

Drayton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Drayton Parish Council, Held on Monday 2nd February 2009 at 7.30pm At the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton.

Present: Mr Scharf, Mrs Pooley, Mr Butler, Mrs Morris, Mrs Morrison, Mr Webber, Mrs Parker, County Councillors Mike and Marilyn Badcock.

14/09. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies had been received.

15/09. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

16/09. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one member of the public present, who was interested to know more about what the PC did and the VWHDC core strategy.

17/09. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 5TH JANUARY 2009.

The minutes were agreed by Council and signed by Mr Scharf.

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 24TH NOVEMBER 2008.

Mr Scharf proposed the minutes be agreed and Mrs Parker seconded the proposal. Mr Butler then signed the minutes.

Mrs Morris had been to the bank again, with reference to signatories for PC cheques. Mrs Morris confirmed that she had now been added as a signatory, as had the Clerk.

18/09. THAMES WATER – UTMRD

Mr Webber said that he had attended an Advisory Meeting at the VWHDC regarding Thames Water. Ofwat have now agreed with both regulators that the case for the UTMRD has yet to be proved. Mr Webber thought that the project might now be delayed and Mr Scharf was concerned about consultation fatigue.

19/09. NEWS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

- HGV's using the bridleway – Councillor Badcock gave his apologies as he had left the letter from the County Council at home concerning this issue. Mr Scharf reminded him that it was the legal opinion about bollards in bridleways that concerned the PC.
- Sutton Courtenay incinerator – The Councillors are waiting on advice from the Environment Agency. The proposed incinerator goes to the County Council's planning committee in the near future (date t.b.c.)
- The Councillors spoke about the proposal from the Vale for 1,500 houses to be built on land alongside the Drayton Road, Abingdon. Mr Webber said that the proposal was part of the Vale's consultation 'Your Vale, Your Future'. The Vale was considering various options of where the additional housing could go; to expand all villages or to have additional housing in Abingdon or Wantage. Didcot was felt to have enough housing already. Mr Scharf suggested that the Council should make their thoughts known at this meeting but that members of the PC's Planning Committee should meet to formulate a response to the Vale's Core Strategy document. The deadline for a response was 27th February. **Decision** – Members to meet as a working party on 11th February to formulate a response on the PC's behalf.

20/09. MATTERS ARISING

40/06 Topple testing: The Clerk had been in contact with Mr Sills again from IMI to confirm that the PC wished him to carry out the topple testing in the Parish Burial Ground. Mr Sills would undertake the topple testing in late April/May, weather permitting. It would need to be advertised at least 6 weeks in advance to the public that the testing was due to take place, therefore Mrs Pooley would include information in her report for the Chronicle. The Clerk would produce some notices for the noticeboards and to be laminated to go on the burial ground gates. Mrs Pooley offered to do the laminating and to check the notices every 2 weeks to make sure they were still in place.

129/07 HGV's using bridleway: letter awaited from County Councillors (see 19/09).

37/08 Grants/donations from the PC: Mr Butler had written an article to be included in the next Chronicle.

APA 11: Play/recreation facilities: C'fwd.

84/08 Village website: Mr.Scharf had looked at Radley's village website and had sent them an email, but had yet to receive a reply.

141/08 Sutton Courtenay Incinerator: See 19/09, above.

149/08 Policy re. health & safety on donation requests criteria: This item had been discussed at the Finance Committee meeting. The Finance Committee proposed that the Donation Request Criteria document be left in its original form and that the paragraph concerning providing the PC with evidence of insurance cover be excluded.

Decision – It was decided that the document should be left in its original form.

154/08 Advertisement/article re Parish Councillors: Mr Scharf had paid for an article to go in the Drayton Chronicle and was to be reimbursed the £5.00 cost.

158/08 Letter to allotment holders: A letter had been sent to all allotment holders asking if any were considering giving up their allotments or if any were interested in being part of a small liaison group with the PC. The Clerk hadn't received any replies to the letter.

