

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 14th March 2016

Venue: Norman Fraser Suite, Community Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Parish Councillors: C. Thornton, N. Lewis, C. McGarry, D. Peat, H. Jenkins, R. Shepherd-Cross, V. Embleton-Spencer.

District Councillor I. Corkin & County Councillor C. Fulljames.

Also Present: Madeleine Gilpin & Mike Stokes

Parishioners' issues:-

- Mrs Gilpin advised that the Litterblitz was generally well done.
- After discussions on sad & overgrown hedgerows, Mr Stokes suggested that he would regularly walk around the village & take necessary action to ensure safety.

Declaration of Interests:- none

Apologies:- none

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January were accepted & signed.

Points Action & Matters Arising from Council Meeting held on 11th January 2016

- Clerk to check the lease details for woods access or get a copy
- Mike Stokes now dealing with the design & location of the new seat for the woods, which was expected to complement the environment.
- Mick Day memorial:- Council to place plaque on bench overlooking the green
- Fritwell to Fewcott footpath: Nicki Lewis advised that feedback from the survey was being collated & will be distributed once completed.
- St John Ambulance defibrillator purchased & Nicki Lewis organised successful training event & will confirm exact location in White Lion.
- HM Queen 90th Birthday: Grant applied for to subsidise celebrations 11/12th June 2016

District Councillor – Ian Corkin

1.CDC issues mainly around Bicester Development, which will create infrastructure issues pre & post developments. See website growingbicester.co.uk for up to date information.

2.Planning Applications:- McDonalds restaurant application withdrawn & 2 Fewcott refused.

3. BT Broadband, Executive now dealing with wider issue.

4. Minutes of Viridor liaison meeting held on 20th January not yet available.

5. Much discussion & publicity on devolution & what could happen to OCC. Central government will decide. Cherwell & South Northants Councils working well together for over 6 months.

However, Cherwell is expecting to double the population under current development plans.

6. Following recent changes by the Boundary Commission, the whole of CDC is up for election again in May. AWF will become part of a super ward call Heyfords & Fringford, and will have three elected members. Assuming all are from the same party, the area will probably be divided up into manageable responsibility sectors but if it has three members from different parties it will be more difficult to manage due to its size. More information available on CDC's website.

7. Issues raised relating to the Ardley to Fewcott footpath & possible loss of free school transport now resolved with Oxfordshire County Council.

8. Caversfield plans to be circulated.

9. Quite serious smells have been reported to the Environment Agency by Mark Ellis

County Councillor

Commented on the inactivity relating to Viridor lighting & their general lack of continuity and confirmed discussions on free school transport.

Rural Housing.

New survey forms distributed to all local households & still awaiting feedback. Trying to establish where there is a need from people not currently on the housing register. There is a worry that rural housing opportunities might divert to Heyford where major developments are taking place.

PC Woods

Mike Stokes note outlining suggestions for maintaining & developing the woods; reopening the bridle path for horses & comments on the Ardley footpath to be distributed to council members.

Neighbourhood Plan.

Following two local public meetings 8 pages of responses were prepared covering such areas as housing; transport; heritage & the environment. These results were distributed to the Executive Committee of Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan [MCNP] for inclusion in their comparative summary [see Appendix 1 for schedule]. Notes on the Oxford overspill are to be circulated, while much discussion focussed on Greenfield & Brownfield sites and how to resolve traffic issues. Issues to address include the daily Oxford traffic route & the possibility of re-opening Ardley station. It was felt that we needed to develop ways to obtain the views of younger people in the village. It was confirmed AwF needed to pay £331 for administration/membership costs of MCNP.

Speedwatch

6 people caught speeding using our speed camera & these will be used as case studies to publicise a clamp down on speeding.

May Elections

Yellow application forms distributed to Councillors to be completed & returned to Parish Clerk by 7th April. Clerk to hand deliver all completed forms to CDC on 7th April at appointed time of 11.30. Clerk to issue notice to 3 Parishes magazine asking for more local nominees to be councillors. NB £39 Fee payable if no election but £800 due if election takes place.

Finance & correspondence

The following proposals were agreed:-

- 1:- To ensure that the expenditure & tax liability fall into the appropriate financial & tax years the payment to the clerk be made at the MARCH council meeting rather than the May one.
- 2:- Parish Clerk takes on the RFO role & signs this year's accounts in that capacity
- 3 :- Mrs Jan Mills be appointed as the Internal Auditor role & sign the accounts appropriately.
- 4:- Review the clerk's remuneration rate from 1st April to better reflect the current 6-8 hours per week statutory workload [excluding meetings]. An increase to 4.5 hours per week/ £2,000 per year was agreed to be paid on a quarterly basis. District Councillor thought it might be possible to see what other clerks are paid locally to enable further consideration at the May council meeting.

Payments listed were agreed & Church hire £25 & MCNP £331 were added.

Planning Applications

Discussions took place about the legal process for collectively agreeing planning applications & whether a face to face, full council meeting was really necessary. District Councillor agreed to refer issue to legal department for clarification.

Decision on 2 Ardley Road planning application was discussed & formally ratified.

Any Other Business

Nicki Lewis again thanked everyone that attended the St. John's defibrillator training at the White Lion and offered a special thank you to Dixie & Tracey.

Date of next meeting 9th May 2016

Important – Annual Parish Meeting [publicised & open to the public] at 7.00pm followed by Parish Council Meeting at 7.45pm to elect Chairman & Vice Chairman; meeting dates etc.

Signed: Date.....

DRAFT