

Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council meeting held on 11th January 2010 at 7.35p.m., Village Hall

Present:	Chairman	Dr N Strudwick
	Councillors	Mr W Burchett, Mr L Ginger, Mr P Neale, Mrs M Peyton, Mr C Rose
	District Councillors	Mr N Cathcart, Mr D McCraith
	Parish Clerk	Mrs G van Poortvliet
	Guest speaker	Mr L Wilson – Chair, Little Gransden Airfield Liaison Committee
	Parishioners	6 present

The meeting started five minutes late due to the over-running of the earlier Planning Committee Meeting.

- 1.0 Election of Chair** – Dr N Strudwick was duly elected as Chairman.
- 2.0 Election of Vice-Chair** – Mrs M Peyton was duly elected as Vice-Chair.
- 3.0 Apologies for Absence** – received from Cllr J Lewis (overseas travel) and County Cllr L Oliver (bereavement).
- 4.0 Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Burchett declared a personal interest in agenda item 14.0 as a member of Whaddon Playground Project (WPP). The Chairman declared a personal interest in agenda item 13.0 as Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC).
- 5.0 Signing of minutes of last meeting (9th November 2009)** – Cllrs approved the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting as a true record and the Chairman signed them accordingly.
- 6.0 Light Aircraft Aerobatics over Whaddon**
 - 6.1 Talk from Chair of Little Gransden Airfield** – Mr Lister Wilson, Chair of the Little Gransden Airfield Liaison Committee (LGALC), addressed the meeting. The background relating to the planning permission for the Little Gransden airstrip was outlined. The nature of activities run from the airstrip and the role of the LGALC were explained.
 - 6.2 Discussion and Public Comments** – members of the public raised their concerns about the noise disturbance caused by the light aircraft. Mr Wilson explained the complaints procedure and asked if Whaddon would like a representative on the LGALC.
Actions: Chairman to put the relevant information on the village website. Clerk to request a place on the LGALC for a Whaddon representative.
- 7.0 Reports from Clerk and Councillors on matters arising from previous meetings:** the Clerk and cllrs provided verbal reports on the status of matters arising from previous PC meetings:
 - Pickering Woods Volunteer Day – the date would need to be moved to 27th February (from 6th March) so that Mr R Huffer could be present. Parishioners to be advised.
 - Village Handyman – a villager was willing to take on the handyman duties for the Village Hall (VH) and the PC. Action: the Clerk to send an appointment letter.
 - Planning application infringements – the District Cllrs had asked the enforcement officer to serve an enforcement notice re the historic planning permission infringements at Minstrel Court.
 - South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) Councils Cabinet Meeting – the Chairman had attended this meeting and would circulate some notes.
- 8.0 District and County Councillor Reports:**
The District Cllrs gave verbal reports.
 - SCDC had approved their medium-term financial strategy (to make savings).
 - There was concern about the ability of the District Council to maintain quality of service in Sheltered Housing Schemes.
- 9.0 Public Participation** - No comments from the public.

10.0 Bus Service

10.1 Decision re additional funding for trial-run of bus-service in 2010/11 – CCC had provided a costing of £1,920 for a six-month trial of the bus-service. £1,500 had been budgeted in 2009/10. It was agreed that the PC would provide £420 from the 2010/11 precept to fund the bus trial. Actions: District Cllrs to follow-up to see if any funding is available for the trial. Clerk to request Cambridgeshire County Council to commence trial-run.

10.2 Decision on use of Section 137 power for bus-service trial – the PC agreed to use S137 to provide a six-month trial run of the bus-service for the benefit of all the villagers.

11.0 Adoption of Village Design Statement – two outstanding queries from the PC needed to be resolved before the Design Statement could be adopted. Action: Cllr Neale would discuss this with Mr David Grech of the Design Statement Group.

12.0 Recreation Ground Grass-Cutting – Appointment of Contractor: the results of the tender to cut and strim the grass at the recreation ground for three years were:

- M D Landscapes - £55+VAT per cut
- Meadow (get rest) - £60+VAT per cut

The PC agreed to accept the tender from M D Landscapes. Action: the Clerk to notify the contractors of the outcomes.

