

Drayton Parish Council
(<http://www.drayton-near-abingdon.org/drayton-parish-council/>)
Minutes of the Meeting of Drayton Parish Council,
Held on Monday 5th November 2012 at 7.30pm
At the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton

Present: Daniel Scharf (Chairman); Naomi Broomfield; Jenny Pooley; Richard Williams; Laurence Zipson

Not Present: Richard Webber; Julian Fowler

In attendance: David Perrow (Parish Clerk); Marilyn & Mike Badcock (County Councillors)

128/2012-13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Richard Webber and Julian Fowler and these were **noted**.

129/2012-13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

4 members of the public were present. The following issues were raised for discussion:

- a) **DAMASCUS.** Gary Hibbins introduced Ryan, who is now working for DAMASCUS. Ryan explained that DAMASCUS now had four on-going projects in Drayton: (a) Street project for DAMASCUS workers to talk to young people out on the streets at night; (b) Drop in session on Mondays 6-7pm at the Football Pavilion, where young people could play pool etc. (25-30 youngsters each week); (c) Mentoring project offering 1 to 1 support; (d) engaging with the wider community: an example being the Age UK coffee afternoon at half term where DAMASCUS young people served coffee to older residents at the Caudwell Day Centre.
- b) **Football Club.** Gary Hibbins explained the background to the £2k grant application to the Council from the Football Club. In the light of Drayton2020 discussions and failure to raise major grant funding, the Football Club had scaled back its planned refurbishment to a £6k project just to put in Ladies toilets and viewing doors. The Corneville Trust contributed £3k, the Parish Council was being asked for £2k, and the other £1k would be raised by the Club themselves. It was suggested that an application be put in to the OCC Big Society grant fund, and that the Drayton Community Trust might also be a source of finance.
- c) **Village Hall.** Tamsin Meredith, Village Hall Treasurer, explained the background to the Village Hall grant applications for this year and next. They were seeking £3k next year for the storage extension project and would be raising the remaining funds required from grant applications to other bodies. This year the Village Hall grant application was for the additional litter bins and the Football Pavilion insurance. Next year the application was for the £3k for the extension and the Football Pavilion insurance. The Village Hall also had to patch the car park potholes, but was awaiting quotes for this work.

130/2012-13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this stage of the meeting.

131/2012-13 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1st October 2012 were **confirmed**. Daniel Scharf (Chairman) signed the Minutes as a correct record.

Proposed: Laurence Zipson **Seconded:** Jenny Pooley **Resolved Unanimously**

132/2012-13 ACTION POINT REVIEW FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Action Point report from the last meeting was **noted** and the points below were provided as additional information:

- (a) **Oxfordshire Estates.** Jenny Pooley reported that she had been in contact with Oxfordshire Estates about overhanging bushes belonging to an empty house in Church Lane. These had now been cut back.

133/2012-13 SCHOOL TRANSPORT FROM DRAYTON

There was no further news of the appeals by Drayton parents against the introduction of these payments in summer 2012. County Councillors explained that charges had been introduced since the schools attended were not designated catchment schools for Drayton children, so parents had chosen to send their children there and it was now OCC policy not to provide free transport to such children.

134/2012-13 NEWS FROM COUNTY COUNCLLORS

Marilyn and Mike Badcock were both present at the meeting.

- (a) **OCC budget.** The budget setting process was now underway for 2013-14.
- (b) **Elections May 2013.** The County Council elections next May would be using the new electoral boundaries. Drayton would have one Councillor who would also cover Marcham and Sutton Courtenay, but not South Abingdon. The Cllrs. Badcocks would not be standing for Drayton.
- (c) **X2 bus.** The Cllrs. Badcocks believed this service had now settled down under the new operator. Diane Dunsdon and others had persuaded John Hammond, Thames Travel, to restore the double-deckers for the school runs. In response to a question from Daniel Scharf as to why the Parish Council and the community were not consulted in advance of the change to the X2 service, County Councillors explained that if the service is not subsidised there was no requirement for a commercial operator to consult either the public or council, including the County Council.
- (d) **High Street Vibration.** An OCC surveyor had looked at this but could not detect any problem with traffic causing sufficient vibration as to damage foundations to houses on High Street.
- (e) **Pedestrian access to OCC Waste Recycling Centre, Drayton.** Councillors had been told that this was a health and safety issue and that foot traffic was not permitted because it would be dangerous to pedestrians using the access road intended only for vehicles.
- (f) **Councillors Highways and Other community budget allocations – spending to date.** The Councillors' OCC Highways' allocation for this year had now been spent. The Big Society fund allocations were being decided soon. If Drayton Football Club wished to apply they would need to do so within the next few days.
- (g) **Steventon Road hedge.** The Cllrs. Badcocks had noted that this hedge needed cutting back again and were in touch to remind OCC Highways of this.
- (h) **Cycle path.** Providing a continuous cycleway from Abingdon to Radley, and from Abingdon to Milton Park to the Science Park was a priority for the Councillors and funds were being sought, including s106 monies from related developments in the area.

