

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 7:30pm

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

Apologies were received from Mr C Humphries (WCC)
7 residents were present

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

Matters Arising: **Notice Boards:** It was noted that the Parish Council notice board had been repaired and re-erected by the Clerk. The separate public board was still awaited; the Clerk reported that Mr Merritt was refurbishing and would erect it as soon as possible. It was decided that if it was not achieved by the end of the month then the Chairman would take it over.

River Og: It was agreed that **Cllrs Manos, Willis and the Clerk would jointly remove the tree from the river.** 10am on Saturday 22nd September was agreed as a suitable time.

Street Lights: Cllr Smith reported that the broken unit at Coronation Garden was now working. It was agreed to ask **SEC to retain it** when it was replaced as ordered.

Smoking Ban: The No Smoking notice in the Village Hall bus shelter had been removed; the **Chairman would obtain a new one.** Monitoring of the shelters would continue. If it was found that enforcing the No Smoking Act was impossible then Kennet would be informed.

Bus Timetables: Cllr Rouse reported that he was not confident that Stagecoach would install bus timetable holders in the near future and the **Clerk was requested to create and install laminated timetables.**

Lengthsmen: Cllr Manos reported that the lengthsmen had cleared the nettles alongside the footpath to the bus stop and satisfactorily completed other appropriate work. They had not been able to do the potholes in Liddiards Green and the **Clerk was requested to ask for these to be done** before the scheduled resurfacing in 2008.

Playground: Cllr Willis had sourced replacements for the playground items and would pass details to the **Clerk for ordering.** It was decided not to follow up on available Playground Equipment at Great Bedwyn that was being replaced. It was reported that an offer by a Dragons pre school parent to modify the playground equipment had been referred back for drawings of the proposed modifications for approval.

Waste Bins: It was reported that the waste bins were being emptied.

- Finance: A current statement of the financial position of the Parish Council was distributed by the Clerk. The following payments were made:
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Bawden - Mowing | £539.70 |
| Printing of Dragon – 2 months | £28.20 |
| Notice Board Expenses | £22.30 |
- Authorisation to transfer £570 from deposit to current account was signed.
- Planning: An application for an Industrial/Office building at Old Chase Road had been refused by Kennet. Erection of an industrial/office building at Bytham Road, an application for a pitched roof at Poppins and one for another transmission dish at Whitefield Farm had been approved by Kennet..
- Councillors felt that the District Councillor had shown little involvement in the Parish’s planning issues or attending the meetings, unlike his predecessor, and the **Clerk was asked to bring the matter to his attention**. It was agreed to have a site meeting at Badger’s Rest on 22nd September at 10am.
- Parish Website: Following a meeting of interested parties a Parish Website forum had been established with Tim Frost as the co-ordinator – it can be accessed at <http://osgweb.freeforums.org>. It had been agreed to develop an independent Parish website not utilising the structures offered by ‘umbrella sites’ such as The Local Channel. It was hoped that a prototype website could be ready for demonstration by Christmas. It was resolved to give the venture the Parish Council’s official backing and **arrange introductions to the webmaster at Aldbourne**. Also the **Clerk would contact the Chairman** of Ogbourne St Andrew Parish Council to ask whether there was interest in a joint Ogbourne site. A Councillor asked what a website would be for and how would parishioners benefit from it. It was hoped the answers would become apparent as development progressed. There would be a progress report from the co-ordinator at each Parish Council meeting.
- Speeding: Cllrs Smith and Rouse had started looking at possible options for curtailing speeding and the Clerk had arranged for a speeding audit to be carried out. It was hoped further information would be available at the next meeting.
- School Parking: Cllr Willis reported that the School was developing plans that included relocating the ‘school’ signs and for a bus layby outside the school. These plans would be brought to the Parish Council’s attention once the proposal had been finalised by the School Governors.
- Unitary Authority: Kennet District Council will cease on Aug 1st 2008. **The Chairman would attend a briefing session** from WCC on Tuesday 30th October and asked if any other councillors would join him. Marlborough Community Action Members Forum were also holding a meeting on 27th September at Marlborough Town Hall.
- Minutes: It was agreed that minutes would be circulated in draft form, for approval, prior to being **put up on the notice board**. Members would have a week to confirm they agreed with the draft minutes or propose amendments.

- Coronation Garden: It was reported that dog fouling had become a problem in the Coronation Garden. **The Clerk would install a notice.**
- Foul water: **The Clerk was asked to write** to Dukesmead Kennels regarding foul water, thought to be overflow from their soakaway, lying on the fields of Whitefields farm. He would also bring the matter to the attention of the Environment Agency. Tim Frost said he would check his archive regarding this stagnant/foul water.
- Bell Field Trees The Clerk had received a letter from Mr Newman regarding the trees in the Bell field behind his house. **The Clerk had received one quote and would chase up others.** The work would be done in November if conditions allow.
- Bus Shelter It was agreed to **ask the lengthsman** to clean the Village Hall bus shelter at the next visit and to trim back the cherry tree in the Coronation Gardens where it was touching the street light.
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm. The next meeting would be held on Thursday November 8th 2007.