

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 18th September 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:-Chairman Mr E Webb
 Vice Chairman Mrs C Byatt
 Councillors Mrs M Peyton, Mr P Neale
 District Councillors Mr D McCraith
 County Councillor Mrs L Oliver (see below)
 Parish Clerk Mrs Y Albery
 Parishioners 9 Present

1.0 Apologies for absence received from Councillors L Ginger, A Milton, District Councillor N Cathcart. County Councillor L Oliver had sent apologies for late arrival because of attendance at other Council meetings.

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

Another quote has been received for the repair of the damaged Village Hall wall. The Clerk and Chairman are to arrange a meeting with Mr O'Connor now that we have all four quotes.

3.2 Affordable Homes

The Bedford Pilgrims have had a restructuring of their offices and they now have an office in Peterborough which covers the Cambridge area. Whaddon affordable homes project has been taken over by Ms Tracey Harrison. We have been reassured that the scheme is still viable and funding being sought. More information will be made available for the next PC meeting.

3.3 Picnic Area

The picnic bench has arrived. A quote has been received from M G Radford to fix the bench and pave the area, for the sum of £695.00 plus VAT. Mr Ron Albery is willing to assist in erecting the bench in the picnic area if some additional help could be arranged. A small group of villagers have volunteered.

3.4 Number of Council owned bungalows

District Councillor Cathcart had made enquiries and had reported through the clerk that seven bungalows at Ridgeway Close are still owned by the District Council. He also said that if the Parish Council wished, it may be possible to include the bungalows as part of a 'Roving Warden' scheme.

3.5 Bridge Street Bridge Problem

Discussion took place about the poor state of the Bridge and it was decided to ask County Councillor Linda Oliver to enquire whether anything could be done to strengthen the sides of the Bridge to remove any risk to large vehicles which need access.

4.0 New Correspondence

There was no new correspondence

5.0 Planning**Planning permission requested**

S/1633/06/F, 122 Bridge Street, Whaddon, Mr and Mrs Gibson, for garden store.

S/1601/06/LB, White Cottage, 153 Bridge Street, Whaddon. Mr and Mrs J Warrack installation of flue liner in dining room to serve boiler.

S/1339/06/LB, 42 Bridge Street, for Mr and Mrs Webb, for replacement double glazed timber casements.

Permission granted.

S/1221/06/F, 154 Bridge Street, Mr and Mrs Sarter, for extension. No development can commence until details of foul sewerage disposal have been submitted and approved.

S/0971/06/F, 111 Meldreth Road, Mr and Mrs Warren, for a conservatory.

S/1275/06/F, 96 Meldreth Road, Mr and Mrs Walker, for extension.

Planning refused

S/1134/06/LB, Whaddon Grange, Bridge Street, for Mr N Shaw.

6.0 Finance**Cheques already paid**

01/08/06 Cheque No 100511, for £1029.30 (VAT 153.30) to Autopa Ltd. (for bollards)

09/08/06 Cheque No 100512, for £141(VAT £21) To Moore Stephens (2005/06 audit)

Cheques to be signed tonight

Cheque No 100513 £623.47, to Mrs Y Albery for salary and expenses

Cheque No 100514 £589.15, for Village Hall Man. Committee, (repayment of VAT)

Cheque No 100515 £504.08, for Marmax Products Ltd. (Picnic Table) (VAT £75.08)

Cheque No 100516 £19.25, for E Webb, Chairman's telephone expenses

Cheque No 100517 £60.00 , S Baker, for cutting grass of recreation ground.

Cheque No 100518 £40.00, Mr K Charles, for printing Village News Letter.

Cheque No 100519 £160.00, Mr R Green, for hire of equipment

We have received the second instalment of the Precept. (£7500.00)

We have also received VAT of £1060.46 (Parish Council entitlement £470.61)

7.0 Recreation Ground Grass Cutting

Mr Docwra is no longer able to cut the grass for us, therefore the Parish Council is looking into alternative solutions to this problem. It was agreed by the Councillors to ask Meadow nurseries to give one cut in view of the continued growth.

8.0 Village Hall Management Report

Mr Webb was acting Chairman for the last meeting. He reported that a representative from South Cambs. District Council has viewed the proposed Village Hall plans but wants a car parking arrangement scheme to be submitted by Mr Clive Hough. The Parish Council will look at the scheme on 27th September. 'Prohelp Business in the Community' offer costing services free through ACRE, to parish councils involved in building works. The Chairman will write requesting help with estimates for the cost of the proposed modifications.

The sewer connection is expected to take place on Monday 2nd October and traffic lights will be in operation. The bollards will also be installed at the same time.

A budget figure of £500.00 for 12 metres of metal railings to match the recreation ground has been received from Meldform in Whaddon. All councillors agreed to purchase.

The Village Hall accounts have been agreed by the accountant.

A Car Boot Sale is planned for 21st October

A Christmas Draw will take place on 9th December

A Quiz Nite is planned for 20th January 2007

9.0 Comments from the Public

A member of the public mentioned that the pothole opposite Ridgeway Close was now becoming dangerous. The Clerk will contact the Highways Dept.

The Council was asked if the new picnic table would be able to be seen from the road and if a second table was being proposed. The answer was 'yes' to both questions.

Questions were asked as to what type of play equipment was being proposed. Various options were being considered. It was hoped that grant aid would be available. Mr Neil Gallery has suggested that we get the children of the village together in the village hall for discussion, to find out their wishes for play equipment.

Car parking on the bend at the top of Bridge Street is causing concern, at present there has been no simple solution to this problem.

A member of the public reminded the Council that one important public service vehicle which might require access across the Bridge Street bridge, was a fire engine, which is extremely heavy.

Several members of the public asked County Councillor Oliver what was being done about speeding through the village. One suggestion she made was that it may be possible to investigate participation in the Community Speedwatch arrangement where, after training, a speed gun could be issued to certain villagers if they were prepared to take responsibility. She also said that she would request more speed checks by the police. She held little hope for a reduction in the current speed limit due to the financial constraints on the County.

10.0 Any Other Business

County Councillor Oliver was asked what the policy was regarding the memorials on the A1198 after the recent accident there. She did not think that there was a specific policy, but the flowers etc. had now been moved further back from the edge of the road.

District Councillor McGraith stated that the concessionary bus fare scheme is changing. It starts on Sunday 1st October and replaces the original scheme with free travel on local buses with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Leaflets are being distributed.

The meeting was closed at 9.40 pm

The date of the next meeting is on 16th October 2006 at 7.30 pm.