

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD ON THURSDAY 14 JANUARY 2010  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 19:30

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

Apologies were received from Mr P Rouse & PCSO Polly Ritchie (Wiltshire Police)  
2 Residents were present

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on November 12th, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising: **Digital Switchover:** As there had been no response to the piece in the Dragon it was agreed that it was unlikely that the Parish Council needed to be involved in the Digital Switchover. If problems were identified Councillors would refer those in need to sources of help. There was no need to further contact the Digital Switchover team.

**Defibrillator:** The Clerk had progressed this issue by contacting the British Heart Foundation to arrange funding for the Defibrillator and the Great Western Ambulance service for training of Community First Responders. Cllr Wallace stated that he was willing to be a volunteer CFR. The Clerk suggested that a group of four people to train as CFRs in the village would be a good number.

**Football Goals:** The Clerk reported that the nets would be left in place in future.

**Sustrans Cycle Path:** Cllr Milton had reported to the Clerk that Ogbourne St Andrew PC had not received a funding request from Alistair Millington of Sustrans and had thus not taken any action. Although it had been suggested that an application could be made to the Area Board for funding nothing specific had been agreed as suitable for funding. The Parish Council was generally not in favour of tarmac the whole path and had arranged for aggregate to be supplied, which it felt was more appropriate. The Clerk had agreed to make some notices for which some posts would be needed. If, in due course, it was agreed to fund, or part fund, a bench then an application to the Area Board could be made early in the next financial year. The Clerk would advise Alistair Millington.

**Councillor Training:** The Chairman, Cllr Grove, said he would be mentor to the new councillor, Cllr Macdonald. The Clerk would notify Cllr Macdonald when an appropriate training course became available so that he could decide whether he wished to attend. Cllr Wallace asked the Clerk to pass on the Code of Conduct DVD to Cllr Macdonald.

**BT Kiosks:** After further discussion it was agreed to purchase the two kiosks for £1 each. The Clerk would formalise.

**Village Hall Trees:** The Clerk and Chairman had not been able to attend to the overhanging tree in the village hall car park due to inclement weather.

**Wiltshire Councillor:** There had been some confusion as to the role of the Wiltshire Councillor in Parish Council meetings and being listed as an attendee on the minutes. The Clerk stated that the Wiltshire Councillor, and previously the District Councillor, had always been invited to attend Parish Council meetings and listed on the minutes during his 32 year tenure as Clerk. The Wiltshire Councillor, Jemima Milton, confirmed this was the case in the other parishes in her area. It was agreed to continue this practice as before.

Finance:

**Precept:** The Council considered the financial needs for the forthcoming year. The Clerk had provided the figures which showed the Council was currently spending approximately £500 more than its precept thereby reducing the reserves. Discussion centred on the most appropriate level of reserves and to what level they should be reduced. The Councillors were divided over whether to precept at a similar level to the current year thereby reducing the reserves by a further £500 or so. A resolution to continue the Precept at the current level of £4500 was defeated by the Chairman's casting vote. Further discussion took place and a resolution to increase the Precept by approximately half the anticipated reduction in reserves (£250) to £4750 was carried by the same margin. It was noted that this was 5% less than the precept in 2008/09.

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

SEC - Maintenance	£100.45
Printing of Dragon – 2 months	£24.00
Clerk's Salary	£258.46
Salisbury Diocese – Village Hall rent	£52.00
Southern Electricity - Power	£178.55

Cllr Wallace had noted that a grant had been made by the Area Board to a Parish Council for a new notice board. Cllr Milton said that the money was available and there were no more suitable applications so it was granted.

Planning:

Applications and outcomes since last meeting:

E091366 Badgers Rest – No Objection - Granted

E091449 Poppins – No Objection - Granted

E091538 Grey Gables - No Objection

E091629 Golf Course - Returned with comments

The Clerk advised he was waiting for a new application for the two warehouses built in Bytham Road and would remain in contact with the

planning enforcement officer. It was suggested that the advertising board on the A346 also needed planning permission – the Clerk had already advised of the board and would follow up.

E090111 Lower Upham Farm Airstrip – Appeal against refusal - The Clerk reported that he had made a further submission to the Appeal Inspector consistent with the Parish Council's opposition to the planning application. Copy was available to Councillors if required.

Rights of Way:

Cllr Macdonald had noticed a number of problems with stiles on footpaths in the village. He would supply details and the Clerk would forward them to Rights of Way officer, Esther Daly.

Emergency Assistance:

An elector, Mrs Ineke Scott, was concerned that the Parish Council should have a policy for the welfare of its residents, especially the vulnerable during periods of severe weather as recently. The Clerk had responded by forwarding the emergency planning letter from Wiltshire Council which showed the details of emergency care work being undertaken. The Parish Council was concerned that its residents should receive full care in emergency circumstances but did not wish to duplicate services. From the floor Mrs Scott was asked whether she was aware of any specific residents who were in need, but she wasn't, and Councillors stated that they believed neighbours had ensured no-one was left in need. However it was agreed to put a piece in the Dragon to enquire whether there was anyone who could have done with more help during the bad weather. Cllr Willis would draft an article for the Dragon.

Village Gateways:

Cllr Wallace enquired when the village gateways would be completed as expected. The Clerk would ask the Highways dept.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.06. The next meeting would be held on Thursday March 11<sup>th</sup> 2010.