13.0 Village Hall – update on lease and charitable trust:

- the transfer of the VH to a Charitable Trust was being delayed by a dispute between ACRE and the Cambridge and Peterborough Association of Local Councils (CPALC) about the transfer of assets. The Chairman had not been happy with the lack of response from CPALC.
- Cllr Lee Ginger, Mr A Buchanan and the Chairman would progress the grant application to SCDC for the refurbishment of the VH. The deadline for the application is 31st January.

14.0 Playground Issues – update and recommendations from Whaddon Playground Project (WPP)

- Cllr W Burchett, acting on behalf of WPP, provided a set of WPP accounts to the PC and handed over a cheque for £2,937.24 (representing the balance of funds raised by WPP). The PC confirmed that this sum would be added to the playground funds already held in the PC bank account and ring-fenced for playground expenditure.
- WPP would obtain some quotes for additional matting needed on the mound and for some recycling bins. The wording for the playground signs was still awaited. Action: Cllr Burchett to forward the proposed wording to the PC.
- WPP would like to re-discuss with the VH Management Committee the proposed siting of the bicycle racks (previously agreed as the back wall of the VH). They would prefer them to be concreted into the ground. Action: to be discussed at next VH Committee meeting.
- The bollard needed to be put back at the entrance to the Recreation Ground to prevent cars parking on the grass in the winter. Action: Mrs W Evans from the VH Management Committee to replace the bollard.

15.0 Affordable Homes Update:

- Bedford Pilgrims Housing Association (BPHA) had confirmed that the proposed Affordable Homes development in Whaddon would be rental units only. District Cllr Cathcart advised the PC to check the S106 agreement to ensure that it was not worded as ‘initially’ rental units.
- BPHA were waiting for the Highways Agency to respond to the access queries before resubmitting the plans. The Chairman thought it unlikely that the plans would go to the Planning Committee before March. The PC had asked to see the plans before resubmission.

16.0 Planning

16.1 Planning Committee recommendations:

S/1606/09/F 103 Meldreth Road, dropped kerb – refusal.

S/1578/09/F Minstrel Court, Old North Road, conversion of residential extension to function room – no recommendation. Several comments made.

16.2 Appeal Decision: S/0911/09/F, 55 Meldreth Road, outbuilding – dismissed.

16.3 Appointment of new member to Planning Committee – the Chairman stood down from the Planning Committee and Cllr Lee Ginger was duly appointed.

17.0 Finance

17.1 Approval of payments and financial update – the PC approved the following cheques for payment:

Cheque No.100660, for £253.00, M D Landscapes, recreation-ground grass-cutting, Sept/Oct 2009.

Cheque No.100661, £1147.84, Mrs G van Poortvliet, Clerks wages 17 weeks to 11/01/10.

Cheque No. 100662, for £80.00, D.M. Charles, newsletter copying

The PC noted that £60.38 had been received for website advertising from Linkstar UK and £50.00 from a new newsletter advertiser, Moncroft Ltd.

17.2 Precept – a meeting to agree the 2010/11 precept had been set for Monday 25th January.

18.0 Correspondence

- CCC – details of HCV Route Advisory Map. Deadline for comments 29 January 2010.
- Letter from Andrew Lansley MP re availability of youth provision.
- SCDC – invitation to a Parish Forum meeting to look at exception site policy in light of current market conditions. 18th January, 5.45 p.m.
- Email from Andrew Lansley MP re broadband speeds in South Cambridgeshire.
- SCDC – notification of timetable for precept requests. Deadline 1 February.
- SCDC Community Transport Strategy consultation – deadline extension (25 January). Cllrs thought that details of some of the services should be publicised on the website.
- PPP3 grant application (deadline 26 February). Any ideas requiring grant funding to be emailed to Cllr Neale.
- Meldreth PC – letter in response to HCV Route Advisory Map consultation requesting weight-restriction limits through Meldreth and Whaddon. The PC wished to request these measures too.
Action: Clerk to draft a response.

19.0 Village Maintenance Schedule – this item was postponed until the next meeting.

20.0 Reporting of Village Upkeep and Maintenance Issues

- The footway outside Ridgeway close required repair. Action: District Cllr McCraith to follow up.
- A villager had reported a leaking water pipe. Action: Cllr Burchett to get more details.

21.0 Items for next meeting:

- Adoption of Design Statement
- Bus-service
- Village Maintenance Schedule
- Affordable Homes
- Neighbourhood Watch Update re Speeding

22.0 Date of the next meeting- Monday 8th February at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting was closed at 9.30 p.m.