

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 15 May 2006 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present- Chairman	Mr E Webb
Vice Chairman	Mrs C Byatt
Councillors	Mr P Neale, Mrs M Peyton, Prof. A Milton, Dr. N Strudwick and Mr L Ginger
District Councillors	Mr N Cathcart and Mr D McCraith
Parish Clerk	Mrs Y Albery
Parishioners	7 Present

1.0 Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Linda Oliver

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly, including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Village Hall Boundary Wall

The tree adjacent to the wall has now been removed. Three quotes will be obtained to rebuild the wall.

3.2 Meldreth Road Footpath

The footpath has now been completed and a letter of thanks has been sent to Highways Department by the Clerk.

3.3 Grass Cutting

There will be one less cutting of the grass this year. (4 instead of 5).

4.0 Correspondence

SCDC are inviting Parish Councils to a meeting to share views concerning the general provision of gipsy and 'traveller' sites

5.0 Planning

S/0838/06/F 64 Bridge Street, Mr and Mrs Smee extension – Store Room

Permission granted

S/2185/05/F 114 Church Street for J Cooper. Erection for 2 dwellings and garage/workshop/store following demolition with various conditions attached.

The planning application concerning the erection of telephone mast adjacent to A1198 at Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth, was discussed.

6.0 Finance

Cheque No 100502 £1045.44 Allianz Cornhill Insurance PLC

Cheque No 100503 £69.00 Local Council Clerks

Received 1st instalment of precept £7,500.

An advance was made for the Parish Plan Steering Group on 20th June 2005 covering expenses of £434.03. VAT has been recovered (the outstanding amount is £386.15). It was agreed to ask the Steering Group to repay to the Parish Council £280.56 which would leave £105.59 as a contribution from the Parish Council. All councillors agreed to the proposal.

Concern was shown over an article in the 'Councils Direct' magazine regarding a limit to the amount of VAT reclaimable in a year. This possibly affects any proposed improvements to the Village Hall.

7.0 Village Website

The village website is now running – various items are already on there, the Parish Council Minutes, Parish Plan, Church Guide etc.

8.0 Village Hall Management Report

The committee is pleased about the new village handyman. The sewer connection is held pending Anglia Water to contact the Parish Council. All information has been sent to AW. The outside lighting to the Village Hall is now complete, but a few adjustments are needed to timers.

Mr Hough's ideas for the Village Hall should be with us by 6th June.

The new constitution for the Village Hall Management Committee will be ratified at the Annual General Meeting which follows this meeting.

There was discussion about the hire of the football pitch regarding charges, maintenance etc. The recreation ground will continue to be maintained by the Parish Council as at present.

9.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Neale stated that the water leak in Bridge Street would be repaired properly on Thursday.

Councillor Byatt said she would like to attend the Local Development Framework Workshop. Clerk to book Councillor Byatt onto the course.

Councillor Milton mentioned County Council using 0845 numbers for enquiries about County matters.

Councillor Ginger spoke about the proposed fire fighters strike being covered by the fire engine from Trumpington.

Chairman Webb has concerns regarding Affordable Homes Scheme, whether local Whaddon residents on the list would definitely qualify. It has been suggested that some villages are being told to allocate people living outside the village who in the Council's opinion are higher on the waiting list. District Councillor Cathcart felt it would not apply to Whaddon as we come under Section 106. He suggested that we send a Parish Council delegation to meet the Allocations Officer. He will support out Parish Council over this issue. Clerk to arrange the meeting.

Councillor Strudwick (Chairman of the Management Committee) has asked for a special dispensation in order to take up a visiting professorship in Egyptology. Chairman Webb has already approached all councillors for their views. They were now asked to ratify their decision at this meeting. All Councillors agreed to grant this leave. Chairman Webb will chair the Management Meetings in his absence.

10.0 Comments from the Public

Do Village Hall Management Committee funds belong to the Parish Council or Committee?
Answer – Parish Council.

Discussion took place regarding free bus travel for the over 60's, but under the current scheme recently introduced by the Government, it does not allow concessionary travel outside a district/area as there are no funds available for 'Cross District' travel

The date of the next meeting is 19th June 2006

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.