165/08 Replacement of Village Hall doors: The Clerk was still awaiting the second quotation.

165/08 PC/Village Hall agreement document: The Clerk had received a reply from Mr Hornsby. **Action** – Mr Scharf to contact Mr Hornsby.

10/09 Cutting back the hedge around the Village Hall carpark: **Action** – The Clerk to contact Julian Cook and BCB for a quote for carrying out the work. Mr Scharf suggested that the football club could scrape back the edges once the hedges had been cut back.

10/09 Installation of third water supply in allotments: Mr Scharf and Mr Butler were due to meet with Redlime to obtain a quotation for the work. The Clerk had already received a quote for £690 + VAT from White Horse Contractors. Mrs Parker proposed, and Mrs Morrison seconded, that the PC should accept the quote from White Horse Contractors unless the quote from Redlime was cheaper. **Decision** – All agreed this proposal.

21/09. FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE BUSINESS

All invoices, payments and receipts had been checked by Mr Butler, prior to the cheques being signed.

A Payments

M Sellwood	Clerk's Salary	£559.98
Inland Revenue	NI & tax	£52.03
M Sellwood	Expenses	£98.40 (incl. VAT £4.92)
VWHDC – servicing of dog bins	1/7-30/9/2008	£341.09 (incl. VAT £50.80)
VWHDC – servicing of dog bins	1/10-31/12/2008	£341.09 (incl. VAT £50.80)
Mr Scharf	Chronicle advert	£5.00
Mr Butler – plants for burial ground	Reimbursement	£149.74 (incl. VAT £19.53)

S137 – Millennium Green Trust Annual contribution £2000.00

Receipts

HM Revenue & Customs	VAT claim 5/7-13/11/08	£328.57
Mrs Booth (resident)	Reservation of plot 207	£100.00
Miss R Roberts (resident)	Reservation of plot 211	£100.00
Abingdon Stone & Marble	Memorial – Oleksiw (plot 36)	£25.00
Reeves Memorials	Memorial – Head	£25.00

B Other business

• Grants/donations

S137 – Millennium Green Trust – Mr Butler said that the Finance Committee proposed a donation of £2000.00. Mrs Parker seconded this proposal. **Decision** – It was decided to donate £2000.00 to the MGT.

• Training budget – Mrs Morris requested to attend training for newly appointed Councillors in March, run by OALC. The cost would be £40 +VAT. **Decision** – All agreed Mrs Morris should attend the course. **Action** – The Clerk to book Mrs Morris onto the training.

Finance Committee Meeting of 24th November 2008 – matters arising

- RSA (working from home allowance) for the Clerk. The Finance Committee proposed a stepped change from £200 to £225 for the next financial year, then in future an annual increase to the RSA of 5%. Mr Butler proposed, and Mrs Parker seconded, that the Finance Committee's proposal be agreed. **Decision** – All agreed.
- Annual payment of £50.50 to the Custodian Charities – **Action** – Mr Scharf to investigate the history of this payment.

- Rights of Way in 2009/2010. The Finance Committee proposed that the PC should contribute to the installation of 3 further kissing gates. Mrs Pooley proposed, and Mrs Morrison seconded, that the Finance Committee's proposal be agreed. **Decision** – All agreed.
- Allotments rental access. The 2 householders are currently paying the PC £60.00 p.a. each. Mrs Parker proposed and Mr Butler seconded that the amount remain unchanged for 2009/2010. **Decision** – All agreed.

Finance Committee Meeting of 2nd February 2009

Mr Butler reported back from the Finance Committee Meeting.

- The Clerk had provided all members with updated spreadsheets showing income and expenditure up to and including January 2009. Mr Butler reported that there were no significant variances at this time.
- Mr Butler said that he needed to draw up an inspection schedule for the risk assessment for next month. A walk around the village would be arranged to check on the PC's assets.
- Mr Butler explained that, as the Annual Return needed to be completed earlier this year, the next meeting of the Finance Committee would be prior to the main Parish Council meeting on 11th May 2009 @ 7pm.

