

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 13th September 2012, at 7.30 pm, in the Old School Room, Charlton

PRESENT Cllr B B Browne
Cllr R L Davies
Cllr Mrs B W Jack
Cllr Mrs R A Powell

In attendance: Cllr Tom McDonald
Roger Gurney, Clerk to the Parish Council

ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC FORUM

(Two members of the public were present. Mr Snape (Fenn Croft) explained his long term plans for his land and the action being taken following visits by the enforcement officer at WDC. Mr David Stratton enquired which land the PC had been considered for registering with the Land Registry for adverse possession. The two areas were pointed out and he offered to check his deeds).

92/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received and accepted from Cllr Eggleston, Cllr Grazier and Cllr Wood.

93/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

94/12 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12TH JULY 2012

The draft minutes had been circulated previously and it was agreed that the following amendments be made:

Minute 77/12 (8), last sentence amended to read "... Cemetery at a later meeting. The registration of the extension to The Green would be left to the present adjoining property owner."

Minute 80/12, delete "WYCHAVON DC" from the heading

Subject to these amendments it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Powell, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jack, and resolved, that the Minutes be signed as a true record.

95/12 PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

- 1. Footpath Warden.** Clive Bostle sent his apologies and there was no report.
- 2. Lengthsman.** Steve Gwilliam was not in attendance and his worksheet for August was circulated with the agenda. The Clerk was asked to remind Steve Gwilliam to clear the land between the Church and The Dovecote.
- 3. Cropthorne and Charlton Village Hall.** There was no report.
- 4. Workman Trust/Old School Room.** There was no report.
- 5. Current Planning issues.** The Clerk reported that there were no new updates.
- 6. Registration of The Green and Cemetery.** The Clerk reported that this is in progress.
- 7. Code of Conduct.** It was agreed that a copy of the new Code of Conduct would be sent to each Parish Councillor.

96/12 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

County Cllr Liz Eyre had sent her apologies and she asked to Clerk to report that matter of the badgers on Canada Bank is still under active consideration by the County Council. **District Councillor Tom McDonald's** Monthly report was circulated with the agenda. He commented on three current issues. First, in view of the concern expressed locally three properties on The Strand would not likely to be insulated, in spite of the housing association receiving planning permission. Second, he was aware of the concern with the current planning application for a poultry house in Boston Lane. Third, there is a need for house building applications to be approved in Wychavon DC, in order to meet the 5 year land supply - several such applications had been granted at today's WDC Committee.

97/12 FINANCE**1. Receipts and Payments Account: 01.06.12 - 03.09.12**

This was circulated with the agenda and was accepted.

2. Accounts for Payment

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Jack, seconded by Cllr Davies, and agreed, that

(a) the following accounts be paid:

R D Gurney net salary, 01.08.12 – 30.09.12	£451.00
HMRC (second quarter)	£169.11
Staples UK Ltd - photocopying, stationery (July/August) (2 invoices) £42.62 + £8.53 VAT	£ 51.15
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (August) £545.00 + £109.00 VAT	£654.00
Steve Gwilliam (August)	£220.00
Clement Keys £135.00 + £27.00 VAT	£162.00
Charles Tooby	£ 65.00
N Power £12.43 + £2.48 VAT	£ 14.91
Joseph Baker Workman Trust	£130.00
Wychavon Sport	£ 6.00

(It was agreed to defer payment of the last two items until clarification of details could be confirmed)

(b) the accounts paid on 09.08.12 be confirmed:

New Farm Grounds Maintenance (July) £405.00 + £81.00 VAT	£486.00
Steve Gwilliam (July)	£132.00

98/12 REPORT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR

The report of the External Auditor on the previous year's accounts was circulated with the agenda and was noted.

99/12 NEW HOMES BONUS

The Chairman reminded the Parish Council that this scheme is due to give the PC some £256 per year for 6 years. No suggestions for its use were made and Cllr Davies agreed to enquire at WDC on the timescale.

100/12 FLOOD ALLEVIATION

Cllr Davies' update on flood prevention was circulated with the agenda: this included the property protection scheme and Merry Brook maintenance work. It is hoped that Dan Trewin from the EA will be able to attend a meeting in the village when the property protection scheme is completed. Weed continues to grow in the brook and Cllr Davies will speak to both the grounds maintenance contractors and the EA. The EA confirm that they will not clear the silt from under the Canada Bank road bridge: this will have to be done by volunteers.

101/12 HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY MATTERS

There was no update on the matters reported at the previous meeting. Clerk was asked to report potholes in Ryden Lane and Boston Lane, repairs to the latter needing to be done before work starts on Evesham bridge. It was confirmed that WDC is responsible for street pavement cleaning.

102/12 TREES ON THE GREEN

The Chairman reported that a branch had fallen from a silver birch tree, close to the highway, and which has damaged the notice board. On taking advice it was agreed that the tree, being on open public land and close to the highway, should be removed. This was done on the following day. Members considered that there is a need to look at the planting on the Green and the Chairman confirmed that Cllr Grazier is taking advice on this.

103/12 TELEPHONE KIOSK

An email from Peter Head at WDC was circulated with the agenda; this explained the reasoning behind the District Council's decision to purchase kiosks across the district. The Clerk was asked to reply to WDC, confirming that the PC did not want the kiosk to be retained. WDC claim that a resident wishes to take over the kiosk, but the Clerk was asked to remind WDC that the kiosk is sited on Parish Council land and that any person wishing to acquire it will have to remove it.

104/12 LAND OFF THE STRAND

The email from WDC circulated in connection with the kiosk also asked whether the PC would wish to take over land off The Strand, adjoining Merry Brook. Members questioned whether any of the land now belonged to the houses opposite and what WDC would do with the land if the PC did not take over its maintenance. Cllr Davies agreed to draft an email for the Clerk to send to WDC..

105/12 OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO THE GREEN

(1) Signage adjacent to the track alongside The Green. It was confirmed that a sign should be displayed near to the entrance of the driveway with Canada Bank. Cllr Davies and Cllr Mrs Jack will agree then wording and the Clerk will then arrange to get a quotation.

(2) Silt in Merry Brook below Canada Bank bridge. This was considered in Minute no. 100./12 above.

(3) Provision of dog bins. Members felt that 3 bins are required and the Clerk was asked to check the provision and costs with WDC.

106/12 PARISH PLAN

Cllr Davies reported that the Group hopes to have produced a report by the next meeting of the PC.

107/12 REPORTS OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee on 12th July 2012, 9th August 2012 and 4th September 2012, which were enclosed with the agenda, were noted. It was noted that the 9th August meeting was inquorate and it was agreed that, in future, the reports of such meetings be confirmed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee.

108/12 ITEMS FROM CALC

The Chairman reported that Andy Ford, of WDC Planning department, was the speaker at the Area Meeting and he had discussed the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Neighbourhood Development Plans. The Chairman reported on changes to the Standards Committee.

The CALC AGM is arranged for Wednesday 10th October and the Parish Conference is arranged for Wednesday 31st October. .

109/12 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The following correspondence was noted:

1. WDC – Land Drainage Act, notice of action required by landowner in Boston Lane
2. Audit Commission – notice that Grant Thornton appointed as external auditor from 2012/2013
3. SWDP – notice of consultation on the proposed changes – nothing affects Charlton
4. WDC – revised proposals for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries
5. WDC – details of Civic Service (30th September) and Chairman's Charity Dinner/Dance

110/12 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

1. Update to Standing Orders
2. Repair to benches on The Green – Chairman to contact Mr Gisborne

111/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

This is scheduled for Thursday 8th November 2012, at 7.30 pm.

8th November 2012