

DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Meeting of Drayton Parish Council,
Held on Monday 10th January 2011 at 7.30pm
At the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton

Present: Daniel Scharf (Chairman); Naomi Broomfield; Robin Butler; Julian Fowler; Heather Morrison (arrived at 8.50pm) Jenny Pooley; Richard Webber; Richard Williams. **In attendance:** David Perrow (Clerk).

1/1/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The meeting **noted** that Heather Morrison had notified the Clerk that due to work commitments in London she would arrive late for the start of the meeting.

2/1/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

3/1/11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Five members of the public were present.

Milton Road Speed Limit. Four girls from Didcot Girls School addressed the meeting. They are campaigning to reduce the speed limit on Milton Road into Drayton from the national speed limit (60mph) to 40 mph. They had surveyed the traffic and reported that 714 cars were counted in three hours. A petition for the reduced speed limit had been signed so far by 76 people, and an online petition had attracted 29 further signatures over the last 4 days. The Parish Council discussions favoured supporting the campaign. It was agreed that the high speed limit was not appropriate for such a busy and narrow road with many bends and that cyclists and walkers were being put in danger. A fatal accident had recently occurred on this road. Individual Parish Councillors signed the petition in their personal capacity and it was **Resolved:** That Daniel Scharf write to OCC to request that the speed reduction to 40mph be included as part of the LTP3 consultation.

Proposed: Daniel Scharf

Seconded: Julian Fowler

Agreed

ACTION: Daniel Scharf to write to OCC to request that the speed reduction to 40mph on Milton Road be included as part of the LTP3 consultation.

4/1/11 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held 6th December 2010 were **confirmed** and Daniel Scharf (Chairman), signed the Minutes as a correct record.

Proposed: Daniel Scharf

Seconded: Richard Webber

Agreed

5/1/11 ACTION POINT REVIEW FROM LAST MEETING

(a) **Didcot Town Council – Letter re Young People’s facilities.** A holding reply had been received from the Didcot Town Clerk, but the Clerk was requested to enquire what consideration had been given by Didcot Town Council at their meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Didcot Town Clerk again to ask for Didcot Town Council’s response re assistance with tackling ASB in Drayton caused by Didcot young people

(b) **Biodiversity.**

ACTION: The Clerk was asked to contact the Northmoor Trust to obtain a new copy of their questionnaire

(c) **OCC LTP3 consultation.** A footpath to bridge the gap on the Drayton to Sutton Courtenay road had been requested as part of the submission.

(d) **Pre-School Group Playground Consultation.** Daniel Scharf had attended the Mother and Toddler Group to ask for views about the playground refurbishment, but had had no response to date.

ACTION: The Clerk was asked to write to follow up on Daniel’s visit and ask for the parents’ views.

6/1/11 NEWS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

No County Councillors were present.

The Clerk reported that OCC Highways had been reorganized and had appointed area reps. It was **agreed** that failing any feedback on the OCC Safety Audit on High Street at the Rooks Nest path bend from the County Councillors, Jenny Pooley should arrange to meet the OCC Highways rep. on site at the Rooks Nest FP intersection with High Street to see what safety measures could be undertaken to improve the situation for pedestrians and cyclists.

ACTION: Clerk to contact OCC Highways rep. and to arrange for him to meet with Jenny Pooley to discuss High Street/Rooks Nest path safety issues.

It was also **agreed** that Daniel Scharf should contact our two County Councillors to encourage them to attend each Parish Council meeting so that OCC issues could be raised with them directly.

ACTION: Daniel Scharf to contact our two County Councillors to re-invite them to attend the Parish Council meetings on a more regular basis.

7/1/11 NEWS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Richard Webber reported: that the new waste collection system had been disrupted over Christmas/New Year by the bad weather. VWHDC had decided that rather than have catch up days which would disrupt the normal holiday collection rota, they would skip the missed collections. This affected about 25% of VWHDC residents who missed a collection, but Drayton was unaffected and collections in the village were done to schedule. A 70%+ recycling rate was being achieved under the new system.

8/1/11 ELECTIONS IN MAY 2010

Daniel Scharf reminded the Parish Council that new people should be encouraged to stand at the May elections. Donald Bruce, who had attended the last two meetings as an observer, volunteered to be co-opted to the Parish Council and it was agreed that this would be done formally at the February meeting. The possibility of having a Youth Council was mooted, and it was **agreed** that Naomi Broomfield would discuss this with DAMASCUS Youth Group at the next meeting she attended.

ACTION: Naomi Broomfield to discuss idea of a Youth Council with DAMASCUS Youth Group

9/1/11 COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS

Daniel Scharf reported that the Environmental Working Group would be meeting the following Wednesday.

