

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD ON THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 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)

Apologies were received from PC M Bayliss (Wiltshire Police)
4 Residents were present

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on September 10th, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising: **Digital Switchover:** The Clerk reported that he had received no response from the Parish Council note included in the October edition of the Dragon. Cllr Rouse indicated that 2 people had spoken to him and the Clerk asked that Cllr Rouse determine the nature of their enquiry to evaluate whether the Parish Council could resolve the issue or whether it was necessary to call in the Digital Switchover team. It was agreed to contact Mr Farwig after the January meeting.

Police Report: There had been no response to the offer, in the Police report, of emergency tubs for medication details.

Defibrillator: Cllr Rouse said he would be willing to volunteer for defibrillator training; it was observed that an ideal candidate would be in the village for most of the day. Mr Mark Bentley of Parklands Hotel said he would be willing to have the defibrillator located on his premises. The Clerk would follow up.

Traffic Diversions: A final response had been received from the Issue at the Area Board stating that there is no alternative as the immediate investigation of a serious RTC is resource intensive and there is nothing the Police can do at that time to resource Traffic Management in the village. It is a case of dealing with the matter as it arises.

Football Goals: It was reported that the goals in the Bell Field weren't being used as the nets were not left in place. The Clerk would resolve the matter.

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

Bawden contracting	£548.96
SEC - Maintenance	£63.12

Printing of Dragon – 2 months	£24.00
Clerk’s Salary (& back pay)	£266.13
Amazon – reference books	£74.14
Southern Electricity - Power	£174.85
Clerk expenses – Mileage 52@60.1p	£31.25
Mazars Audit	£138.00

Planning:

Applications and outcomes since last meeting:

E090848 Golf Course – No Objection - Refused
E090994 Ashwood House - No Objection – Granted
E091079 Churchyard Trees - No Objection – Granted
E091100 Woodbine Cottage - No Objection – Granted
E091366 Badgers Rest – It was noted that this was simply an extension of a previous plan for which the permission was due to expire – No Objection
E091449 Poppins – Summer house and new flue – No Objection
K/56751/F Development at Bytham Road - The Clerk reported that the finished site is now two separate warehouse units, inconsistent with the application and plans. He had brought the matter to the planning enforcement officer’s attention and had been advised that the developers had been asked to submit a new application.

A suggestion that a further notice regarding each planning application should be displayed on the notice board was rejected as impractical.

Sustrans Cycle Path:

The Parish Council had received correspondence from Sustrans regarding their proposals for improvement of the cycle path. The suggestion to change the name to The Og Valley Greenway was rejected as unnecessary and meaningless. It was agreed to favour keeping the name as Chiseldon to Marlborough Railway path. The concept of tarmac the whole path was strongly rejected as completely out of keeping. Tarmac would be acceptable only where no other surface was practical. The aggregate surface was that most favoured by the PC. The Parish Council would need to consider specific requests for funding but only small amounts but it was suggested that the Area Board would consider funding if approached. Cllr Milton would mention the matter at the Ogbourne St Andrew Parish Council meeting shortly to see if a joint application could be organised. The Chairman had been in touch with Chiseldon PC but they had not had any dealings with Sustrans regarding the path. The Clerk would contact Sustrans to convey the PC’s response. It was considered that the bridle path alongside the cycle track could be dealt with at a later date.

Councillor Training:

It was proposed by Cllr Wallace that the Council should have a formal funded training policy for Councillors. Although it would be voluntary new Councillors would be encouraged to attend the training course held by WALC. It was resolved to encourage Councillors, especially new ones, to undertake this training and to familiarise themselves with the functions and procedures of the PC. As the Good Councillors Guide states the Clerk is the starting point for advice for Councillors. As at present it was agreed that new Councillors would be given a copy of the Council’s Standing Orders, the Good Councillors Guide and a copy of the Code of Conduct. New Councillors would be allocated an existing experienced mentor

during the first six months tenure. A previous suggestion by Cllr Wallace regarding Code of Conduct training had been discussed with other Councils by Cllr Milton but they weren't interested.

Cllr Rouse gave apologies and left the meeting at 20:19.

Community SpeedWatch: The Parish Council endorsed the Clerk's efforts to include the Parish in the new Community SpeedWatch scheme. The Clerk would report progress at the next PC meeting.

Planning for Wiltshire's Future: The Councillors that had considered the document Wiltshire 2026 felt that a positive response should be submitted. There were no material changes proposed to the village or the local Marlborough area that were not acceptable. Cllr Manos wished to read the document as hard copy and possibly attend the forthcoming meeting; if she found anything she felt would be unacceptable she would apprise the Clerk before his response.

BT Telephone Kiosks: The Parish Council had been offered the opportunity to adopt the telephone kiosks in the village. It was agreed to publicise the offer in the Dragon asking what practical uses they could be put to.

School Bus Stop: The Parish Council was in favour of the revised plans for the school bus stop which it felt met all of the needs and overcame the defects in the original plan. The Clerk had written to Mr George Batten at WC expressing the PC's concern that the research document and plans justifying the proposal were flawed and awaited a reply.

Co-option of Councillor: The meeting closed to the Public so that the Parish Council could discuss suitable questions and hear from two candidates, Mr Mark Bentley and Mr Keith Macdonald. A secret ballot narrowly chose Mr Keith Macdonald to be co-opted to the Parish Council. He declared Acceptance of Office in front of the Proper Officer, the Clerk.

Parish Plans: The Clerk had received information about Parish Plans which he would circulate to Councillors.

Precept: The Clerk reminded Councillors that the Precept for 2010/11 would be set at the next meeting in January. They should have all the financial information on current and previous years but if they required more the Clerk would be happy to supply it in advance of the meeting.

Village Hall Trees: It had been reported that a tree in the play area adjacent to the village hall was overhanging a neighbour's garden. The Chairman and Clerk agreed to attend to it between them.

Area Board: The Chairman, Cllr Grove, had attended the last area Board meeting. He was concerned that the main issues discussed were the provision of wheelchair access to shops in Marlborough and Youth Activities in the area. He felt that contrary to the discussion there were plenty of activities in the area for youngsters but they required a commitment to find and attend them. The next Area Board meeting would be on 7th December at Marlborough Leisure Centre.

Drainage Gully: It was reported that the drainage gully under Park Field House was blocked. The Clerk would contact the Environment Agency to ensure it did not become flooded.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.55. The next meeting would be held on Thursday January 14th 2010.