

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 13th MARCH 2008
AT 8.00 PM. IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

ATTENDANCE: Cllrs Mrs V. Smith, Chairman, Mr R. Seymour, Mrs C. Dakin,
Mr D. Callaghan, Mrs A. Harris, Mr. F. Downes, Mr N. Timberlake
Mrs S. Henson, Clerk

4 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE ACCEPTED FROM:
Dist Cllrs Mrs J. Teesdale, Mr N. Phillips of The National Trust

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY PARISH
COUNCIL MEETING

These were agreed by those Councillors present and signed by the Chairman

TO DECLARE ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:

Cllrs Mrs Dakin declared an interest in the item relating to the school fencing.

REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Clerk has written to all families with loved ones in West Wycombe Burial Ground. They have been asked, where necessary, to remove artificial flowers and items placed on the grass by 21st March.

The Clerk attended the WDC/BCC meeting where concerns on Eplanning were discussed – most important that Councillors attend the forthcoming WDALC Training on Planning on 17th April. A talk was also given on the first pilot trial on ‘joined up’ action and thinking with WDC/BCC/Parish Councils as part of the Pathfinder process. West Wycombe will be in the first pilot trial. Clerks raised their concerns that Councillors are volunteers and Clerks often only work part time and there are far too many meetings. It is hoped that this new idea may help matters. We received information on a new scheme to take Social Services information out to the communities. BCC announced a new scheme to improve Highways Maintenance by having repair gangs allocated to GC2C areas for between 10 – 15 weeks per year. Clerks will produce lists of maintenance work needed in their Parish and the Local Member will communicate with the Local Area Technician to identify major pothole and road repair work.

Cllr Seymour will contact West Wycombe Estate about Christmas trees for next year and the Pedestal Field.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS
MEETING REOPENED

138.1 Correspondence received from 15th February – 13th March 2008

1. WDC Consultation on the new Government Planning Applications – comments by 28th March
2. Information and new price from Elizabeth Ross for the Pedestal. New price £1172.25. Clerk has advised her to apply for the Planting Licence. She would like to plant 26/27th March.
3. Chiltern News Magazine
4. Local Council Review
5. Bucks County Council consultation on Locality Strategy and Local Forums – comments by 7th April.
6. Letter from WDC re the naming of the new development at 473 WW Road – Gerrard Court.
7. BALC subscription renewal – £141.51 - this will be paid in April
8. Information about the planned rerouting of aircraft using Luton Airport – they will be over our parish at 4000ft.

9. Southern Electric Contracting maintenance prices.
10. WDC consultation on Strategic Housing Land Availability methodology.
11. WDALC Agenda for 27th March (after the Rural Forum)
12. Buckinghamshire Fire Service Integrated Risk Management Plan consultation.
13. Information leaflet on BCC Local Area Technicians.
14. Leaflet on how an allocation of extra money to BCC will be spent according to GC2C areas – issued to each Councillor.
15. Buckinghamshire Fire Service issuing information for Village Halls – passed to the Village Hall Committee.
16. Email from BCC advising that the Area 8 Speed Review comes into force on the 21st March.
17. Bucks Rural Affairs Group – Draft Rural Strategy Consultation and Questionnaire.

138.2 PLANNING

Applications

08/05474/FUL – land to the rear of 10 Beechwood Road– Erection of 1 x 2 bed detached bungalow and detached garage with alterations to existing access, demolition of existing garage and erection of new detached garage with creation of parking space for no.10 Beechwood Road – overdevelopment and more traffic coming out onto the West Wycombe Road and congestion in Beechwood Road making it impossible for emergency and refuse vehicles to access

West Wycombe School - request for approval of metal fencing to replace wooden fencing – we have no objection to matching metal fencing being erected.

VJB/08/05574/FUL – 64 Chorley Road – construction of detached single storey summerhouse/workshop in rear garden – no objection.

138.3 To consider Highways issues including placing an order for planting at The Pedestal

All items relating to Highways on Call have been reported and logged. Miss Ross has revised the price for the Pedestal planting the price has been reduced from £1240.66 by removing the box plants to £1172.25. The price for the hawthorn will stay the same as they are established small trees not whips. It was resolved that we would place an order for the work to be carried out as soon as possible.

138.4 To consider any documentation relating to the playing field
Nothing has been received to date.

138.5 To receive reports on the BCC/SLCC Conference, the WDC Play Area meeting, the BCC Transportation Meeting and the Thames Valley NAG
Cllrs Mrs Smith and Mr Seymour and Clerk attended the WDC Play Partnership training session where help was provided on completing grant applications.

Cllr Seymour and the Clerk attended the BCC Transport Conference which mainly covered High Wycombe and its environs. We did have the opportunity to talk about rural transport or the lack of it. However for the first time in 12 years the Clerk began to feel that there was some joined up thinking. Some budgets are going to be reduced this year; however BCC have won an extra £3.25 million for Highways works some of which will be allocated through the Local Area Forums which will replace the Local Area Committee and will represent the GC2C Groups.

The Clerk attended the WDC Emergency Planning Meeting. West Wycombe and Little Marlow have been selected to carry out a paper exercise on June 19th

Cllr Mrs Smith and the Clerk attended the SLCC/BCC Conference where Pathfinder was discussed as well as the state of the Clerks professions and devolution of powers to Quality Councils. The most interesting talk was from ROSPA who explained the need for children to learn to take risk.

Cllr Mrs Smith and the Clerk attended the Area NAG where the priority issue for residents of all the parishes involved would appear to be antisocial behaviour. We started to look at ways of helping to deal with the problems. We are still concerned that our parish will not benefit from the NAG as much as others.

- 138.6 To approve the Accounts for March 2008; Signing of Cheques
Cheques and standing orders for Mrs S. Henson and Bucks CC School Crossing patrol, Mrs S. Henson, Thames Water, Southern Electricity, West Wycombe PCC and BT. It was resolved to approve the accounts for payment.
The Clerk issued copies of the draft end of year accounts for consideration.
- 138.7 Matters Raised by Councillors
Cllr Downes asked if we could recommend our Local Area Technician for an award. Ian Sharp can be highly recommended.
Cllr Downes has been able to make a donation from his Community Leaders Fund to West Wycombe Chamber Choir.
Cllr Timberlake has agreed to attend the JCC in place of Cllr Callaghan who will be attending the Local Area Committee on 30th April.
It was agreed that we should place the previously agreed order for a refuse bin and collection for the Burial Ground to start in April.
There is a great deal of litter about at the moment. We will ask WDC for an extra pick but where possible we will clear it ourselves.
Councillors agreed that it would be good to ask The National Trust for another general clear up session.
- 138.8 Date of next meeting
Thursday 10th April 2008 at 8pm in The Church Room.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm