

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY 12 JULY 2007 AT 7:30pm

Those Present: Mr K Wallace (Chairman)
Mr M Grove
Mrs C Manos
Mr P Rouse
Mr R Smith
Mr P Willis
Mr C Freeman (Clerk)

Apologies were received from Mrs C Mudge, Mr C Humphries (WCC)
6 residents were present

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

Matters Arising: **Rights of Way:** The Clerk reported that he had spoken further to Richard Broadhead, ROW manager at WCC, who was hoping to negotiate a resolution of the blocked bridleway 7. The Clerk would continue to follow up.

Notice Boards: The Clerk apologised for the extended time taken to repair the Parish Council notice board due to the care required and the inclement weather; Cllr Manos was concerned about the delay suggesting the board should be repaired professionally for speed. However, the Clerk was unaware of anyone who would undertake the specific work required; Cllr Grove objected to any intended criticism given the Clerk was doing the work in his own time. It was resolved to seek professional help if the notice board was not erected by mid August.

River Og: The Clerk reported that he had been in touch with the Environment Agency regarding the fallen tree in the river bed close to the pumping station and understood that it had been removed. Cllr Willis would check.

Street Lights: Cllr Smith reported that the 36 watt fluorescent unit suggested by SEC as a suitable replacement for the broken unit at Coronation Garden emitted adequate light. It was agreed to ask SEC to install it and if satisfactory would be the model to use in future.

Smoking Ban: The Chairman reported that he had installed No Smoking notices in the Bus shelters; the Old Marlborough Road notice had lasted 6 hours. It could be replaced with a stainless steel one at a cost of £35. In these circumstances Councillors questioned the extent of responsibilities; it was agreed to monitor how the ban settles down.

Finance: **Annual Return:** The Statement of Accounts for 2006/7 was approved by the Council.

Annual Governance Statement: The Annual Governance Statement for 2006/7 was approved by the Council.

Deposit Account: The Mandate for deposit account with Lloyds Bank

was signed and it was agreed to transfer £6150 to it as it was an instant access account.

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

Southern Electricity - Power	£146.58
SEC	£89.39
Bawden	£539.71
Printing of Dragon – 2 months	£28.20
Clerk's Salary	£243.05
Kennet District Council	£75.00

Planning:

An application for garages at The Grange and removal of an agricultural tie at Cotswold House had been approved and granted by Kennet. An application an Industrial/Office building at Old Chase Road had been returned to KDC with concerns and comments. The Council had objected to a proposal for demolition of existing industrial building and development of a garage/repair workshop at Bytham Road due to access issues. An application for a pitched roof at Poppins had been returned without objection as had one for another transmission dish at Whitefield Farm.

Cllr Grove asked that all planning applications be notified to all Councillors and a response from each obtained. A no response situation was unacceptable as it assumed an e-mail had been received and read whereas e-mail was an unreliable means of communication. The Chairman agreed to ensure a proper response had been received from each Councillor and to arrange site meetings as appropriate.

Code of Conduct:

It was resolved to adopt the revised Code of Conduct as it applied to Parish Councils in its entirety.

Councillors' Responsibilities:

The Chairman had proposed that Councillors accept specific areas of responsibility; however Councillors felt that they all wanted to be involved in Planning and the bi-monthly Council meeting was where Councillors would take on specific responsibilities to effect action on relevant issues. Councillors felt that this modus operandi had been effective in the past and should continue.

School Parking:

It was agreed to continue to monitor the danger issues at the School at pick-up time, if there were any. Cllr Willis had spoken to the Head and Premises Governor and would await a clearer idea of their proposals. It would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Bus Timetables:

A response to a request to Stagecoach to install bus timetable holders in the bus stops was awaited. Meanwhile the Clerk would endeavour to create laminated timetables to be put up in the bus stop shelters.

Parish Lengthsmen:

Cllr Manos would ask the lengthsmen, at their next visit, to fill potholes in the road, in particular in Liddiards Green, and trim bushes and nettles, particularly on the path to the main road.

Speeding:

It was noted that vehicles were still speeding through the village, especially along the Old Marlborough Road towards Marlborough. It was agreed that Cllrs Smith and Rouse would start looking at possible options

for curtailing speeding. The Clerk would try to get a speed monitoring device installed and the matter would be discussed at the next meeting.

Playground Equipment: It was agreed that Cllrs Willis, Rouse and the Clerk would examine the playground equipment on Saturday 21st July at 10:30 and report back regarding items that need to be replaced.

Waste bins: The Chairman would talk to Kennet regarding the emptying of the waste bin at the Marlborough Rd Bus Shelter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm. The next meeting would be held on Thursday September 13th 2007.