreed to display a notice of the vacancy on the noticeboard, in the Dragon and on the website.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.28. The next meeting would be held on Thursday November 12th 2009.