

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 8th March 2018, at 7.30pm at School Room, Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, Whaddon.

Present: Cllrs Sir Beville Stanier Bt (Chairman), Graham Haine, Helen Hickman, Hazel Hedges, Peter Lemagnen, Graham Stewart, Derek White.

Members of the Public: Cllr John Chilver - BCC.

Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

1. PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr John Chilver expressed deep concern about the condition of the roads in the county, and advised that a possible cash injection from Council reserves was being considered due to the severity of the problem. Coddimoor Lane was considered the second worst road in his area. He had personally incurred damage to his vehicle on the Buckingham ring road. It was agreed that signage on Coddimoor Lane was needed and Cllr Chilver would investigate 'Failed Road Surface' warning signs. Cllrs agreed that a campaign of reporting the potholes to BCC should press ahead.

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. MINUTES

The minutes for the previous meeting were adopted and signed.

5. UPDATE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AND WQ

a. Administration

- i. The Clerk reported that Metro's Bank Manager had not been available to discuss resolving bank account issues, but the meeting would take place asap.
- ii. The Clerk advised that the grant application for an A3 Printer/Scanner suitable for the Council's needs for handling drawings and planning documents had been submitted and news about whether the grant would be awarded was expected shortly.
- iii. The Clerk advised a training session on GDPR new database requirements had been booked, and old archive material from the Parish files would be taken to AVDC record office on 12th March.

b. Property

- i. Constable's Plot. The Clerk advised the outstanding issues concerning the new lease for Constable's Plot had been resolved and a new draft lease issued. Councillors agreed to proceed with the new lease.
- ii. Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that a Play Around the Parishes session had been booked for 20th August 2018.

c. Finance

- i. The Clerk presented income, expenditure for approval for the period and bank balances:

Income

The following payments have been received:

Various	Misc Interest	£2.96
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Expenditure

The following invoices have been received for approval:

121	AVDC Dog Waste Bins	£207.00
122	St Mary's Church – burial ground maintenance	£100.00
123	Suzanne Lindsey Clerk Salary August –February 2018 Total 81hrs	£977.17
124	Suzanne Lindsey Expenses August – February 2018	£52.76
125	NBR Printing Ltd – printing Whaddon Quarterly Feb '18	£333.00
126	Keeves Contracting – Hedge Trimming Allotments	£120.00
	Total	£1,789.93

Bank Balances as at 8/3/18

Metro Bank Account – current	£2,476.87
Metro Bank Account – deposit	£6,890.68
Metro Bank Account - charity	£2,476.87
	£11,844.42

6. PLANNING

- a. Cllr Stewart reviewed progress on VALP, stating that the plan had been submitted in February, and was awaiting assignment of an official inspector. Research and review would take place over the summer. Cllr Stewart reported that the Shenley Rd site had been deleted and housing expansion was focused on new garden villages sited along the planned new expressway. So far the route of the new expressway was not known, but was unlikely to impact the Parish. An email regarding Plan MK Site Allocation Plan had been circulated looking at additional sites. ‘Over the Ridge’ expansion was not anticipated.
- b. Cllr Stewart reported that the only residential planning applications had been discussed at the previous meeting and no new matters had arisen.
- c. Cllr Stewart reported on the recent AVDC Planning Conference he had attended. He noted that many attendees had expressed concern about lack of enforcement of planning requirements. There were severe staffing shortages in this area. Building works in breach of planning requirements were eventually inspected and categorised, then a new planning application requesting retrospective permission for the breaches requested. Time limits on this fresh application were not enforced. Current issues with 12/02179/APP on Stratford Rd were a case in point, where there was strong evidence from the outset the applicants intended to take this course of action.

7. HIGHWAYS

- a. Potholes and repairs were discussed under the Public Session above.
- b. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) and Cllr Stewart reported that they had attending a meeting with Eon to review village street lighting. Eon had promised a proposal, but this had not been forthcoming and would be chased.
- c. Cllr Stewart reported that the CEMP had been approved for the 150 approx., house Morris Homes’ development, part of which fronts onto Shenley Rd. The six new homes that actually take their finished access directly off Shenley Road, must now be constructed from an internal site haul route, rather than using the originally planned access which was Shenley Rd. The agreement ensured that road closure(s) would be kept to a minimum using traffic lights, and should closure be required the diversion would be discussed with WPC beforehand.
- d. The Clerk reported that David Taylor was not interested in undertaking highways weed spraying due to the cost of a spraying licence. The Clerk was asked to contact an alternative possible supplier. Cllrs suggested that a further request be placed in Whaddon Quarterly to encourage local residents to do weed spraying outside their properties.
- e. Cllr Stewart reviewed his findings regarding using the MVAS for the 40mph section of Stratford Rd, and stated that it was not feasible and the costs were prohibitive. He requested that the information from Simon Garwood on the Sentinel Speed Systems be forwarded to the residents of Shenley Rd who had originally raised this issue.
- f. Cllr Stewart reviewed the Transport Strategy documents and expressed disappointment that after fifteen years of highlighting the issues, no mention of Whaddon’s concerns and problems had been made in the report in connection with HGVs and rat running. Optimism was expressed that the new road layout for Calverton Rd would make ingress by HGVs very difficult from the north.

8. ALLOTMENTS

- a. The Clerk advised that Josh Jaworski had been instructed to go ahead with digging over and reinstating two neglected allotments for £160 per allotment providing a suitable condition for re-letting. Plastic sheeting to prevent regrowth of weeds at a cost of £50 would be installed. Mr Jaworski to liaise with Cllr White for instructions.

- b. The Clerk reported that following complaints from allotment holders that the building contractors across the road from the allotment had been using the allotment water from storage tanks, a site visit had been made. The tanks had refilled, and there was no sign of any mess or damage. A contractor working on the site confirmed there was no water supply on the site. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the site owners asking them to ensure that the contractors were provided with their own water supply and did not trespass onto Council Property. Also, the state and condition of the verges adjacent to the building site was very poor, and the site owner should be asked to ensure their contractors made good any damage at the end of the building works.

9. RECREATION GROUND

- a. Cllr Hickman reported that following meetings with Kompan the only outstanding compliance issue identified in the RSoPA Report was a top up of the bark chippings. A quote for £1k had been received. It was agreed that a breakdown of the quote should be requested, and options for sourcing the bark independently and organising a work party to spread it and save cost should be considered.

10. OTHER PARISH MATTERS NOT ALREADY DEALT WITH

- a. Cllrs Hickman and Hedges expressed concern about the litter bin attached to the fence of the Village Hall was being used for dog waste, which was causing offence and was a possible health hazard. The Clerk was requested to investigate re-siting the existing dog waste bin from the track behind the Village Hall to the front of the Hall, or possibly asking for an additional dog waste bin for that location.
- b. Cllr Hickman express concern about the salt bin located on Coddimoor Lane, which was disintegrating, having been hit by vehicles a number of times. The Clerk was requested to investigate repair or replacement.
- c. Cllr Lemagnen advised it was possible Watling Street would be closed shortly for a long period, preventing access to the village via Calverton Lane. He agreed to obtain further information.
- d. Cllr Stewart reported that a vehicle had hit the bollard located on the traffic calming island on the approach to the village on Stratford Rd. This had been reported to the police.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

1. The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will be 10/5/18 (AGM), 12/7/18, 13/9/18, 8/11/18.