

## OGBOURNE ST GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Ogbourne St George Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Ogbourne St George on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 commencing at 7:30pm.

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllr Mudge (Chairman)  
Cllr George,  
Cllr Tuckey,  
Cllr Tanner  
Cllr Utton

OFFICER PRESENT: Parish Clerk, Caroline Ramsey

ALSO PRESENT: 5 Members of the public

#### 1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Cllr Tuckey, seconded by Cllr Sandison and resolved that Cllr Mudge be elected as Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year.

It was proposed by Cllr Mudge, seconded by Cllr Tanner and resolved that Cllr Utton be elected as Vice Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year.

#### 2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Acceptance of Office was duly signed by Cllrs Mudge and Utton and countersigned by the Proper Officer

#### 3. APOLOGIES

None Received

#### 4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Interest

#### 5. MINUTES

The Chairman presented the minutes of the last Full Parish Council Meeting, held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Members **AGREED** they be signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## 6. MATTERS ARISING

On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman extended grateful thanks to recently retired Councillor, Timothy George for the hard work and expertise he had contributed to the Parish. The council wishes him well in his new home.

The Chairman also gave a special thank you to Tim and Charlotte Frost for their sterling contribution to the parish and in particular their work with the Ogbourne St George Poor's Land charity and Village Hall.

## 7. PUBLIC RECESS

Members of the public were invited to make representations to Ogbourne St George Parish Council on the planning matters listed at Item 8 below in accordance with Standing Order 3 (e-k).

Mrs Sally Pierce notified the council of her objections to application 16/02289/FUL due to the additional height and larger footprint of the proposed new timber garage. Mrs Pierce stated that the new building would over-look her property and take valuable light from the south east side. In addition, there were concerns that the larger footprint will reduce the parking area at Berryfields making it necessary for visitors to the property to park in the road.

Mrs Pierce was thanked for her comments and invited to stay to hear the council's views on the application before them at item 8(a) below.

**The meeting was re-convened.**

## 8. PLANNING MATTERS

### (a) Applications:

<b>Application Ref:</b>	16/02289/FUL
<b>Application for:</b>	Full Planning
<b>Location:</b>	Berryfield House, High Street, Ogbourne St George, Wiltshire, SN8 1SL
<b>Proposal:</b>	Replacement timber garage with storage over
<b>Comments:</b>	The Parish Council <b>OBJECTS</b> to this development on the following grounds: -

It adds a significant structure in the front garden, very close to the road, and provides yet another addition to a house which has already had major extensions in the last few years. This application adds considerable bulk to the existing garage. The Council have previously had concerns over applications for large garage developments forward of the building line, although this application seems to provide less in the way of garage space and more accommodation.

**Application Ref:** 16/00993/FUL  
**Application for:** Full Planning  
**Location:** The Vicarage, Ogbourne St George, Wiltshire, SN8 1SU  
**Proposal:** Render to brickwork at front and rear of property  
**Comments:** **NO OBJECTIONS RAISED**

**Application Ref:** 16/02404/FUL  
**Application for:** Full Planning  
**Location:** Ogbourne St George & St Andrew C of E Primary School, High Street, Ogbourne St George, Wiltshire, SN8 1SU  
**Proposal:** Classroom extension with repositioning of playground canopy.  
**Comments:** **NO OBJECTIONS RAISED**

**Application Ref:** 16/03506/FUL  
**Application for:** Full Planning  
**Location:** Ogbourne Water Treatment Works, SN8 1SY  
**Proposal:** Erection of new booster pumping station at Ogbourne Water Treatment Works  
**Comments:** **NO OBJECTIONS RAISED**

**(b) Decisions:**

**Application Ref:** 16/02579/TCA  
**Application for:** Works to trees in conservation area  
**Location:** Foxglove Cottage, Ogbourne St George, Wiltshire, SN8 1SU  
**Decision:** **Approved with no objections - NOTED**

**9. REPORT FROM UNITARY COUNCILLOR**

CLlr Jemima Milton gave the meeting an overview of the year from Wiltshire Council.

