

Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council meeting held on 8th April 2013 at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, Nr Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 5RY.

Present:	Chair	Mrs M Peyton
	Councillors	Mrs K French, Mr L Ginger, Mrs J Lewis (from 7.45p.m.), Professor A Milton, Mr R Scott
	Parish Clerk	Mrs G van Poortvliet
	District Councillor	Mr N Cathcart
	County Councillor	Mrs L Oliver
	Parishioners	4 present

- 1.0 Apologies for Absence** – received from District Cllr D McCraith.
- 2.0 Minutes – approval and signing of minutes from Parish Council (PC) meeting of 11th March** – Resolved: that the minutes be signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.
- 3.0 Co-option of Councillor** – Resolved that Ms A Walker be co-opted to the PC with effect from the next PC meeting. Action: the Clerk to get the necessary paperwork to Ms Walker for completion.
- 4.0 Declarations of interest** – none declared (see later declaration 8.0 below).

It was agreed to move to agenda item 6.0.

6.0 Reports from District and County Cllrs:

County Cllr Report: a verbal report was given by County Cllr Oliver:

- Bus service 127 (via Whaddon) – Cozy's was now operating this service with only minor alterations to the timetable. Cllr Ginger commented that the buses being used were old and potentially difficult to use by the elderly or those with pushchairs. Action: County Cllr Oliver to enquire about this.
- Bassingbourn Barracks – it was hoped that most of the clubs and societies which had temporarily moved out of the Barracks would be able to return. Further details were expected shortly. Some ongoing issues regarding access to public footpaths through the Barracks were being looked into.
- Broadband – analysis of the hard to reach areas within the district had started.
- Traffic Calming Scheme, Meldreth Road – CCC Highways had undergone a major reorganisation with many staff changes. Advice on and approval of a suitable scheme for Meldreth Road could take time but would be pushed through as soon as possible.
- New Speed Limit in Force signs – these had not been removed by CCC Highways and would appear to have been stolen. CCC had no funds available for replacement signs. Actions: the Chair to report the potential theft to Neighbourhood Watch. The Clerk to obtain costings for replacement signs (plastic versions).
- Local Elections - County Cllr Oliver would not be standing for re-election. The Cllrs thanked County Cllr Oliver for her support during her time in office. (Cllr J Lewis joined the meeting (7.45 p.m)).

District Cllr Report: a verbal report was given:

- Litlington Wind Farm – this was now scheduled for consideration at SCDC's May Planning Committee meeting.
- A plan regarding the shape of the District was due to be discussed in the summer. It may result in village frameworks becoming more flexible.
- Traveller and Gypsy site, Chesterton – SCDC were seeking to expand an existing site in Chesterton. This could take some of the immediate pressure off the need for new sites and

allow time for the location of sites to be considered properly. (County Cllr Oliver left the meeting)

5.0 Report from Clerk and Cllrs on business remaining from previous meetings: a verbal report was given.

- Damaged bench on corner of Meldreth Road – no formal reply had been received from the family regarding what they wanted to do with the remains of the bench. Action: the Clerk to write a follow-up letter with a reply deadline of one month.
- Refurbishment of Street Signs – no response had been received from SCDC regarding the request for refurbishment of two street signs. Action: the Clerk to send a follow-up email, copying in the District Cllrs.
- Teenagers being asked to cycle in the road by Cardiff Place/Bassingbourn Barracks (no cycle path) – Action: the Clerk to ask Mr M Monks to bring this up at the Police Panel meeting.
- HCV Advisory Sign, A1198 – a suitable design had now been agreed.
- Wheelie bin ‘30 mph speed limit’ stickers – these had been received. Action: the Clerk to ask Mr M Monks to email residents of Meldreth Road and Church Street to ask if they wanted stickers for their bins. Stickers to be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

7.0 Public Participation:

- A member of the public asked why the PC had increased the 2013/14 precept by 12%. It was explained that the precept had remained the same as in 2012/13 but that a decrease in the number of households in the parish meant that the cost per household increased. Fewer houses were occupied in Cardiff Place and households receiving benefit for Council Tax had been removed from the Council Tax base. Action: the Clerk to arrange for an email communication to go to residents explaining the apparent increase to their Council Tax.
- Two members of the public expressed concern about some actions taken by the developers at 132 Meldreth Road which seemed to be in breach of the outline planning permission and were also worried about the potential impact of the proposed development on their own property (next door). This was discussed and Cllrs K French and M Peyton also gave feedback from a meeting they had recently had with the developer. The members of the public were advised to contact the developer directly to try to resolve the issues.

8.0 Finance – Cllr J Lewis declared an interest in agenda items 8.3 and 8.4 as Chair of Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust. Cllr Lewis could not vote on these items.