22/09. RIGHTS OF WAY & CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP

- Mrs Pooley had spoken with Mark Sumner, who has now received permission from the landowners to replace the existing stiles with kissing gates on FP12.
- Mrs Pooley mentioned that the Sutton Wick path still needs to be cleared. **Action** – The Clerk to include surfaces and rights of way on the list of caretaker duties.
- Mr Butler had cleared away the fallen tree blocking footpath 19.
- Mrs Pooley had received a complaint concerning footpath 17 opposite the Milton turn, which she had passed on to Mr Sumner who said that he would contact the landowner about clearing it.
- Mrs Ward, who owns the kennels on the Milton Road had also contacted Mrs Pooley concerning the dangerous drop from FP21 (Rooks Nest) down onto the busy B4016. **Action** - Mrs Pooley to write a note to Mr Sumner about this.
- Trees Steventon Road – **Action** – The Clerk to contact Mr Reade to find out if a TPO had been placed on the trees.

23/09. PLANNING COMMITTEE BUSINESS

NO	ADDRESS	DETAILS	PARISH	DISTRICT
27/08 DRA/14126/25-LB	STONEHILL HOUSE	TO REMOVE REDUNDANT BRICK & TIMBER PARTITION IN CELLAR TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR WOOD PELLET BOILER.	NO OBJ	
38/08 WORK TO TREES	GARDEN STUDIO, GRAVEL LANE	CROWN REDUCE 1 JUDAS TREE BY 33% & FELL 2 FIR TREES.	NO OBJ	
39/08 DRA/20644/1	53 ABINGDON ROAD	DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUNGALOW & ERECTION OF A NEW HOUSE.	NO OBJ	PER
1/09 DRA/20750	3 NEWMAN LANE	CONSERVATORY TO REAR OF PROPERTY.	NO OBJ	

B. Application DRA/SUT/1179/23-CM – J Curtis & Sons, Radley – Extension of time to retain & operate the processing plant & ancillary operations. Conditional Permission notice from Oxfordshire County Council.

24/09. LEISURE & GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP

- **Village caretaker/grass cutting** – Last month the PC had received the very sad news that Mr Ron Sharpe had passed away. **Action** – The Clerk to send a letter to Mr Steven Sharpe to thank him for everything the family had done for the village over the last few years and to say that the PC would wait until the end of the month to see if he'd like to continue with the caretaking/grass cutting work.
- Mrs Parker announced that due to work commitments she would be stepping down as Parish Councillor following the March meeting.

- **List of work from Drayton Village Hall & Recreation Ground Committee** – Mr Scharf had met with Mr Thornhill from OCC, who would be providing the PC with an estimate for the cost of a street light for the Village Hall carpark.

25/09. Any Other Business

- Mr Webber requested that 2 items are included on the next agenda; positive solutions for Drayton Road traffic problems, Village Hall finances.
- Mr Webber had attended a Village Hall & Recreation Ground Committee Meeting last month. He reported that the takings from the bar have fallen quite a lot recently. Mr Webber had suggested to the Committee that they should approach the PC for more funding.
- Mr Webber said that there would be an Air Quality Forum on Thursday.
- Mr Scharf spoke about the problems with the buses.
- Annual Parish Assembly – Mrs Pooley would arrange for an advert to go into the next 2 issues of the Drayton Chronicle to advertise the APA on 6th April at 7pm.

26/09. CORRESPONDENCE – to be noted

Oxfordshire County Council	Southern Central Oxfordshire Transport Strategy (SCOTS) – consultation <i>(deadline for comments – 28th April 2009)</i> Home2School – Spring 2009
Thomas Eggar	Letter From Richard Hornsby – land swap Village Green Action – The Clerk to contact OCC and request a better plan of the area.
VWHDC	Your Vale – Your Future, Options Report
OPFA	Autumn/Winter 2008/2009 Newsletter

27/09. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2009 at 7.30pm in the CAUDWELL DAY CENTRE, GRAVEL LANE.