*“Once again the year has been dominated by the need to make savings, due to the combination of a lower government grant, and an increased demand for services for vulnerable adults and children. This led to a requirement for savings of £30m in 2015-16; and this target has been achieved, owing in no small part to heroic efforts by council officers. In parallel, investments have been made in the economy to create jobs and apprenticeships and to increase the skills that make Wiltshire an attractive place for employers to invest in.*

*Care for vulnerable residents has been a severe financial pressure in past years and will continue in the future as medical treatment improves and leads to longevity.*

*Wiltshire Council did not increase Council Tax in 2015/16, nor in the previous 4 years, but Council has agreed to increase it by 1.99% in 2016/17, as it is becoming more and more difficult to squeeze savings out of the budget. In addition, the Government has recognised the pressure of social care and is now allowing Councils with this responsibility to have a Social Care Levy of 2% that will be ring-fenced for that purpose alone. This additional income will offset some, but not all, of the demand pressures.*

*On a positive note, the collection of Council Tax is as expected, as is the collection of Non Domestic Rates, of which we retain a percentage, with the remainder being transferred to government. The fact that collection is in good shape reflects the financial and economic state of Wiltshire. Looking ahead, we are working with government to negotiate a four-year settlement that will give the Council some financial stability and will allow us to plan ahead, knowing what grants we will receive rather than living from year to year. In summary, we have to change the way we deliver services, given the financial reality in which we live, and strive to look at everything we do to reduce the costs. We have to ensure that every penny we spend is spent wisely."*

The Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Cllr Milton for her hard work on behalf of Ogbourne St George throughout the previous year.

## 10. POLICE REPORT

A police report was not available.

## 11. OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Council **APPROVED** the payment of the following accounts:

Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Total
Bawden Managed Landscapes	March 2016 – 1/12 <sup>th</sup> of total annual quotation	£141.25	£28.25	£169.50
Bawden Managed Landscapes	April 2016 – 1/12 <sup>th</sup> of total annual quotation	£141.25	£28.25	£169.50
Southern Electric	Unmetered Street Lighting	£169.98	£8.49	£178.48
Microshade VSM	Small Council Hosting Service	£249.00	£49.80	£298.80
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£701.48</b>	<b>£114.79</b>	<b>£816.27</b>

Council **NOTED** the current balances at Bank:

<b>Opening Balances 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016</b>		
Treasurers Account	£3,224.08	
Business Instant Access Account	£325.00	
Expenditure		(£1,564.30)
Income (includes Precept Of £9,000.00 Received from Wiltshire Council on 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2016)		£9,000.02
<b>Actual Total Balance</b>		<b>£10,984.80</b>
<b>Closing Balance 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016</b>		
Treasurers Account	£10,659.08	
Business Instant Access Account	£325	
<b>Balances at Bank</b>		<b>£10,984.80</b>

Council commented that the Bank Balance carried over from the 2015/16 financial year continues to be in a good and healthy state.

## 12. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) VAT Submission – Council **NOTED** that £563.43 is due for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016.
- (b) Council **AGREED** that the Clerk, Mrs Caroline Ramsey continue as Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) for the year 2016/17.
- (c) Council **AGREED** to convene an Extraordinary Meeting to be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016 for the purposes of approving the Internal Audit.

Councillors commented that there are extra monies in the accounts which could be used to fund projects in the coming year. The RFO will investigate and draft a Reserves Policy to be agreed at the next meeting.

## 13. STREET LIGHTING UPDATE

Cllr Utton updated the meeting on progress in relation to the street lighting. Discussions had taken place with Scottish and Southern Electric (SSE) regarding replacing the street lighting in the village. All the 80w M/V (mercury vapour) lanterns are obsolete and lamps and control gear are no longer manufactured, therefore the lanterns will need to be replaced along with the existing brackets.

The meeting was informed that it may also be necessary to replace the existing control boxes depending on their condition (if boxes need replacement the supply cable to the box will need to be disconnected and reconnected at additional cost).

In order to carry out a visual inspection of each light, SSE will need to provide one operative with a mobile elevating work platform. A record will need to be made of what is currently installed including the condition of all 22 lights that the council is responsible for.

The cost to provide this service will be £706.44 +VAT. In view of the urgency of this matter, and in accordance with the council's Financial Regulations, Council **APPROVED** the expenditure of the amount of £706.44 +VAT which is within the 2016/17 budget for Lighting Maintenance.

