

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON JANUARY 17th, 2017

Present were Nicky Brooks, Mark Walker, Eileen Mawle, Alan Wilson, Martin Wilson & Simon Stace. Also present were James Mills and Peter Emery from WODC, Charles Mathew OCC and one member of the public.

Minutes for the December meeting were signed as being a true record of proceedings.

There then followed a long discussion about Declarations of Interest which should or should not have been made at recent PC meetings concerning the possibility of starting proceedings for some of the parish to become a Conservation Area.

MATTERS ARISING

Letter from Gladman re. proposed development south of A40 at Barnard Gate.

James Mills started by saying this proposal does not have support from WODC or the Government whereas the proposal north of A40 at Eynsham does. It appears Gladman's speculative proposal was received by WODC on 23rd December - the last day of the public consultation period, therefore there has been no opportunity for public consultation and it will be included when all the paperwork and comments are sent to the Government Inspector, probably in March after WODC have reviewed them.

Although Gladman call their proposal a 'New Garden Village', it is not as defined by the Government and is not eligible to receive Government money unlike the Eynsham proposal.

Mr. Mills also said there are many examples of where speculative developers have obtained planning permission for houses only for them not to have been built yet. With this in mind he asked the question, "Would you allow a speculative developer to control the largest building site in West Oxfordshire?"

To allow both developments would, in planning terms, be considered ribbon development along the A40 and this would not be allowed.

We will ask Gladman for a meeting to hear what they have to say, followed by a meeting with Giles Hughes from WODC and finally a public meeting.

Letter received from our MP, Robert Courts, saying he would like to meet all Parish Councils in an informal setting. He will also send fortnightly email updates to ensure we are well briefed. Agreed.

Letter from South Leigh PCC enclosing an invoice for cutting of the churchyard for 2015 and 2016 totalling £2000. We have agreed previously that we will contribute 50% up to £500 so drew a cheque for £1000 to cover both years.

AOB:

A cheque was drawn in favour of Walker Machinery for £300 towards the cost of cutting the grass on the football pitch.

Estimate received for grass cutting of the Village Green and hall garden stays the same as last year, i.e. £800, 10 cuts x £80. Agreed.

We have received OCC's agreement to putting a few reflective posts in the vicinity of Tar Wood House.

Remedial work on the road to Witney and to High Cogges has proved very unsatisfactory as it was not rolled. We will complain to OCC.