

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY 10 JANUARY 2008 AT 7:30pm

Those Present: Mr K Wallace (Chairman)
Mr M Grove
Mrs C Mudge
Mr P Willis
Mr R Smith
Mr C Freeman (Clerk)
Mr D Hunter (KDC)
Mr C Humphries (WCC)

Apologies were received from Mr P Rouse, Mrs C Manos

3 residents were present

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

Matters Arising: **Foul Water:** The Chairman reported that the Environment Agency was still trying to determine the source of the foul water. Owners of the Dukesmead Kennels had put a notice on the board denying any responsibility. The Environment Agency would report back regarding progress on its investigation.

Bell Field: The Clerk reported that the trees in the Bell Field were scheduled to be pruned tomorrow Friday 11th January but the work was subject to suitable weather conditions.

Bus Shelter: It was agreed to leave this work to a **working party in Spring.**

Planning Report: The Clerk was concerned that the Council's response to the planning application at Teach Nua had been mis-reported in the local paper. The Council was anxious to record that its comment was regarding the street scene if all the houses in the line developed their garages in the same way rather than of this particular property.

Finance: Precept The Clerk had distributed a fact sheet to give guidance on setting the Precept. In the current year expenditure would exceed precept by approximately £2,500 which would be met from reserves. As this level of expenditure was expected to continue **it was decided to increase the precept by £1,500 to £5,000.** If the expenditure was less then the reserves would be replenished, to make up the current years shortfall.

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

SEC – Maintenance	£194.67
SE – Power	£138.75
Salisbury Diocese	£52.00
Clerk – Salary & back pay	£267.07
Printing of Dragon – 2 months	£28.20

Planning:	An application for erection of an office block at Old Chase Road, renewal of a first floor extension at Carlisle House, a two storey extension at Teach Nua and an extension and refurbishment at Cotswold House had all been approved by Kennet. A revised plan for a single storey extension at Amberley would be considered.
Parish Website:	Tim Frost and Paul Scott distributed a progress report. The Parish Council agreed to fund costs including hosting etc up to £150 . Paul Scott was working on resolving the issues surrounding content management to ensure ease of use and updating of the website. The Chairman proposed five categories for the Parish Council's section: Councillors – contact details and photograph (it was agreed that email addresses should be excluded to avoid spam); Responsibilities of Parish, District & County Councils; Minutes – current and for the past year in pdf format; Planning – it was agreed this should simply be a link to the Planning Portal; Parish Council events (calendar) – it was suggested that a calendar of all events would be a separate part of the website..
Speeding:	Cllr Smith had produced an interim report on speeding issues. The speed monitoring device had shown that there were speeding issues that need to be addressed. Wiltshire & Swindon Safety Camera Partnership had suggested that they would arrange for the temporary erection of vehicle activated signs, which were still awaited, and would pass information to the Police to enforce the limit. It was agreed to digest the report, investigate what solutions could be implemented and further discuss these possibilities at the next meeting.
School Parking:	Cllr Willis reported that the School had submitted the application to County for funding of road safety and traffic flow improvement measures. The application included: (i) moving the school warning sign (village hall side) up the road to provide earlier notice to drivers and (ii) to extend the payment outside the school to improve pedestrian access and safety by removing the mound at the end of the Dragon House's drive and extending the existing splay on the Dragon House side of the school entrance (without making it any deeper).
Unitary Authority:	The Chairman reported on his email to Jane Scott, leader of Wiltshire County Council and her reply. It would appear that Parish Council elections will be delayed until 2013 as against the Councillors expressed wish to have an election in 2009. WCC would be providing a strategy document that would enable Parish Councils to decide which services they wished to control. Councillors expressed the need to ensure the funds were allocated with the services.
Street Light:	It was agreed to replace the malfunctioning street light on the Old Marlborough Road.
Recycling:	The Clerk was asked to investigate having plastic bottle and cardboard recycling bins at the Sonia Wright Plants site.
Meadow Cottage Byway:	It was reported that the matter was now in the hands of Solicitors to resolve the issues; no realistic time for settlement could be given.
Footpath Railings:	The Clerk was requested to ask WCC to replace the railings on the path to the main road bus stop.

A346 Bridge

The main road bridge would need strengthening in due course; it was anticipated it may be some years before this work is scheduled.

Playground Swings:

The replacement swing seat ordered by the Clerk was not suitable for commercial use and another **supply source should be sought**.

Parking:

There had been further problems with illegally parked cars at the T-junction of the Main Street and Old Marlborough Road. It was agreed to distribute resident's letters and **create a parking strategy** for this area at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:15pm. The next meeting would be held on Thursday March 13th 2008.