135/2012-13 NEWS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Richard Webber had sent his apologies to the meeting.

- (a) **VWHDC Town and Parish Council Forum.** Wantage Civic Hall on Wednesday 28 November 2012, 5.15-9.15pm. Daniel Scharf will attend. The Clerk to book 2 places for Drayton PC.
ACTION: Clerk to book 2 places at VWHDC Town and Parish Council forum.
- (b) **VWHDC Budget.** The Parish Council noted the invitation to comment on the Vale's 2013-14 budget plans, but decided not to make a response from the Council. Individuals were free to make their own comments on the VWHDC's website.
- (c) **Precept.** The Council noted advice from OALC & SLCC that the precept setting date was problematic this year due to pending legislation and the Chancellor's Autumn Statement, which was not until early December. There was also some uncertainty about the process following the repeal of certain sections of previous legislation by the Localism Act 2011 relating to precept setting. Advice was awaited on both these issues from VWHDC's Democratic Services.

136/2012-13 DRAYTON 2020 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Richard Williams reported:

- (a) **VWHDC Planning Dept. liaison.** Laura Howard (VWHDC Planning) had attended the last Drayton2020 Steering Group meeting. She would be the VWHDC link person to ensure our Drayton2020 plan was in conformity with the developing VWHDC Local Plan, whose first framework draft should appear in Dec 2012. There was a difference of view about the status of emerging neighbourhood plans in dealing with current planning permission applications.

- (b) **Village Centre ‘Vision’.** Drayton Community Trust (DCT) was proposing to ask Mike Habermehl, who designed the Millennium Green, to provide a ‘Vision’ for the village. DCT would fund this from their own funds.
- (c) **ORCC -** Drayton2020 had requested that the Parish Council fund the hiring of ORCC (Anton Nath) to provide their ‘DIY’ package for the neighbourhood plan, at a cost of £1570 plus vat. It was **Resolved** to subscribe to this package from the Drayton2020 Parish Council budget.
Proposed: Daniel Scharf **Seconded:** Richard Williams **Resolved Unanimously**
ACTION: Clerk to place and order with ORCC for their ‘DIY’ neighbourhood planning package.
- (d) **Introduction to Plan.** Daniel Scharf had drafted an introductory context to the Drayton Neighbourhood Plan, which had been agreed by the Drayton2020 Steering Group. It was **Resolved** that the Parish Council should adopt this document (which had been circulated beforehand with the papers for this meeting) and send it to the VWHDC Chief Planning Officer, with copies to the VWHDC Leader of Council (Matthew Barber) and to the local MP (Ed Vaizey).
Proposed: Daniel Scharf **Seconded:** Laurence Zipson **Resolved Unanimously**
ACTION: Daniel Scharf to draft covering letters to the VWHDC and local MP for the Clerk to send with the adopted Background/Introduction to the Drayton2020 plan.
- (e) **Criteria for New Developments.** Drayton2020 Steering Group and the four Working Groups were also considering a document drafted by Daniel Scharf which laid out criteria for developers to adhere to when putting forward planning permissions within Drayton. This document had also been circulated to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting. It would be brought back for amendment/decision at the December Parish Council meeting, once Councillors had had further opportunity to consider it, and following any changes suggested through the Drayton2020 process. It was proposed that these criteria, once adopted by the Parish Council, should be applied by its Planning Committee in considering any future planning applications received for Drayton.

137/2012-13 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2013

The Calendar of meetings drafted by the Clerk and circulated with the papers for the meeting was **agreed** with one change – that the April meeting would be on 15th rather than 8th April.

Proposed: Naomi Broomfield **Seconded:** Jenny Pooley **Resolved Unanimously**
ACTION: Clerk to revise and circulate/publicise the Parish Council meeting dates for 2013, and to book venue.

