

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 11th May 2017, at 7.30pm at School Room, Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, Whaddon.

Present: Cllrs Sir Beville Stanier Bt (Chairman), Graham Hain, Hazel Hedges, Graham Stewart, Derek White.

Members of the Public: Cllr John Chilver. Mr John Mortimer – Editor WQ.

Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

1. PUBLIC SESSION
No Items
2. ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN
Cllr Stanier was re-elected Chairman. Proposed Cllr Hazel Hedges, Seconded Cllr Derek White.
3. APOLOGIES
Cllr Helen Hickman
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None
5. MINUTES
The minutes for the previous meeting were adopted and signed.
6. UPDATE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AND WQ
 - a. Administration
 - i. Selling copies of WQ. Cllrs discussed the suggestion from Parishioner Mrs M Beckwith that copies of WQ should be offered for sale. Cllrs discussed the options and concluded readers should be asked for their preference. Clerk to prepare a piece for the next edition of WQ.
 - ii. Street Lights. The Clerk reported Mr Jazbir Sanghera had left BCC and there had been no follow up from BCC on the outstanding matter of the suggestion to consolidate purchasing and repairs with BCC. Cllrs agreed not to pursue the option further at this time. However, Cllr Stewart commented that the lighting on the village green was in need of improvement.
 - iii. Whaddon Quarterly. The Clerk advised that all collectable amounts of advertising income had been received. It was possible that some small amount could be received from the Crooked Billet, but unlikely. Amounts due from Dean Ord were uncollectable and written off. The Clerk reported that the Council was subsidising the printing and distribution of WQ by around £175 an issue after advertising income. Cllrs agreed this was reasonable.
 - b. Property
 - i. Constable's Plot. The Clerk reported that papers were with the solicitor to handle the service of the new lease for the tenant.
 - ii. Recreation Ground. The Clerk reported that the annual safety inspection had been booked with RoSPA.
 - iii. Allotments. The Clerk reported that hedging works had been completed.
 - c. Finance
 - i. The Clerk presented the Annual Accounts and confirmed that these had passed internal Audit. Councillors reviewed and approved the Annual Accounts and Governance Statement. The Clerk advised that the recommendation from the internal auditor was that income from Constable's Plot should be consolidated into the Parish's current account, however separate columns of income and expenditure retained in the cash book. Cllrs agreed to the closure of the Charity Account.
 - ii. The Clerk reported that WQ income for 2016/17 was £1,171.00
 - iii. The Clerk presented income and expenditure for approval for the period and bank balances:

Income

The following payments have been received:

Various	WQ Income this period	£559.00
10/3/17	LAF Grant, inv. 1135	£3,000.00
3/4/17	D Taylor, Constable's Plot March 2017 Rent	£145.00
25/4/17	AVDC Precept	£7,750.00
Various	Misc. Interest	£0.44
		£11,454.44

Expenditure

The following invoices have been received for approval:

077	NBR Printing inv. 01103 received late, paid 16/1/17	£432.00
087	Aon UK Ltd Annual Insurance Premium	£602.93
088	E.on Street Lighting Repairs	£28.16
089	NBPPC inv. 27/3/17 Annual Membership	£20.00
090	B&MKALC Annual Membership	£88.61
091	F Haywood – Recreation Ground Litter Picking	£28.80
092	E.on Street Lighting electric Jan-Mar 2017	£206.47
093	S J Lindsey – salary Mar-Apr 2017	£642.77
	Total this period	£2,049.74

Bank Balances as at 11/5/17

Metro Bank Account – current	£2,518.94
Metro Bank Account – deposit	£10,082.54
Metro Bank Account - charity	£2,248.05

