

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER 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 C Freeman (Clerk)
Mr C Humphries (WCC)

Apologies were received from Mr P Willis, Mr D Hunter (KDC)
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 public board had been refurbished and erected by Mr Merritt. The Clerk reported that there was another similar board available. It may be useful for the Church or the School.

River Og: It had not been possible to remove the tree in the river due to a conflict of meetings. It was agreed that **Cllrs Manos, Willis and the Clerk** would examine the situation to decide whether to let natural events take over.

Street Lights: It was noted that the new light had been installed at the Coronation Garden. The Clerk reported that SEC had left the old unit with him.

Bus Timetables: The Clerk reported that he had created and installed laminated timetables.

Foul Water: The Environment Agency had visited the site with the Chairman and had determined that the water was definitely pollution. Dukesmead Kennels was at a higher location than the pollution. The Environment Agency would report back regarding progress on its investigation.

Bell Field: The Clerk reported that he had received a quotation of £450 (amongst others) to prune the Ash tree in the Bell Field. It was agreed go ahead. Councillors commended Cllr Willis on the work he had organised clearing the Bell Field and agreed to make donations to thank suppliers who had provided services free of charge.

Bus Shelter: The Chairman said that the Bus Shelter needed cleaning. Cllr Manos stated that the Lengthsmen weren't responsible for doing it and it was suggested that a window cleaner may be interested in this work.

Finance: The Clerk reported that the Audit had been successfully completed. A current statement of the financial position of the Parish Council was distributed by the Clerk. The following payments were made:

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|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Mazars - Audit | £58.75 |
| Bawden - Mowing | £539.70 |
| SE – Power | £140.84 |
| E R Merritt – Noticeboard | £216.96 |
| OG Sport – Climbing net | £244.77 |
| Garden Playground Equipment – Swing | £96.35 |
| KD Tank Supplies – Labour | £113.66 |
| Lasts Tree Care - Pruning | £250.00 |
| SEC – Maintenance | £369.54 |
| Clerk – Salary | £243.05 |
| Printing of Dragon – 2 months | £28.20 |

- Planning:** An application for an extension at Badger’s Rest (amended) and additional farm buildings at Westfield farm had been approved. Application for replacement Industrial/Office building at Old Chase Road and renewal of application for extension at Carlisle House had been returned. An application for demolition of garage and erection of two storey extension at Teach-Nua had been received for consideration. The District Councillor had responded to the Clerk’s communication regarding his work for the Parish.
- Parish Website:** As co-ordinator Tim Frost reported on progress. The project has proceeded at a natural pace particularly addressing the difficult issue of updating the website and keeping it fresh and interesting. The team had met with the Aldbourne Web people and derived an understanding of the ongoing difficulties that might be expected. So far there would appear to be little interest from Ogbourne St Andrew regarding participation but it may change later.
- Speeding:** A speed monitoring device had been installed but had been subjected to vandalism which rendered it useless. The Speeding partnership would arrange to redo the survey and **report to the PC**.
- School Parking:** As Cllr Willis was absent it was decided to discuss progress at the next meeting.
- Unitary Authority:** The Chairman and vice chairman had attended briefing meetings. The Chairman reported that it seemed to be a path finding exercise trying to please everybody. Kennet District Council will now cease in April 2009. It was intended to create Community Area Boards that would include elected members and PCs would engage at that level. There would be new areas of responsibility for Parish Councils but at present the main issue was whether the Councillors wishes to extend their elected franchise to 2013 or have Parish Council elections in 2009. In ordinary circumstances they would be due in 2011. It was **unanimously decided that the Parish Council should be subject to election in 2009**.
- Kennet assets:** It was agreed the Parish Council was not interested in acquiring any assets in the village from Kennet District Council prior to its demise. It was observed that there may be monies available as grants for improvements of Parish assets such as the Village Hall.
- Bus Shelter** It was agreed to **ask the lengthsmen** to trim the ivy in the Old Marlborough Road bus shelter at the next visit.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:45pm. The next meeting would be held on Thursday January 10th 2008.