138/2012-13 FINANCE/ADMIN COMMITTEE BUSINESS

	Finance/Admin Committee Business		Of which VAT
	A. Payments made this month	Invoice Amount	
Open Spaces Act 1906 s10	(i) Village Caretaker – October 2012	* £278.08	£4.68
Open Spaces Act 1906 s10	(ii) Julian Cook – Grass Cutting Invoice October 2012	* £550.00	zero
LGA (1972) s112	(iii) Clerk’s Salary – October 2012	* £454.78	zero
LGA (1972) s111	(iv) HM R&C Tax and NI – October 2012	* £113.80	zero
LG (FP) A 1963 s5	(v) Clerk’s Expenses – October 2012	* £60.55	zero
LGA 1972 s134	(vi) Caudwell Day Centre Room Hire July-Aug-Sept	£45.00	zero
LGA 1972 s134	(vii) Village Hall Room Hire – Aug/Sept (Drayton2020)	£75.00	zero
LG (MP) Act 1976 S148	(viii) Abingdon & District CAB	£1,000	zero
LG (MP) Act 1976 s137	(xi) South & Vale Carers grant application	£350.00	zero
LGA 1972 s19	(xii) Village Hall grant application	£638.22	zero
	Total payments this month	£3565.43	£4.68

	B October Receipts	
	Burials and Memorials	£80.00
	Total Receipts this month	£80.00

C. OTHER FINANCE BUSINESS

- (i) **Payments.** The Clerk explained the payments listed above which were **approved** for payment by three Councillors.
- (ii) **Online payments.** The list of online payments via Unity Bank (see items starred * above) was signed off and the 3 people to approve online payments were appointed as: Naomi Broomfield/Daniel Scharf/Richard Williams.
- (iii) **Bank Reconciliation to end October.** This had been prepared by the Clerk and showed a balance (before payments above) of £44,040.61. It would be checked and signed off at next week's Finance Meeting.
- (iv) **Budget Setting and Precept 2013-14.** A discussion took place to advise the Finance Committee's November meeting of the shape of the 2013-14 budget and level of precept. The main project would be Drayton2020. It was hoped that the precept could be kept the same as last year (£40k).
- (v) **Grant applications.**
- Drayton Football Club. Decisions on the two grant applications were referred to the November Finance Committee. The Clerk was asked to enquire of the Football Club how they intended to use their current balances.
ACTION: Clerk to ask the Football Club for explanation about intended use of their current balances/reserves.
 - Village Hall - £638.22. This was **agreed**
Proposed: Daniel Scharf **Seconded:** Naomi Broomfield **Resolved Unanimously**
 - Sue Ryder Nettlebed Hospice. After discussion indicating that this hospice was not the nearest to Drayton, that evidence of Drayton use had not been provided or accounts submitted, it was **Resolved** to decline the grant application.
Proposed: Jenny Pooley **Seconded:** Naomi Broomfield **Resolved Unanimously**
Abingdon Citizen Advice Bureau. Daniel Scharf declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or vote. £1,000 **agreed**
Proposed: Jenny Pooley **Seconded:** Naomi Broomfield **Resolved Unanimously**
 - South and Vale Carers. **Agreed** a grant of £350
Proposed: Jenny Pooley **Seconded:** Richard Williams **Resolved Unanimously**
- (vi) **Deputy Clerk Appointment.** A Resolution to consider the recommendation of the Interview Panel and confirm the recommended appointment was **agreed**.
Proposed: Naomi Broomfield **Seconded:** Daniel Scharf **Resolved Unanimously**

139/2012-13 PLANNING COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A Planning Applications in Progress – Noted

Reference Number	Address	Details	PC Planning Committee Response	VWHDC Decision
2012-14	Land to West of Steventon Field, Steventon	Construction of 10MW Solar Park	Object	Pending
2012-17	Brooklyn Mill, Milton Road, Drayton, OX14 4EF	Erection of storage barn with stables, tack room and ground and first floor storage area (Retrospective amendments to planning permission P11/V1542)	Object	Pending
2012-18	Magpie Cottage, 30 High Street, Drayton	Fell 1xEucalyptus, works to 2xYew and 1xSpindle	No objections	Pending
2012-19	Cheers Farm High Street Drayton OX14 4JW	Proposed demolition of existing 3 bedroom house, erection of 3x terraced 3 bed houses and adjoining carport (re-submission)	Object	Pending
2012-20	Stonehill House, Stonehill, Drayton, OX14 4AA	Insertion of new roof light	Pending	Pending

2012-21	Stonehill House, Stonehill, Drayton, OX14 4AA	Internal alterations to form bathroom	Pending	Pending
2012-14	Land to West of Steventon Field, Steventon	Construction of 10MW Solar Park	Object	Pending

B. Other Planning Business

(i) **Manor Farm.** No further news.

