

Begbroke Parish Council

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<http://www.cherwell-local.org.uk/site/BEGBROKE-PARISH-COUNCIL/index.htm>

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF BEGBROKE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN BEGBROKE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 2nd JUNE 2008

1 Present: Dr.J Durrant (Chairman), Cllr Malcolm Ryder (Vice Chairman) Jeffrey Wright (Clerk), Cllr. Lester Millin, Cllr. Ruth Davies. Cllr David Wintersgill.

1.1 Apologies

None

2. Read and Confirm Minutes of Last Meeting.

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2008 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman Dr Jill Durrant.

3. Declaration of Interest & Gifts or Hospitality.

Cllr. Jill Durrant and Cllr. Millin attended an event hosted at Begbroke Science Park which included a buffet and a tour of the premises.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes (April 14th & May 12th)

4.1 Reply from Dan Weeks, countryside services officer at OCC to say the bricking up of the stile near Orchard House is not preventing those using the public right of way, any more than the previous structure did. He realises that perhaps it makes access for dogs harder, but there is no provision within the law that states landowners have to provide for dogs. Ref: 168454. Clerk has written again to pursue with more vigour and stated OCC's own policy to him. No answer yet. Clerk to pursue again.

4.2 20mph speed limit proposal for village & additional street light on 1st bend in Fernhill Road. This proposal has been sent OCC Ref: 161160. Reply from Street Lighting to say they have no funds and we would have to pay. No reply about 20mph speed limit proposal from Paul Wilson yet. It was thought that OCC were awaiting national policies on this before making their views known.

4.3 Langford lane traffic lights - (OCC Ref: 134827), detailed responses from OCC but unlikely that a pedestrian crossing will be installed. Clerk to write again.

4.4 Area review of subsidised bus services - see item 7.1

4.5 38, Fernhill Road – Cllr. Millin has been making enquiries about this derelict property and is apparently a probate issue which has been outstanding for 18 years. He has written to David Cameron as council tax does not appear to be paid on the property which seems very unfair to other residents.

- 4.6** Resignation of Cllr. Maureen Hastings and County Councillor Vacancy. Clerk wrote on behalf of the parish council to thank her for her service.
- 4.7** Removal of school buses to Woodstock – no further information. Clerk to contact Gordon Lloyd who is a governor at Woodstock School.
- 4.8** St Michaels Lane flooding. Clerk wrote to OCC NAO Ref: 166356. No further response.
- 4.9** Playing Field – use by other Cricket Clubs. According to Cllr. Ryder there is a team that wants to play 3 matches on the pitch this year. On going.
- 4.10** New Litter bin for Teenage Village. It was decided that the clerk obtains one for the teenage shelter Cost about £145.00 – assessing type base or post mounted. Presently in discussion with CDC about emptying of bins in play area. Clerk has contacted Ian Upstone, the CDC cleansing manager for information.
- 4.11.** Parish archiving of documents. OCC cannot offer a digitising service.
- 4.12** Footpath access due to narrow openings which prevent some residents accessing footpaths. Clerk has asked University for update but no further response.
- 4.13** Occupation of building near Wolsey Court. This was supposed to be unoccupied but items have been seen delivered. Situation is being monitored as there appears to be a letter box. Clerk to check electoral roll.
- 4.14.** The Link magazine standing orders. Accounts were provided by editor and these were discussed.
- 4.15** Clerk has quote for the wall facing St Michaels Lane - £15k. Clerk to write to John Roff to see how the church is progressing with grant applications for this and other work.
- 4.16** Clerk preparing specification for gate to prevent vehicular access but allow pedestrians to play area. In discussion with VPMC about pedestrian access as well.
- 4.17** Mrs Warner Rose Cottage - difficulty crossing the A44. Clerk has updated her.
- 4.18** Plastic bollards in St Michaels Lane have been replaced with wooden ones.

5 Report from County/District Councillor.

5.1

Eco -Towns

The groundswell of opposition to the concept of eco-towns, and more particularly to the suggestion that the Government will overturn normal planning procedures to get houses built, is getting stronger by the day. The more you hear, the more questionable becomes Weston Otmoor's affordability and eco credentials.

Planning Services Improvement Plan

The new single planning committee for the District was launched on 15 May, with 16 members sitting on the panel. All future planning committees will now be web cast (as are Executive meetings) for you to view as they happen, or after the event.

Concessionary Travel Scheme

Executive tonight will be considering a report to decide whether to offer free concessionary bus travel before 9.30am on weekdays (i.e. outside of the Government scheme). Estimated to cost the Council up to £99,000 per year over and above the national scheme (and may rise still further with increased fuel costs), a decision will be taken whether to review the situation in September, when true costs will be known.

June 2008 County Councillor Report

It has yet to be ratified at Full Council, but it appears that I will be asked to sit on three committees initially:

Environment & Economy - including transport, highways, traffic & parking, road safety, public transport, waste management and environmental management.

Planning & Regulation - Major planning issues including minerals excavation and waste disposal sites.

Democracy & Organisation.

I am pleased at this selection, as I believe that they are the key forums for me to put forward the concerns most voiced by our parish councils.

Michael Gibbard
2 June 2008

6 Council Representatives. (Two representatives if possible)

6.1 A44 (Jill Durrant) No meeting

6.2 BVHMC (no representative) however the clerk reported that he was liaising with John Webster and Bob Perkin about projects.

6.3 Oxford Airport Consultative Meeting. (Jill Durrant) Reported that regular aeroplane traffic had reduced substantially and that there was more emphasis on jets. It was remarked that they consistently stick to flight paths. A resident in Yarnton was complaining about aircraft noise.

6.4 Oxford Green Belt Network (Jill Durrant) No recent report but the Grenoble Road outcome was still awaited as well as the South East Plan.

