

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 12 March 2012
At 7.30pm in the Village Hall

MINUTES

Present

Cllr Paul James (Chair)
Cllr Joan Thomas
Cllr Tim Shepherd
Cllr David Parsons
Cllr Miles Tuely
Cllr Andy Warner
Sarah Willcox (Clerk)

6 members of the public

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Simon Jackson
2. **Disclosure of Interests:** The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm. Cllr Warner disclosed his interest in the village hall.
3. **Approval of Minutes of 9 January 2012 and 6 February 2012:** Approved as a fair and accurate record. (Jan - PJ,MT; Feb – JT,DP)
4. **Matters Arising:** Highways have no objection to the posts at *Wootton Downs* although it informed the PC that the owner should have asked the parish council for permission; Cllr Warner advised that *a map of Wootton* would cost from £200; the *litter bin for the A44*, at £320.85 ex VAT, was considered too expensive but it was suggested that the council apply to the Area Stewards Fund, below. The chairman had spoken to Greene King re the *Killingworth Castle*, which is to go up for sale as a pub.
5. **County and District Council Reports:**
 - i. The Chairman referred to the March report of Co Cllr Hudspeth, already circulated to Cllrs, and specifically to a *zero increase budget* for WODC and *zero increase in council tax*. He also highlighted *The Area Stewards Fund*, which provides funds to small local projects in the parish. Clerk to apply for A44 litter bin. The Local Development Framework has been delayed.
 - ii. There were no district council reports.




6. **Parish/town council elections:** Elections take place on Thursday 3 May 2012. Nomination packs for prospective councillors are with the Clerk (Sarah Willcox 812533), and are to be handed into the West Oxfordshire District Council by noon on 4 April. Cllr Thomas proposed (PJ sec) an extraordinary parish council meeting to attend to outstanding matters before new Council takes office. 30 April 2012 at 7.30pm was unanimously agreed.
7. **Diamond Jubilee:** Ann Day reported on a programme for Saturday 2 June and Monday 4 June to include a pig roast, dancing, 21-gun salute and beacon among other celebrations. Cllr PJ passed round a programme from the 1977 Silver Jubilee for comparison. [13.3.12 A Day asked Clerk for £300 deposit for marquee hire to pay to Oxford Marquees Ltd. See min 14 below]
8. **Determination of rurality of Chipping Norton and surrounding towns, villages and hamlets:** Oxfordshire Primary Care has received an application from Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd for full consent for inclusion in the pharmaceutical list from premises in Chipping Norton. It is inviting comments on the classification of Chipping Norton as rural or urban.
9. **Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment** has not included Wootton in the assessment to date but is extending the study to do so in the future.
10. **Localism Act:** The chairman handed Cllrs a briefing on the Act. It was noted that a new Code of Conduct will be effective from 1 July and that a future one-off registering of interests will obviate the need to disclose an interest at each meeting.
11. **Village Hall roof:** The parish council is delighted to be awarded a community facilities grant from the district council of £7,500. The chairman read out a letter from Dr Fisher, the Wootton Village Hall Secretary, to the parish council recommending a contractor to replace the roof, Tarquin Shaw of Greenshaw Developments. Council agreed unanimously. Clerk to write to Mr Shaw, and also to Mr and Mrs Naqvi for their generous donation towards the repairs (PJ, TS).
12. **Electoral review of Oxfordshire:** The final recommendations include a council size of 63, a reduction of 11 county councillors representing 59 single-member divisions and two two-member divisions.
13. **Planning:** *Hill Close* – granted. *Well Corner* – despite concerns from the village including, among others, the parking issue, the council agreed to support the latest application from a planning point of view (unanimous). The Oxfordshire Co Council *Wootton Bridleway* No 25 Modification Order 2012 adds a 439 metre bridleway from Dornford Lane to Tittenford Bridge Road. Notice on parish board.

PJ

- 14. Financial:** The council bank balance for March stands at £4,061.29 (current) and £1,412.25 (reserve). The No 2 account stands at £16,550. Chq no 225 of £133.07 was paid to OALC for annual subscription (PJ; TS). Chq no 226 of £158.40 was paid to Sarah Willcox for clerical work Jan/Feb 2012. Chq no 227 of £39.60 was paid to HMRC for tax on clerk's wages (both - PJ, MT). Chq no 228 of £50 was donated to Woodstock Youth Club (MT, JT). Chq no 229 of £25 was donated towards Oxfordshire Business Education Alliance (payable to OCC) (unanimous). Chq no 230 of 75.60 was paid to Rospa for playing field inspection (unanimous). Chq no 231 of £300 was paid to Oxford Marquees Ltd (Diamond Jubilee - see minute 6 of 9 Jan 12). It was noted that the £1,600 grant (for transfer to No 2 account) for the village hall roof had not yet been called upon.
- 15. AOB:** It was noted that the PC had not been informed of the *BT* broadband repairs on Milford Road, now complete; the new *village signs* were approved of; the PC is grateful to Mrs Scratton for keeping *rock salt* in her garage; the notice regarding 10 days of *repairs along the B4027* (scheduled from 10 to 20 April) has been put on the parish noticeboard. The county council is welcoming views and comments on its re-tendering of the *bus services* in 2012 (call Emily on 01865 883488 or emily.lewis@oxonrcc.org.uk). The Chairman took the opportunity to remind Village Organisations in receipt of a council precept, and others which may wish to do so, that a short activity report should be made at next Annual Parish Meeting.
- 16.** The meeting ended at 9.07pm; the next Parish Council (Extraordinary) Meeting is on Monday 30 April at 7.30pm; the next Annual Parish Meeting is on Monday 14 May 2012 at 7pm followed by the Statutory Annual Meeting at 7.30pm.

Sarah Willcox (Clerk)



30/4/2012