

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on Monday 18th November 2013 at 7.30pm
Village Hall

MINUTES

Present

Cllr Miles Tuely (Chairman)
Cllr Andy Warner
Cllr Dave Baldwin
Cllr Len Seymour
Cllr Peter Loftus
Cllr Dave Parsons
Jane Carlin (Clerk) 4 members of the public

1. Apologies

Cllr Tuely welcomed all and opened the meeting at 7.30 pm. Apologies had been received from District Co Cllr Charles Cottrell-Dormer, Co Cllr Ian Hudspeth and Cllr Trudie Lang

2. Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 16th September 2013

There were no objections or amendments to the minutes of 15th July which were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting

3. Matters arising from the Minutes which are not covered elsewhere:

- **Broadband:** Cllr (Len) Seymour had received an update from Tony Turnbull who represented Wootton at the Witney Broadband Business meeting. He reported that matters seem to be proceeding well and it is likely that Wootton is on course for fibre upgrade – but it will be necessary to keep the pressure going – He agreed to do this.
- **Dangerous Dog:** Cllr Tuely reported that this has been sorted satisfactorily and amicably.
- **Oxfordshire Cycle Way and Hordley Bridge upkeep:** both matters have been passed to Highway enquiries who undertake to carry out remedial work within 6 months. Cllr Tuely has personally mended the hole in Hordley Bridge to prevent danger to horse riders.
- **Trees:** Cllr (Dave) Baldwin reported that ownership of the trees has still not been fully claimed – they are not on parish council land

- **Salt Bags:** 1 free bag has been delivered and stored in the car park of the Killingworth Castle – currently in the top right hand corner .
4. **Review of Subsidised Bus Services:** In addition to a formal letter from the Parish Council, the councillors have also written in support individually and the regular bus users have also been urged to write. The District Council has now agreed to send a 'strong and clear' response to the County Council that the bus services currently operating represent the absolute minimum required in rural district and that the level of subsidy provided must be protected and maintained.
 5. **District and County Council Reports:** Public Services in Oxfordshire and the prospect of more cuts to the budget. Cllr Tuely attended a meeting in Banbury on 14th October which was very well attended. The most common representation was concern over the reduction in Children's Services and holes in the roads. The overall consensus of those attending was that rather than suffer more cuts it would be preferable to increase the Council Tax.
 6. **Wootton Relief in Need Charity:** Mr Mike Hallam and Mr Peter Giles have completed a 4 year term on the charity as Nominative Trustees and are willing to continue for another 4 years if the Parish Council are in agreement – unanimous agreement. **Clerk to write acknowledgement.**
 7. **Precept Applications:** Forms detailing the requests for precept payments had been received from 7 organisations in Wootton.
 - Ann Day (Playing Field Management Committee) outlined the need for hard surface car parking, especially since the Portakabins have left the surface in a worse condition.
 - Joy Pomfret (Village Hall) explained the very large future costs faced with installing suitable heating and new windows.
 - The Conservation Trust face problems with drainage in the Meadows and would like to bring in a digger to clear the main drain and also to improve the path. In part this was felt to be a problem with the River Glyme being blocked which would be an Environment Agency problem. Ian Fletcher to forward an e-mail link so that the Parish Council can put pressure.
 - Wootton Primary School would like to install a storage hut on hard standing at the back of the Village Hall to keep equipment used in the hall.
 - Wootton Stores requested a grant to continue the vital postal services that are currently provided for Wootton through the village shop.
 - Parochial Church Council: maintenance of the churchyard and church clock
 - Outreach - village magazine delivered free to all houses in Wootton, Glympton and Kiddington

At the conclusion of the public meeting the councillors considered all the completed requests and accounts and it was decided to grant the following amounts;

Outreach	£550	
PCC	£750	Wootton - Outreach Wootton, Glympton + Kiddington PCC
Playing Fields	£500	Wootton Memorial Playing Field
Village Stores	£775	Wootton Stores
Village Hall	£500	
Wootton Primary	£750	Wootton by Woodstock CE (Aided) Primary School
✓ Conservation Trust	£500	
<u>Total</u>	<u>£4,325</u>	

8. **Litter at Bus Stop on A44:** Opposite the Duke of Marlborough pub. Request for a litter bin to be provided. **Clerk to request the District Council**

9. **Planning:** New Inn Cottage, Woodleys – erection of garage and change of use of land to domestic.- objections to be sent because the land to be taken included hard standing used for parking and not just grass.

10. **Financial Matters and Bills to pay:**

- **Parish Council bank balances**
Current (No 1 a/c): £5,036.83
Parish Council Project Fund (No 2 a/c): £947.33
Business Reserve a/c: £0.07
- **Parish Clerk work:** Sept/Oct 2013 (£87.28) – Cheque No 000303
- **HMRC for Clerk's tax:** Sept/Oct 2013 (£21.80) – Cheque No 000304
- **Election costs:** £79.55 – Cheque No. 000301
- **Village Hall Lighting:** £339.60 – Cheque No 000299
- **Grass Cutting:** £1,025.00 – Cheque No. 000302
- **VAT reclaimed:** period covering 28.2.2013 – 30.10.13 £1,125.27
- Cllr (Andy) Warner requested that a cheque for £275, raised at Sports Day last year, could be put in the Business Reserve account for safe keeping. This money is to be used towards purchase of goal posts.
- Cllr Tuely reminded councillors that the No 1 a/c owes £1,000 to the No 2 account which was borrowed last year as well as £1,620 to the Playing Fields representing recovered VAT on the zip wire and the mower.

12. **Any Other Business**

- **Parish Walkabout:** Matthew Timms is the local Highways Representative for West Oxfordshire and has invited up to 3 Parish representatives to meet up for a walk round the parish for up to 90 minutes to address anything the Parish Council is concerned about or any outstanding matters. **Cllrs Miles Tuely, Dave Parsons and Andy Warner to arrange a suitable date** – (tel. 0845 310 11 11 or email: highwayenquiry@oxfordshire.gov.uk)
The following problems could all be discussed at this meeting:
 - a) **Clear footpath:** from Three Horseshoes to Marriotts Close. By law this should be not less than 3ft wide
 - b) **Speed Control:** Ann Day put forward a request from a concerned resident that a sign is needed at the end of Castle Road to slow the traffic where there is a play corner. A gate leads directly onto the road where traffic is often speeding up having gone through the village. Discussion was held as whether this needed to be a sign or a 20 mph speed limit, possibly throughout the village. The latter is preferred.
 - c) **Sinkage of road:** after work putting in water main and electricity cable
 - d) **Bigger salt bin:** Cllr Len Seymour pointed out that with the new houses in Marriot Close the current salt bin was no longer adequate in bad weather.

- **County Council Budget Reductions and Service Changes:**
Meeting Thursday 21st November 7.00pm for 7.15pm . Cllr (Dave)Baldwin to attend

The public meeting ended at 8.25 pm followed by discussion of precept applications

Dates of Next Meetings:

Monday 13 January 2014 at 7.30 pm
 Monday 10 March 2014 at 7.30 pm
 Monday 12 May 2014 at 7.30 pm
 Monday 14 July 2014 at 7.30 pm
 Monday 8 September 2014 at 7.30 pm
 Monday 10 November 2014 at 7.30 pm

Jane Carlin (Clerk, Wootton Parish Council)



17/1/14