

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
OF OGBOURNE ST GEORGE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 2008 AT 7:00pm

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

Mr K Wallace, Mr C Humphries (WCC) & Mr D Hunter (Kennet) sent apologies
20 residents were present

Following the resignation of Cllr Wallace as Chairman at the end of the last meeting Cllr Grove took the Chair as vice Chairman pending the election of a new Chairman.

Election of Chairman: Cllr Martin Grove was proposed by Cllr Manos and seconded by Cllr Smith.
There being no further nominations Cllr Grove was deemed elected Chairman.

Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman: Cllr Grove declared, and signed, Acceptance of Office as Chairman of the Parish Council in front of the Proper Officer, the Clerk, who signed it.

Election of Vice Chairman: Cllr Paul Rouse was proposed by Cllr Willis and seconded by Cllr Mudge.
There were no other nominations and Councillor Rouse was deemed elected as vice-chairman.

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

Amendments: It was agreed to amend the minutes to state that the Chairman had read out two statements, one being a solicitor's letter. The documents were retained within the Parish records. Cllr Manos asked that the efforts of the Parish Steward be more accurately described by replacing the word 'cut' with 'excavated and returned to its full width'.

Matters Arising: **Chairman:** It was agreed to thank the previous Chairman for his very diligent work.

Bell Field: Andy Wall said he would burn the remaining timber.

Street Lighting: The Clerk was in process of dealing with this matter and would report to the next meeting.

Village Gateways: The Clerk was in process of dealing with this matter and would report to the next meeting

Parking at St Georges Close: The Clerk had reported the matter to Kennet who would take action.

Declarations of Interest: Cllr Smith declared a personal interest as his wife is employed at the school. The Clerk advised that he had taken advice from the Standards Board for England and it was considered that Cllr Smith did not have an interest to

declare. Cllrs Mudge and Willis both declared personal interests as they live adjacent to the school.

School Hall

Planning Application:

As the School Hall Planning Application had created wide interest in the village the Parish Council felt it appropriate to hold this extra meeting to discuss it. Councillors had taken soundings and discussed the application to form the opinion that the Parish Council had no objection to the amended plans. The Parish Council was pleased to note that the school had made a considerable effort to listen to various objections to the plans and amend them accordingly. It was proposed to approve the plans with the conditions that:

1 The new school hall should only be used for community uses which cannot be held at the village hall.

2 Community uses should not continue beyond 10pm whilst the village hall exists.

The meeting was adjourned to open it to the public so that discussion could take place on these proposed conditions.

Considerable discussion took place regarding the nature of village activities that could take place as well as the desire to retain options for the future.

The meeting was reinstated for the Councillors to further discuss the points made by the public. It was finally agreed to modify the first condition as follows:

1 The school hall will not be in competition with the existing facility of the village hall but will only complement the existing provision where there is a specific need to do so.

The Councillors voted unanimously to approve each of these two conditions as amended. It was resolved to make these conditions known to the planning authority.

There being no further business on the Agenda the meeting closed at 8:16pm. The next meeting would be held on Thursday January 15th 2009 at 7:30pm.