8.1 Approval of payments: Resolved that the following payments be approved:

Cheques already signed (25th March 2013)

Cheque No. 100811, for £50.00, Magpas, charitable donation

Cheque No. 100812, for £50.00, Mrs G van Poortvliet, charitable donation to Citizens Advice Bureau.

Cheques to be signed today (8th April 2013)

Cheque No. 100813, for £201.54, Mr N Shaw, printing and stationery costs for Parish Plan.

Cheque No. 100814, for £161.03, CAPALC, 2013/14 subscription.

8.2 Financial Update to 31 March 2013 – noting of report: this item was postponed until the next PC meeting.

8.3 VAT on PC donations for Village Hall (VH) refurbishment – consideration and decision re financial implications of PC donations towards VH refurbishment: this was discussed. Resolved: that the PC should pay WVHRGT rent for the use of the VH for PC meetings so that VAT could be reclaimed on any donations made by the PC towards VH refurbishment. Action: the Clerk to advise WVHRGT of the PC’s decision.

8.4 WVHRGT grant – consideration of additional grant to cover auditors’ fees: WVHRGT had received an additional charge from their auditors of £240 regarding advice

on VAT. Resolved: that the PC would cover this cost on this occasion only. Action: the Clerk to advise WVHRGT of the PC's decision.

9.0 Correspondence

- CCC – consultation on design of HCV advisory sign for A1198, Whaddon Gap.
- CCC – notification of change of operator for bus service 127 to Cozy's and details of new timetable.
- Cambridgeshire ACRE - letter regarding future changes in services following public service spending cuts.
- SCDC – notification of additional public consultation re football stadium at Sawston, 25/03/2013 to 06/05/2013.
- WVHRGT – agenda for meeting on 2nd April 2013; followed by draft minutes from meeting on 2nd April 2013.
- SCDC – note regarding SCDC's proposal on how to deal with Parish Councils' proposals for Local Green Spaces and changes to village frameworks. Also Government announcement that the level of Community Infrastructure Levy will be capped at 15% without a Neighbourhood Plan (25% with a plan).
- Littlejohn – notice of annual audit and deadlines for year ending 31 March 2013.
- CCC – notification of intention from 1 May 2013 to send all planning related correspondence by email (e.g. minerals, waste and county development planning actions)
- Letter from Mr K Green objecting to the proposal to designate the Golf Centre as a Green Space and also asking for consideration to include the field between Bumpkins and Green Farm in the village framework. Action: the Clerk to respond to this letter and offer for Cllrs to meet with Mr K Green if necessary.

10.0 Planning Matters:

10.1 Planning Applications - noting of Planning Committee recommendation re S/0499/13/FL, 134 Bridge Street, Whaddon, for a single storey rear extension – the Planning Committee had decided not to convene a meeting to discuss this application as the property belonged to the Clerk and all Cllrs would have to declare an interest. The PC had returned 'no recommendation' to SCDC.

10.2 Update re meeting with applicants to discuss S/0046/13/RM, 132 Meldreth Road, Whaddon: Cllr K French and the Chair had met with the applicants to discuss the points made in the PC's response to this planning application. The applicants were also in talks with the planning officer at SCDC. The applicant had said that they would try to preserve the rising fountain in some way.

11.0 Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust – update: a verbal update was given by Cllr Lewis following a WVHRGT meeting on 2nd April:

- The tenders for the building work had been opened. More details had been requested from some of the contractors and another meeting was planned for 15th April.
- The VH would now be accepting bookings for May 2013.
- Mrs W Evans had been doing an excellent job applying for grants. She had managed to secure some new tables for the VH and had applied for £10,000 from Grants for All.
- Recreation Ground Railings - a painting party was being organised.
- It had been decided to site the new cricket nets at the far end of the recreation ground, away from the play equipment, on health and safety grounds.

12.0 Salt Bins – consideration of provision of salt bins for St. Mary's Close (unadopted road) and Town Farm Close (adopted section): the PC would have to pay to have salt bins on unadopted roads to be filled. This was discussed. The PC decided not to pay for salt bins on unadopted roads but would consider one for the adopted section of Town Farm Close if a suitable place

could be found for it. Actions: Cllr French to look at Town Farm Close to see if there was an appropriate site for a salt bin. The Clerk to check if there is a spare salt bin in the VH garage.

13.0 Village Archive Material – requirement for temporary storage solution until the Village Hall is refurbished: Action: Cllr French to contact the resident who is currently storing the archive material with a view to moving it to her own house if she has sufficient space.

14.0 Annual Parish Meeting (22nd April 2013) – agenda items and publicity: some ideas for the APM were discussed. Actions: the Chair to email out publicity for the event, various Cllrs and the Clerk to produce short talks and the Clerk to purchase refreshments.

15.0 Items for next meeting:

- Co-option of new Cllr.
- Financial update to 31 March 2013
- Salt bins
- Parish Plan update

16.0 Date of next meeting/Annual Parish Council Meeting - Monday 13th May 2013.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm