

Minutes of a meeting of the PC held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 27th August 2019 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Mrs N.A. Brooks (Chair), Nick Kelaher and Graham Soame. The Clerk, Ken Brooks, was in attendance. Apologies were received from Martin Wilson Carl Rylett and Charles Matthew.

1. No declarations of interest were made
2. The Minutes for the previous PC meeting held on 9th July were approved and the Chair was authorised to sign the same as being a true record of such proceedings. The Clerk was authorised to publish the Minutes on the Parish website
3. Five members of the public were present and raised issues with the PC viz:-
 - Lysette Nichols presented a paper on her survey to date of the views of the Parish about traffic and speeding and her investigations into the role and attitudes of the various Councils Police and other public bodies involved. She agreed to continue her work trying to establish the views of the Parish as a whole and she agreed to continue her investigations on the next steps required to present a case to the County Council and Police. She did comment that she thought the speed limit along Green Lane was 30 mph. She will investigate further. She said that the High Cogges residents she had been able to contact had thought that the speed limit should be set at 30 mph from Shores Green right through the Parish. She will report back on or before the next PC meeting. The Chair thanked her for all her hard work to date and the PC agreed to publish her paper on the Parish website.
 - Konstantin Lazarov complained about the over grown hedgerows alongside the Parish roads which made driving especially dangerous. He asked that the PC write to the relevant landowners and the Chair agreed to do so.
 - Dick Pears reported on his soundings at Church End regarding the establishment of a PC sub-committee to maintain the Village Green. He had received a lot of support and had volunteers to join a sub-committee.
 - DP also said he would like to resurrect the issue of a Conservation Area. He will write a paper and he asked that this be put on the Agenda for consideration at the November PC meeting.

- Anne Peake complained that the Shores Green bus shelter wasn't fit for purpose. It wouldn't protect from the rain and really needed to be scrapped and replaced.
 - Generally, all members of the public present said that they had had difficulty using the Parish website with particular regard to retrieving tonight's Agenda. The Clerk advised that he would speak to Tim Lawson.
4. No District or County Councillors were then present to report.
 5. It was agreed there were no matters arising from the Minutes that would not be covered elsewhere in the Meeting.
 6. Constitutional
 - a. The Clerk's Training Day has yet to be fixed (no fee has yet been paid).
 - b. The Chair confirmed that all the formalities relating to the appointment of Graham Soame had been completed.
 7. Financial Report.

The Clerk had previously distributed cash Accounts and now explained the detail. The Chair asked that the Clerk produce forecast Accounts for the next PC meeting after the second Precept receipt in September.

The Clerk advised that authority was required for cheques as follows:

 - John Ashwell £85 being a refund of the last Newsletter invoice which he had paid personally.
 - Ken Brooks £58 being the cost of a replacement pane for the Notice Board.
 - Playsafety Ltd £90.60 being the cost of the Playground inspection

The PC approved these cheques.

The Chair then referred to her earlier email to the PC asking for authority to make a contribution to the works of refurbishment and improvement to the Village Hall. She suggested a figure of £2000. GS proposed and NK seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The Chair also reminded the PC that we carried a sum of £3000 in the books intended for the refurbishment of the Playground. NK thought the fencing around the Playground was in poor repair and should be looked at urgently. It was thought that the recent inspection might not have covered this aspect. Generally the PC was supportive but did ask that the Chair request details of the intended expenditure and works before payment.
 8. Facilities
 - a. Village Hall. The PC approved a contribution to the VHC intended works of refurbishment and improvement

b. Village Green

The Clerk reported on his investigations into Public Liability cover and confirmed that he had been advised that presently there was no cover (posts and mowing were not enough to establish title). However, the proposed structure for a management subcommittee would overcome this and the PC present policy would provide Public Liability cover for the Village Green.

The Clerk observed that this model ought really to be applied across the board to ensure Public Liability cover.

GS proposed and NK seconded a proposal that a sub-committee be established forthwith. The Clerk observed that the model subcommittee rules he had drafted previously based on the VH rules would need to be followed here and that when the VH subcommittee was established it had been specifically agreed that a member of the PC or the Clerk had to be a member to ensure the management body was clearly a PC subcommittee and not independent. As no one else wanted the role, the Chair volunteered herself and it was left that DP would email the Church Green residents and look to establish the subcommittee with the prospective members being DP AP Michael Barrett and Guy Austin.

c. Playground

The Clerk reported that the inspection had happened (hence the invoice) and that he had heard nothing regarding any issues. The Clerk advised that presently the Playground was probably not covered by the PC Public Liability insurance but the situation was confusing. The Clerk had been advised by his predecessor that the Playground Association was not a PC subcommittee although Karen Wilson had advised the Chair that she thought it was. The Clerk observed that the easiest solution was to declare that the PA was a subcommittee. The only downside was that the accounts of the PA would then have to be consolidated with the PC proper. GS proposed and NK seconded a proposal that we followed this course and it was agreed that the Chair would liaise with KW on the detail.

d. Football Pitch

Martin Wilson being absent with apologies the Clerk was unable to say much other than we were waiting for Savills and the Estate lawyers to respond. The Clerk confirmed again that presently there was no Public Liability cover but once the PC became the official tenant the Pitch would fall under the PC general Public Liability insurance. Question – should there be a management subcommittee here too ?

- e. The Chair reported that the Telephone Box didn't belong to the PC and it stood on highways. GS volunteered to ask the Pub if it was interested in doing anything with the Box
- f. Mark Walker being absent the issues of the cost and feasibility of boarding the back of the new bus shelter at Shores Green was deferred to the next meeting albeit with the wider issue of the overall suitability of the Bus Shelter also to be considered
- g. The Chair reported that a new Perspex front to the Notice Board had been fixed but NK asked that a catch be procured as the lock didn't seem to work well The Clerk said he would address. The Clerk confirmed that Notice Board is on highways

9. Planning Matters

a. Applications

The Chair reported that the PC had not objected the Gunn Cottage listed building application and was presently considering the Fish Farm application. The Chair explained to the public how the PC procedures worked and that the Minutes would note the views of the PC on any given application that had to be determined in between PC meetings.

The Chair noted the proposal from DP earlier that the issue of a conservation area be reopened albeit commenting on the problems faced before which had led us to take route of a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Chair reported on the latest Garden Village proposals and GS observed that there was an Exhibition on Saturday 7th in Eynsham.

It was noted that Eynsham PC looks set to object to the Park and Ride proposals and generally is unhappy in the A40 Consultation.

b. Neighbourhood Plan issues

The Clerk reported on the invitation received to attend the inaugural meeting of the Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plan Alliance on 7th September but advised that neither he nor the Chair could attend. Whilst the Clerk confirmed the invitation applied to all members of the PC , those present felt it was unlikely they would be able to attend and the Clerk was asked to pass on our apologies.

10. The Chair reported on the actions being taken by OCC to address the concerns raised by our Footpath Officers (which the Clerk had circulated earlier).

11. The principal issues of traffic and speeding had been dealt with already under Item 4 above. The condition of the Parish roads remains a concern and in the absence of Mark Walker, two other matters were deferred to the next meeting, namely:
 - News on the camera required for the Drainage works assessment
 - The views of Martin Collett about where he would like the Winter salt spreader to be kept.
12. Parish Events

The Chair reported on a very successful Summer Fayre on 28 July 2019.
13. The date for next meeting: was fixed as - 8th October 2019.
14. AOB

The Clerk raised the issue of the Post Boxes but in the absence of anyone with any knowledge the matter was deferred to the next meeting.