#### 14. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (a) The Chairman reported that he had attended the CATG Meeting held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 to give agreement for a £100 contribution from the Parish Council to Wiltshire Council in order for works to begin on the creation of a 'Virtual Footpath' at the side of the slip way off the A346. This sum was agreed by council at Item 11(b) of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016.
- (b) Ringway Highway Service Mobilisation – Council **NOTED** that the new Ringway Highway contract with Wiltshire Council commenced on the 1st April 2016. Ringway working with Wiltshire Council have mobilised their services in a matter of weeks. But it must be recognised that not all services will be fully operational on the 1st April 2016. It is anticipated that some lower priority services will not be at the desired levels for up to six months and the council asks for our understanding in mobilising of such a large contract. Wiltshire Council will keep us up to date as mobilisation continues and will ensure all services are delivered at their earliest opportunity.
- (c) Local Highways Service Improvements 2016/17 – Council **NOTED** the report attached at Appendix 1 detailing the service provision improvements for Local Highways in 2016/17
- (d) Village Buses – Council **NOTED** that the Clerk has contacted the two bus companies (Salisbury Reds and Stagecoach) and requested that they display both sets of time tables at the bus stops close to the village.
- (e) Litter Bins at Ridgeway Manor – Cllr Utton reported that the responsibility for the litter bins lies with the developers, Linden Homes who will shortly hand over all maintenance work to their appointed management company. It was noted that residents at Ridgeway Manor are in agreement that the bin should be removed all together. Council agreed to ask Linden Homes if they would replace the bin with a sign requesting users to 'Please take your litter home'.

## 15. VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Cllr Tanner gave the following update to the meeting: -

*“The management committee for the village Hall has been reformed and the first meeting held. The committee consisted of Tim Frost (Chair), Charlotte Frost (Secretary), Roger Powell, Colin Jefferys, Georgie Bevan (not able to attend), and Bob Tanner. It was agreed that the initial representatives need support from the wider village to constitute a good working committee, and therefore an appeal would be letter dropped to all villagers. This has been done with some responses. It was also agreed that the Little Dragons preschool was a valuable asset to the village and should be supported. It was recognised that they may require additional hours during the school term to accommodate possible government regulations. This would restrict usage for other village activities to holidays, evenings and weekends. It was also agreed that the Guides/Brownies leaders would be contacted with a view to them re-joining the committee.*

*The committee is aware that the adjoining land to the Hall is not managed under any specific item by the Parish Council, and therefore the new management committee for the village Hall is seeking approval from the Parish Council to undertake the day-to-day management of the land. All funding for items concerning the land will still be the responsibility of the Parish Council and approval would need to be sought before any expenditure occurred.*

*The Little Dragons preschool wish to expend moneys for facilities on the land adjacent to Hall. It is currently not in the gift of the management committee to approve any works and therefore the Parish Council, as the formal tenants are requested to give approval accordingly.*

*The accounts for the village Hall show a sum of £2502 in the bank. However, this has now been reduced by circa £1000 for insurances and electrical testing”.*

Council discussed the request from the management committee to take over the day to day management of the adjoining land. It was agreed that the clerk would investigate the legalities within the lease agreement and report back at the next meeting. The Clerk would also check the lease to ensure that there are no prohibitions on the council approving the siting of further or replacement facilities on the land.

## 16. ITEMS TO NOTE

**(a) Marlborough Area Board Meeting**– it was **NOTED** that the next meeting would be held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016 from 7pm to 9pm at Marlborough Town Hall, Marlborough.

**17. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be an Extraordinary Council Meeting to be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016 in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Following that, the next scheduled Full Council Meeting will be on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016 in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

**18. PUBLIC RECESS**

A member of the public raised the issue of an overgrown hedge belonging to Carlisle House at the top of the High Street. The property is believed to be empty and currently for sale with Hamptons Estate Agents. The Clerk will contact the agent and Wiltshire Council to request that the hedge be cut back to prevent obstruction to drivers exiting onto Copse Drove.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

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Cllr Gordon Mudge, Chairman, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015