

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on Monday 21st July 2014 at 7.30pm
Village Hall

MINUTES

Present

Cllr M Tuely (Chairman)
Cllr A Warner
Cllr D Baldwin
Cllr L Seymour
Cllr D Parsons
Cllr T Lang
J Carlin (Clerk)
3 members of the public

Cllr Tuely opened the meeting at 7.30 pm .

1. **Apologies:** Apologies received from Cllr P Loftus, County Cllr I Hudspeth, District Cllr C Cottrell-Dormer
2. **Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Monday 12th May 2014**
There were no objections.
The Minutes of 12th May were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting
3. **Matters arising from the Minutes which are not covered elsewhere:**
 - **Renewing of flower boxes at entrance to Milford Place:** Joan Thomas reported that these are now past mending and need replacement before they can be planted up again – total cost estimated to be approx £340.. In principle the Council approved a donation but decided to wait to see what funds are available.
4. **County Council and District Council Matters;** Consultation on the emerging West Oxfordshire Local Plan – provisionally set as being from Mon 28th July with the deadline for responses being Fri 19th Sept. Details of the consultation document and how to respond are to be sent. The next Parish Council Meeting is 8th September which will be in time.
5. **Planning**
 - Erection of Grain Store on land at Wootton – **Granted**
 - Conversion of garage to family room/utility and erection first floor extension. 9 Castle Road Wootton – **No objections**
 - Conversion of first floor of barn to ancillary self contained accommodation, Hordley House, Wootton (Cllr Tuely left the meeting for this item) – **No objections**
6. **Financial Matters and Bills to pay:**

M. Tuely

8 Sept 2014

Annual Return: Grateful thanks are due to Rick Adams (RFO) and Phil Parker (Internal Auditor) for approving the Accounts in advance. The Accounts have now been submitted to BDO for audit.

- **Parish Council bank balances**

Current (No 1 a/c): £6,806.41

Parish Council Project Fund (No 2 a/c): £947.33

Business Reserve a/c: £0.07

- **Parish Clerk work:** May/June 2014 (£87.28) – Cheque No 000319
- **HMRC for Clerk's tax:** May/June 2014 (£21.80) – Cheque No 000320
- **NFU Mutual Tractor Insurance renewal:** £193.31 Cq No 000318
- **A1 Electrical work for defibrillator wiring:** £144.30 Cq No 000331
- **Rigby Taylor Weedkiller supply:** £50.76: Cheque No. 000330
- **Precept payments;**
 - Outreach £550: Cheque No. 000323
 - PCC: £750 Cheque No. Cheque No. 000327
 - Playing Fields: £500 Cheque No. 000324
 - Village Stores: £775 Cheque No. 000325
 - Village Hall: £500 Cheque No.000326
 - Wootton Primary: £750 Cheque No 000322
 - Conservation Trust: £500 Cheque No. 000328

7. **Weed Spraying:** Cllr Tuely gave thanks to Cllr Baldwin for his work on keeping the village verges cleared of weeds.
8. **Village Plan:** Cllr Tuely led a discussion as to whether Wootton should embark on drawing up a Community Plan – at the meeting on 28th April 2014 there had been an interesting presentation from Stonesfield outlining their experiences involving a great deal of hard work and not yet completed. It was felt that the question was whether Wootton actually needed a plan. The agreed consensus was that Wootton was already a well involved village with plenty of thriving amenities. Villagers were able to voice their concerns and requests at the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Warner ventured that the real need was to be able to protect the village in future developments so that the village could present a prepared input and was able to respond with a positive plan. To this end, it was decided to meet up with Ian Clarke and Matthew Timms, Highways Representatives to address any concerns of the Parish Council (tel. 0845 310 1111 or e mail: highwayenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk) **Cllr A Warner , Cllr. D Parsons**
9. **Salt Bins:** The salt bag at the Killingworth Castle car park site is still unused after the mild winter last year. We will apply for an additional free bag for this current year (pro forma application to **Cllr Tuely**). It would be very useful if the additional free bag could be stored at the other end of the village. **Cllr Warner** to investigate this possibility and advise **Cllr Tuely**

It has been confirmed that the current salt bin at Milford Lane will be swapped for a larger one in the autumn at no extra charge.

10. **Lights Out:** West Oxford District Council is taking part in a mass public 'Lights Out' to mark Britain entering the First World War in 1914. Across the country, people are being invited to join together in a shared moment of reflection by turning off their lights from 10pm to 11 pm on 4th August, leaving on a single light or candle. This has been articleed in Outreach and talked about by Revd. Stephen Jones. A poster has been displayed in Wootton Stores.



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11. Review of Polling Districts: Statutory review inviting the Parish Council to make any comments on the returning Officer's representations or proposals for alternative polling places. Unanimous satisfaction with Wootton Village Hall as the polling station provision.

12. Any Other Business

Defibrillator: Cllr Warner suggested that **Cary Yanny**, who is a new resident living next door to Wootton Stores, should be the point of contact to keep the defibrillator details and code. She has attended a course in automated external defibrillation and would be willing to hold a further meeting and public training session. It is stressed that to use the defibrillator it is always necessary to **dial 999** when the ambulance service will issue the code and instructions. An item to be sent to Outreach explaining this **Clerk**

The defibrillator is stored in the church porch and it is essential that the switch above it should always be left on. This has been inadvertently switched off. The electricity used is very low but needs to be left on to keep the defibrillator warm. A notice will be displayed to this effect. **Cllr Warner.**

Hard standing football pitch: Initial enquiries have been made by the School Sports Co-ordinator towards applying for a grant for an all weather football pitch for use by the school. However, it was pointed out by Ann Day that the playing field land belongs to the village and that any astro turf pitch would be for the use of all. It was therefore agreed that in September a meeting of all interested parties (Playing Field Committee, Sports Committee the School and Parish Council) would be held towards achieving this.

Broadband: Cllr Seymour advised that progress was now being made and cautioned against the need for any community subscription for a private supplier.

Street Lights: Cllr Seymour explained that it is now possible to have individual street lights turned off – this is useful in cases where there have been complaints of obtrusive lights shining all night. This is a free service but would incur a cost if the light was subsequently requested to be put back on. Cllr Parsons pointed out that the village had fought to get lights and it was up to the householder to use thick curtains. **Cllr Seymour** to make enquiries if there were any particular complaints in the village.

Spraying: Joan Thomas made a request not to spray the ivy on the allotments wall as this had been useful for church decorations. (Cllr Baldwin left the meeting)

West End: a 'Give Way to Oncoming Traffic' sign when going from the village towards West End would be very helpful when going over the bridge – particularly for people unaware of the narrow road.

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm

Dates of Next Meeting: **Monday 8th September 2014 at 7.30 pm**
Monday 10th November 2014 at 7.30 pm
Monday 12th January 2015 at 7.30 pm
Monday 9th March 2015 at 7.30 pm
Monday 11th May 2015 at 7.30 pm
Monday 13th July 2015 at 7.30 pm
Monday 14th September 2015 at 7.30 pm

Monday 9th November 2015 at 7.30 pm

Jane Carlin (Clerk, Wootton Parish Council)

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