6.5 Police Liaison Meeting (David Wintersgill) Due to holiday, he had not attended.

7 New Business

7.1 Review of subsidised bus services – there were no comments about existing services however the clerk is to write to OCC suggesting a new circular route Oxford, Kidlington, Begbroke, Yarnton and vice versa. There are many advantages to not only local residents but for all people who work and shop in Kidlington and Langford Lane. (CR406)

7.2 Local Council Liaison event for Parish Chairman and one other. (CR405) 29th October. Information given to Chairman.

7.3 Cherwell Parish meeting 18th June 2008 7.0pm Bodicote. (CR398) No-one able to attend.

7.4 Swift conservation project. Recording form of bird activity for interested people. (CR395) Cllr Davies asked the clerk to provide her with a form for her husband.

7.5 Applications for new councillors. Clerk had received one written application from Anne Becker. **Item 7.6** was discussed together with **7.5** and as Anne is unable to attend on Monday evenings the clerk is to write and say they are unable to consider her application further. Clerk had notified CDC of the vacancy and was awaiting their response. Carol Trevelyan is apparently willing to stand again so the clerk is to contact her.

7.6 Start time and day of week for parish meetings. Monday was thought the best night to have a meeting for several reasons. It was convenient for all councillors, it gave the clerk a longer timeframe in the week to arrange business and it was most convenient for the District Councillor to attend with his other parish meeting commitments. It was resolved to keep the day as Monday but to change the start time to 7.0pm as some councillors had difficulty getting home in time.

7.7 Meal for John Roff. Clerk to arrange this at the Royal Sun when the new owners have taken over. It was unsure when this would be.

8 Planning (June Jill)

Applications

8.1 None

8.2 Decisions:

8.2.1 08/00920/F Mr & Mrs Digweed. 4 Willow way was approved.

8.3 Conditions of Planning:

8.3.1 None

8.4. Appeals

8.4.1 None

8.5 Withdrawals

8.5.1 None

8.6 The Law on planning applications.

8.6.1 The law has changed regarding planning applications. New standard form known as a "1APP" will have to be submitted on line. (CR407) The practicality on how this was to be done was discussed, in particular the submission of plans.

9 Correspondence

9.1 See Appendix 1 sent & Appendix 2 received.

10. Comments on last months Correspondence

10.1 CDC Election results distributed. CDC Organisational charts – distributed (CR404)

10.1.1 Amendments to Code of Conduct Regime. From 8th May, CDC will make initial assessment of any complaints and not directly to standards board.

11. Financial Matters

Balances and Liabilities

11.1 Balance as of 02/06/2008: Current A/C & Reserve A/C £18,374.61

11.1.1 Uncleared Cheques & Liabilities £917.35 Transfer required £NIL

Income

11.2 Bank interest: £ none notified as no reserve account statement received.

Expenditure

11.3 Clerks Salary £323.71 (01/05/2008 - 31/05/2008) CN: 146 ✓

11.3.1 Clerks Expenses £50.00 (01/05/2008 - 31/05/2008) CN:147 ✓

11.3.2 Mr Pricket – grass cutting. £543.64 CN: 148 ✓

Grant Requests/Applications

11.4. Bowls Club – railings and car park resurfacing. Clerk has obtained a grant of up to £7,108.00 from CDC to do this work. He has instructed Cartwright's to install railings and is liaising with the groundwork contractor to finalise prices for car park.

11.4.1 St Michaels Church – repairs. Suitable grant awarding bodies were given to the Church Warden John Roff. Clerk is to write to him for an update.

11.4.2 Clerk has written to NatWest to inform them of John Roff's resignation and ask the procedure for new councillors. The response was far from satisfactory, so the clerk has again complained to Customer Services at NatWest.

12 Health and Safety Matters

12.1 Councillor's playground inspection reports received up to 30th May. New inspection sheet issued to reflect play area changes. (June - Jill)

12.2 Double gate to play area – there is insufficient tension on the Right hand gate to close properly. Clerk to get a lock to secure left hand gate as the right hand should open outwards. People are pushing it open towards the play area which is wrong.

12.3 Wooden gate – clerk preparing specification for quoting. (See above)

12.4 Grass cutting on A44 – clerk has written to OCC for a programme as the village is looking scruffy. The maximum height of grass should be 500mm on a straight road and 200mm on a bend. The grass height far exceeds this. He is to pursue again.

13 Training

13.1 Courses attended by councillors for Clerk's register were those in 13.2

13.2 2008 OALC, OPFA Training Courses Maintaining & inspecting a children's playground, Management of Sports facilities. Cllr Ryder.

14 Freedom of information requests.

14.1 None

15 Any Other Business

15.1 The clerk said that he need a new printer able to scan PDF files and to print faster with a double sided printing facility to save paper. The councillors agreed he should purchase one for the council with a budget figure of about £200.00

15.2 Clerk said the external RoSPA inspection was planned for July. He has sent an updated schedule to the inspector.

15.3 The Solo Italia seems to be expanding beyond it's quota of vehicles. Vehicles parked on the road are causing a traffic hazard. Clerk is to write to CDC and ask how the licence is monitored. He is also to write to OCC NOA to ask for a line to be painted parallel to the kerb so vehicles followed the course of the road.

15.4 Cllr Ryder thought the temporary slippery surface road signs at the roundabout could now be removed. Clerk to contact OCC NOA.

15.5 It was suggested that to help the shop a sign could be erected in the highway saying "Village Shop". This suggestion was put on hold until the future of the facility is clearer.

15.6 Hall Farm access road. The Chairman thought this had been turned down in the early eighties. Clerk to try and check records.

16. Dates of the Next Meetings:

16.1 Parish Meeting Monday 7th July 2008 – 7.0pm

Signed



Date:

07.07.08