10/1/11 VILLAGE WEBSITE

The pilot site was up and running. The Clerk was requested to obtain individual logons for those Councillors who did not have them. The website would be discussed at the February meeting when Councillors had had the opportunity to try it out. Julian Fowler reported that a Drayton FaceBook page was now active and agreed to send details to each Parish Councillor.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Alistair Grundy to request logons for all Parish Councillors. Julian Fowler to circulate the details of the FaceBook site to Parish Councillors.

11/1/11 PLAYGROUND UPGRADE

Richard Williams was in contact with various playground supply/design firms and would report back on progress at the February meeting.

12/1/11 FINANCE/ADMIN COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Payments

The following payments were verified against invoices by Daniel Scharf, and three of the authorised signatories signed cheques for these amounts:

	Invoice Amount/of which VAT
Finance/Admin Committee Business	
A. Payments	Invoice Amount
(i) Julian Cook – December 2010 Caretakers Invoice	£85.00 Zero
(ii) Clerk's Salary – December 2010	£427.56 Zero
(iii) HM R&C Tax and NI – December 2010	£124.94 Zero

	(iv) Clerk's Expenses – December	£124.61	Zero
LGA 1972 S137	(v) Grant Application – Sue Ryder (Nettlebed Hospice)	subject to approval	£300 Zero
LG (MP) Act S19	(vi) Grant Application – Drayton Wasps FC	subject to approval	£300 Zero
	(vii) Thames Water – Water Services Bill Sept-Dec2010	£12.80	Zero
	B. Receipts – £140.00 Burial fee (not yet banked)	Total	£140.00

C. Other Finance Business

- (i) **Grants.** The £300 grants to each of Sue Ryder (Nettlebed Hospice) and Drayton Wasps had been scrutinized and approved by the Finance and Personnel Committee. An application for a grant of £30 from Wantage Advice Centre was refused.
- (ii) **Bank Reconciliation.** The bank reconciliation to 1st January had been checked by Daniel Scharf and was signed off. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had total funds amounting to £43,836.44, represented by £34,084.90 in the Deposit Account and £9751.54 in the current account (£13,216.59 at 1st Dec 2010 less undrawn cheques totaling £3465.05). £15,000 of the balances was set aside as a reserve for the Recreational Facilities Improvement Project.
- (iii) **Precept Notice.** The Precept Notification to VWHDC was signed by Daniel Scharf (Chairman) and David Perrow (Parish Clerk) setting the rate at £32,000 for 2011-12
- ACTION:** Clerk to submit Precept notice to VWHDC

13/1/11 PLANNING COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A: The following Planning Applications in Progress were **noted**

NO	ADDRESS	DETAILS	PARISH	DISTRICT
2010-28	34-36 High Street Drayton OX14 4JW	Demolition of existing barn and garage to facilitate the construction of a new dwelling with detached carport and log store	NO OBJECTION	Pending
2010-29	5 & 6 Mill Lane Sutton Courtenay OX14 4BE	Replacement of two existing residential mobile homes with two single storey dwellings	NO OBJECTION	Pending
2010-39	Willowdene Oday Hill Stonehill Lane	Proposed two storey extension	NO OBJECTION	Pending
2010-40	Lime Close, 35 Henleys Lane, OX14 4HU	Proposed internal alterations to kitchen area	NO OBJECTION	Pending
2010-41	24 High Street, Barns and land at Rear of	Conversion of existing barn to 1 residential unit, conversion and extension of existing barn to 1 residential unit, and the erection of 1 new residential dwelling, along with associated access and amenity space.	NO OBJECTION, but houses should not be 3 storey	Pending
2010-42	35 Hilliat Fields, OX14 4JQ	Demolition of existing porch. Erection of a new porch & wc	Pending	Pending

B Other Planning Business

(i) **Manor Farm Development.** It was reported that Richard Webber and Daniel Scharf had been in touch with the VWHDC Planning Department about the s106 position in respect of the Manor Farm development. Daniel Scharf would visit the VWHDC offices later that week and would draft a note for the Parish Council's solicitors to write to the developers, as previously agreed.

ACTION: Daniel Scharf to visit VWHDC Planning Offices and to write to the Parish Council's solicitors via the Clerk re the s106 position relating to Manor Farm.

Caravan Storage - Milton Road. The Clerk was asked to write to VWHDC to ask what enforcement action they would now be taking to limit the number of caravans to the agreed domestic level, now that planning permission for commercial storage had been refused.

Proposed: Jenny Pooley

Seconded: Richard Webber

Agreed

ACTION: Clerk to write to VWHDC to ask what enforcement action they would be taking regarding the caravan storage on Milton Road.

