

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE
HELD ON THURSDAY 15 MARCH 2007
AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Those Present: Mr T Frost (Chairman)
Mr M Grove
Mrs C Manos
Mr P Willis
Mrs C Mudge
Mr R Smith
Mr D Hunter (KDC)
Mr C Freeman (Clerk)

Apologies were received from Mr T Knight, Mr C Humphries (WCC).

2 Members of the public were present

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

Matters Arising **Stagnant Water:** The Chairman had heard nothing further on this matter but would monitor the situation.
Litter Bins: The Clerk reported Kennet's reluctance to replace litter bins and pointed out that bins could be the subject of abuse since the implementation of two weekly collections. It was agreed to take no further action.
Stile: Cllr Mudge stated that the stile reported as broken on the footpath NE of the Manor House needed total repair as the whole fence at that point was tipping over.
Bell Field: The Clerk had met with Simon Turner, trees advisor at Kennet, regarding the Ash tree in the Bell Field and was authorised to arrange appropriate felling and pruning work.
Footpaths: The Clerk reported he had received complaints regarding a footpath where fencing had blown down during recent gales and the blocked bridleway near Meadow Cottage from the local branch of the Ramblers' Association. He had advised that the bridleway route was in dispute and that he felt sure the other path would be cleared when weather permitted.

Finance A current statement of the financial position of the Parish Council was distributed by the Clerk.

Payments made:

Salisbury Diocese	£52.00
Dragon print	£28.20
Clerk's Salary	£243.05

Planning The following planning matters were reported: Applications for an extension at 10 St Georges Close, rear extension at the Old Police House, entrance lobby extension at the School and installation of dishes at Thames Water Mast had been granted. An application for removal of agricultural tie at Southdown House had been returned to Kennet. Two

further applications would be considered after the meeting.

- Notice boards The Parish Council's notice board had fallen down and the Clerk was arranging for it to be repaired and re-erected. The adjacent Parish notice board had been destroyed in recent rough weather but a resident, Christine Coplestone, had recovered an abandoned one on behalf of the Parish. The Clerk would arrange for this one to be erected, too.
- Rights of Way Considerable further discussion took place regarding the blocked bridleway close to Meadow Cottage. It was agreed that the Parish Council should no longer tolerate the situation and the Clerk was instructed to contact WCC requesting that the bridleway be opened in line with the definitive map without further delay.
- Local Elections The Clerk distributed nomination forms for the forthcoming local elections. It was noted that they should be received by Kennet by Noon on 4th April.
- WCC Unitary Authority The Chairman reported that he had received information from Cllr Humphries outlining the case against the County Council becoming a Unitary Authority. Similarly the Clerk had the case put forward by WCC for anyone to consider.
- River bed It was reported that there were a number of fallen trees in the river bed. The Clerk would contact Thames Water to arrange clearance.
- Street Lighting The Clerk had received an enquiry from an elector regarding the street lighting having a minimal carbon footprint. He had been in touch with SEC to evaluate the various alternatives and hoped to be able to report at the next meeting.
- School Travel Plan The Clerk reported that on behalf of the Parish Council he had endorsed the School Travel plan which is intended to improve traffic flow and congestion. Further copies are available for consultation in the school.
- Bell Field Discussion took place regarding installation of the goal posts in the Bell field. It was agreed that further work needed to be undertaken prior to these being installed and that may not be possible until the autumn due to access.
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:23pm. The next meeting, the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council, would be held on Tuesday 8th May 2007.