

WHITCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Whitchurch Parish Council held in The Church Hall,
Whitchurch on Monday 6th April 2009 at 7.30pm

Attendees: Cllr Pain (Chairman), Cllr Bond, Cllr Newman, , Cllr Leggett, Cllr Foot, Cllr Shepherd, Sue Mordue – Clerk, 8 members of the public attended.

916. Receive Apologies: Cllr Meijer.

917. Open Forum for Parishioners:

- a. Daniel Range from the Institute of Community Cohesion gave a briefing that he was working with AVDC to look at getting closer to the community requirements in the Vale. A report had been written and the first draft was to be given to AVDC within the month following which a decision would be made as to whether further consultation is required. He asked parishioners for feedback on any community issues and his details were to be put in the magazine.
- b. A parishioner questioned when the gate would be unlocked on the alternative footpath 4 which runs from the main road along the bottom gardens of Spencer House and Paddock House – item would be discussed under agenda item 923 below.
- c. Residents whose land is crossed by the alternative footpath 4 advised they were now in communication with BCC regarding the issue of the footpath 4 which is on the definitive map as they believe it was incorrectly marked and are trying to get it removed. Further discussions of this are under agenda item 923.
- d. District Cllr Peter Cooper (Wingrave Ward) introduced himself as he was attending the meeting to gather information on the community and its requirements and issues as he may stand as an Independent for the position of County Councillor for the Wing Ward in the June elections.

918. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda:

- a. Cllr Bond declared his interest in planning applications due to his role as District Cllr sitting on the AVDC Development Control Committee as he will review his decision at Committee based on the additional information available at the time.
- b. Cllr Leggett advised of her personal interest in agenda item 922b).

919. The minutes of the last meetings held on Monday 9th March 2009 were confirmed as a true record.

920. To discuss any matters arising from those minutes not covered by the agenda: No response had been received from Mr Chaudery re the untidiness of the garage. Clerk to write again.

921. Finance:

- a. The accounts for the year to date end February 2009 were reviewed as correct.
- b. The Council resolved to issue the following cheques:

AVDC re Dog bins	£395.58
Weedon Parish Council re SLCC membership	£42.57

922. Highways:

- a. To report and update on issues and repairs: Clerk to report to BCC HOC pot holes outside the school, in middle Ashgrove Gardens and outside 14 Oving Road the tarmac is missing from around the manhole cover .
- b. The Council discussed the parking problems around the Legion Hall and resolved that BCC should be contacted to discuss options for this location.

923. Footpaths & Footways: To report and update on issues and repairs:

- a. The Clerk confirmed that the necessary legal documentations and evidence has been submitted to Bucks County Council requesting that the footpath across the back gardens of Paddock House and Spencer House be opened back up and added to the definitive map as it has been walked by residents for well over 20 years. BCC will now look at this evidence however it may be some time before they can open this path again as it needs to go through the various committee and legal processes before it can be opened up again however the fact that it is currently closed does not take away the claim for the path as it had been walked for a period of well over 20 years.
- b. The Parish Council are not involved in the separate issue of the footpath 4 which is marked on the definitive map which is being discussed by the residents and the BCC as to where it should be marked. This is a separate issue and separate footpath to the one being claimed.
- c. Footpath 58 and footpath 1 are currently overgrown and need clearance – clerk to advise BCC Rights of Way to resolve.

WHITCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

924. Street Lighting: To report and update on lighting issues and repairs: The lamps outside 56A Ashgrove Gardens and at junction of Firs Close and Little London both need cleaning.

925. Recreation Ground:

- a. All 300 trees have now been planted and staked. Wording to be agreed by Councillors advising they were planted by residents and then once agreed Clerk to purchase sign.
- b. Meeting had been held with Paul Holton AVDC to discuss the pond to give advice on the location, size and depth. It was confirmed that it would not require planning permission as it will be within 200m3. Cllr Pain will discuss tender requirements with George Cheshire and Andrew Tuckwell. £2400 has already been approved as a grant from VAHT for the liner and the works and AVDC would provide an additional £500 to assist the planting of the pond.
- c. Grass cutting - Reg Porter will start cutting shortly and Clerk is trying to gain contact with Agripower as they will do the first cut of the field.
- d. WCCA have agreed to fund the purchase of the oak sleeper seats on the field and have asked for costing to be supplied to them for agreement by 20th April. Cllr Pain, Newman and Bond will obtain these and liaise.
- e. Gate to the play equipment area needs to be repaired – Clerk to ask Roy Randles to mend.
- f. The Council resolved to purchase a litter bin for inside the Play Area. The clerk advised of the H&S issue of a Cllr emptying a bin however the Council accepted this risk and agreed that Cllr Foot would remove the contents of the bin weekly and put with the bin at the gate for AVDC to collect. Clerk to liaise with Cllr Foot.
- g. VAHT have agreed to erect a fence at the back of the bungalows which the Council have agreed can be put up on the recreation field side of the hedge. They have also advised tree surgeons will look at the Ash Tree which is the responsibility of VAHT.

926. To discuss any correspondence and other communications received since last meeting not covered by the agenda including:

- a. The Council resolved to enter the Best Kept Village Competition and as part of this the Clerk was requested to ask AVDC whether The Firs wall should be put back up as it is a listed building in the conservation area and looks untidy, and also to advise Mr Chaudery that we are entering this competition when writing to him again re the forecourt untidiness (item 920).

927. Communications: Web Site – Daniel Range who spoke in the open forum advised the site was very useful to him in providing background when coming to this Council meeting.

928. Police:

- a. Complete Police Community Feedback Form: theft from a car outside the school where the front window was smashed and a hand bag taken.
- b. Cllr Newman asked the Council to consider nominating PCSO Wendy Taylor for the PCSO award due to the work she has put in to the Youth Event. The Council agreed.
- c. Cllr Newman update from the NAGs meeting and Speedwatch: no update.

929. The date of next meeting was agreed as Monday 11th May at 7.30pm for the Annual Parish Meeting and 8.00pm for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. Clerk to send invites to village organisations to the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm. Signed.....Date.....