(ii) **Solar Parks Steventon.** Two solar parks had now been applied for on adjacent farms in Steventon. One had been approved by VWHDC and the other was pending (see above). The Planning Committee had responded in both instances that whilst there was no objection to the proposed solar farms in principle, the VWHDC should take account of the loss of agricultural land and that alternative provision for solar energy could be made on new roofs of major developments. It was noted that the proposed Criteria for Planning Permissions being drafted for Drayton would take account of such points for proposed developments in Drayton.

(iii) **Milton Park LDO.** Daniel Scharf would draft the response to this consultation and circulate for comment.

ACTION: Daniel Scharf to draft a response to VWHDC about the Milton Park LDO and the Clerk to submit this after circulation and approval by email to other Councillors.

(iv) **Sutton Courtenay Landfill future.** The dates of the two public exhibitions for proposed future use of the site were **noted**.

(v) **South of Abingdon Housing Development.** A planning application from Hallam Land had now been received for 160 houses in South Abingdon, on the Drayton northern boundary. It was **Resolved** that Daniel Scharf would draft the Parish Council's response, taking account of issues of traffic, the further reduction of the green space between Abingdon and Drayton, and potential increased flooding risk from additional runoff. The draft would be circulated by email for comment and agreement before submission.

Proposed: Daniel Scharf **Seconded:** Richard Williams **Resolved Unanimously**

ACTION: Daniel Scharf to draft a response to the Hallam Land planning application for South Abingdon for Councillors to comment on by email, and for the Clerk to submit to VWHDC.

140/2012-13 RIGHTS OF WAY & CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP

(a) **Landowners restoring footpaths after ploughing.** Jenny Pooley and the Clerk had met with one landowner about restoring two paths across a field off Sutton Wick. It was proposed that the start of one path here be way-marked by the Parish Council.

ACTION: Clerk to ask the Village Caretaker if he could install a way-marker on the footpath and to determine costs.

(b) **FP17/19.** OCC had now started the formal consultation on the diversion of the footpath at the CEMEX works.

141/2012-13 LEISURE & GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP

(a) **Village Caretaker and Grass Contractors' Reports.** These were received and **noted**.

(b) **Pruning Trees on the Green.** The Clerk reported that a parishioner had requested that the low hanging branches on the trees on the Green/High Street, near the Village Cross be trimmed back. It was **agreed** that the Clerk, after consulting the VWHDC Trees Officer, would arrange for the Village Caretaker to do this.

ACTION: Clerk to contact VWHDC Trees Officer about pruning lower branches of trees on the Green behind the Village Cross and then to arrange for the Village Caretaker to carry out this work.

(c) **Pyracantha Bushes, Halls Close.** It was noted that whilst the Village Caretaker had cut these bushes back, they could do with an even harder prune since they were vigorous. It was **agreed** that Jenny Pooley would contact the Village Caretaker to arrange this.

ACTION: Jenny Pooley to contact the Village Caretaker to ask him to prune back further the pyracantha bushes on Halls Close.

(d) **Burial Ground – ditch/fence.**

Daniel Scharf declared an interest in this item and left the room during the discussion and vote.

Richard Williams (Vice Chairman) assumed the Chair. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council could not allow the ditch and fence to encroach on public land, since this would set a precedent.

It was **Resolved** that the Parish Clerk should write to the householder concerned and ask that the fence be removed from the burial ground land, the ditch filled in and the land made good, unless the householder could show ownership of the land. The Clerk would submit the draft letter to Richard Williams to approve.

Proposed: Richard Williams **Seconded:** Naomi Broomfield **Resolved Unanimously**
ACTION: Clerk to write to the householder who had erected a fence and dug a ditch along the Burial Ground boundary.
Daniel Scharf re-entered the room and resumed the Chair.

142/2012-13 PRESS & PR WORKING GROUP

(a) **Website.** Laurence Zipson reported that Alastair Grundy was now assisting him with the technical side of the website. It had been decided to stay with the current software platform. An upgrade was in progress which, when made live, would improve the site, including a better and more integrated calendar function.

143/2012-13 CORRESPONDENCE

The items on the List of Correspondence received were **noted.**

144/2012-13 ITEMS TO BE NOTED FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

No other items were raised for note.

145/2012-13 The date of the next meeting was confirmed as MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2012 at 7.30 pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton, OX14 4HY.

The meeting concluded at 9.50 p.m.

Signed:

Date: 3rd December 2012

Name: Daniel Scharf

Role: Chairman, Drayton Parish Council