14/1/11 LEISURE & GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP

(a) The Village Caretaker's report. It was **noted** that due to the bad weather and holidays little opportunity had been available for looking after the village in December, and the Village Caretaker's reduced invoice reflected this reduced work. It was agreed that it was important that the village was cleared regularly of litter, and the Clerk was asked to contact the Village Caretaker with a schedule for litter picking, and to arrange for a more detailed monthly report on this aspect of the work in future.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the Village Caretaker and ask for a regular litter picking schedule to be established throughout the village, including for each footpath. Daniel Scharf to discuss litter problem with the owner of the MACE shop.

(b) Training for Caretaker in Headstones Testing. Details of a NAMM course in early February had been passed on to the Village Caretaker and if he was able to attend the Clerk will book him on the course.

ACTION: Clerk to book Village Caretaker on the NAMM Memorial Safety training course which will take place in February.

Heather Morrison arrived (8.50 pm)

15/1/11 RIGHTS OF WAY & CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP

(a) Litter. It was reported that litter build up on Hilliat Fields/Marcham Road/Lyfield Close had become a real eyesore and the Clerk was asked to request that the Village Caretaker deal with this as a priority. Litter was also a problem outside the MACE shop. Daniel Scharf agreed to speak to the shopkeeper about this problem

(b) Litter bins vandalised. Two litter bins each side of the road on the Green, at the bus stops, had now been vandalized. The Clerk was asked to report this to the police, and to VWHDC to request that they be replaced. The Clerk was also asked to report to the police that litter was being thrown into private gardens near the Post Office, and that graffiti had been painted on a wall of a private house in this area. The police should be invited to attend the February meeting to discuss the rising level of ASB in and around the Green/High Street.

ACTION: Clerk to inform VWHDC of the disappearance of the second litter bin at the bus stop on the Green, and to ask when the two bins will be replaced. Clerk to contact Thames Valley Police about vandalism/theft of the two bins, graffiti and littering at the Green, and to invite TVP to the next meeting.

(c) Willow Tree pruning – Sutton Wick Lane. Two quotes had been received for this work. It was **resolved** that the cheaper quote, from Jenks, be accepted.

Proposed: Jenny Pooley

Seconded: Daniel Scharf

Agreed

ACTION: Clerk to write to Jenks to accept the quote for the willow tree pruning on Sutton Wick Lane

(d) Pruning of trees/hedges – Housing Association Properties. The Clerk was asked to write to Sovereign Vale to report a broken wire fence at 59 Hilliat Fields and to ask them to prune overhanging trees and hedges at 38 Steventon Road (where conifers were shading the playground)

Proposed: Daniel Scharf

Seconded: Jenny Pooley

Agreed

ACTION: Clerk to write to Sovereign Vale Housing Association to ask for trees/hedges to be pruned at 59 Hilliat Fields and 38 Steventon Road

16/1/11 CORRESPONDENCE.

The list of correspondence received, circulated with the papers for the meeting, was **noted**

(a) Queen Elizabeth II field challenge. Richard Williams will look into the designation and funding issues.

(b) Grantscape. Daniel Scharf will look into the possibility of a grant application for a public space which will need to be identified.

(c) Closer to Communities Strategy (OCC). Daniel Scharf will attend the meeting on Wed 16th February on behalf of the Parish Council.

(d) Nicola Blackwood's letter re pensioners fuel allowance charitable giving. The Clerk was asked to reply to thank Nicola Blackwood for her letter, and to encourage her to involve Mr. Ed.Vaizey in the campaign. Richard Williams will publicise the charity in his Drayton Chronicle article.

ACTION: Clerk to reply to Nicola Blackwood thanking her for her letter and offering the Parish Council's support for the campaign re: winter fuel allowance payments being donated to charity by those who feel they do not need them but pointing out that Drayton was in Ed Vaizey's constituency..

(e) British Legion Poppy Party. The publicity was noted and a village fundraising activity on that weekend will be considered.

(f) Snow guidance from OCC. The advice was noted.

17/1/11 ITEMS TO BE NOTED FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Daniel Scharf noted that he had asked Ed Vaizey to ask for volunteers to stand for the Parish Council and to take part in the Community Planning process in his article in the next Drayton Chronicle as a member of a Government advocating increased levels of 'localism'.

18/1/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 7th February 2011 at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton.

The next Finance and Personnel Committee meeting was confirmed as 7.00pm on Monday 7th February 2011 in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton, to consider the annual risk assessment/asset register and other matters 2011 at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton

The meeting concluded at 9.20 p.m.

Signed:

Date: 7th February 2011

Name: Daniel Scharf

Role: Chairman, Drayton Parish Council