7. PLANNING

- a. Pending and New Applications
 - i. 17/00563/APP. Ash House, 9 Whaddon Hall Mews. Single storey rear extension. Householder Approval granted 31st March 2017.
 - ii. 17/00826/ALB. 9 High St, Whaddon. Replacement of windows and doors. Listed building consent given on 3rd May 2017.
 - iii. 17/01335/APP. 4 Chase Farm Cottages, Whaddon. Permission sought for single storey rear extension. Whilst it would not be unreasonable to respond with 'No Objection', it was noted that there could be slight loss of amenity to the adjoining semi-detached dwelling due to the closeness of the proposed flank wall. This would be noted to AVDC.
 - iv. 17/01465ALB. 12 High St, Whaddon. Permission sought to replace modern glazed false sash windows with slim-line double glazed sash windows. This application was considered entirely reasonable and a response of 'No Objection' was recorded.
- b. Other Planning Issues.
 - i. Winslow Station. Cllr Stewart expressed disappointment that WPC had not been consulted by AVDC on the proposed Winslow Station, especially as Whaddon fell within the 15/20km radius and Whaddon residents would almost certainly be expected to use the facility once the station opened in circa 2022. Many objectors had already responded to AVDC, concerned that the current planning application did not allow for improvements to the A413 and local junctions, the plans provided insufficient parking, taxi ranks, cycle routes, and the site was too small to accommodate the expected growth in housing proposed in the emerging VALP. It was agreed that WPC should support Winslow Town Council's concerns, and write to AVDC, especially when considering the possible plans for a new village in the area, which is not included in the future need assessment.
 - ii. Shenley Rd/Morris Homes. Cllr Stewart stated that the highway improvement work to Shenley Road had only just started, after five months of closure. The closure is

expected to continue until September, even though the improvement works would only take 6 weeks to complete. Sub-contractors Kelly, had stated that the road works were badly planned and plans were continually changing. Cllr Stewart expressed concern that if Morris Homes are expected to undertake similar improvement works to their Shenley Road frontage, when they start on site in 6-12 months' time, Whaddon could possibly expect further delays/closure which might even delay the planned reopening of the road. HCA had been helpful, but it was agreed that through John Chilver (our BCC elected member), a message would be sent to BCC to request that discussions are commenced with MKC to do everything possible to keep the road open, and use traffic lights if required, when the works by Morris Homes commence. WPC would offer to attend such meetings when and if arranged.

- iii. Emergency Service Access via Shenley Rd. Bucks Fire Service had responded to the WPC enquiry confirming that they were fully aware of the lengthy diversion, and Whaddon's cover would continue as normal. They could not however find any correspondence regarding the immovable concrete barriers and suggested that WPC should approach MKC for confirmation of such request for their positioning. It was agreed to request copies of the approvals from Nick Brown, although this would probably prove a pointless exercise.
- iv. Shenley Rd Closure Signs. Cllr Stewart stated that local businesses had complained to John Chilver (during his re-election campaign) that they were losing trade as the road closure signs were misleading, and they were unsightly and confusing. The red 'Road Closed' sign positioned at Whaddon Roundabout is a lie, as the road is not closed – it should read 'Shenley Road Closed 1 mile ahead. Signs appeared to have been vandalised, pushed over and the offending sign had been removed. It was agreed that Cllr Chilver should contact Tony Blackmore at Transport for Bucks, who had taken ownership of the Shenley Road diversion and signage issues, and Cllr. Stewart would write to JC in this regard.
- v. Plan MK Draft Response. Cllr Stewart presented his draft response for consideration, having already circulated it for comment, and recommended that it should be supported, especially as the plan recommended long term growth to the East of the M1 motorway – something that WPC had campaigned for, for many years. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) advised that AVDC does not have a formal position on the plan as yet. Cllr Stewart stated that MKC were strongly supporting the proposed rail route -Option B for the Oxford – MK – Cambridge Expressway , but it appeared that both AVDC and BCC preferred Route A, which went much closer to Aylesbury, although their formalised positions had not been announced. WPC had until 9th June to submit its response and Cllrs comments should be forwarded to Cllr Stewart before Monday 22 May, after which it would be submitted to MKC.
- vi. VALP Update. Cllr Stewart advised that the draft plan is likely to be published on 27th June, ready for the Scrutiny committee consideration on 11 July, which he would attend in order to establish what impact, if any the emerging plan has on Whaddon, especially in connection with the previously proposed WHA001 2000 new house site. Proposed allocations may depend on whether or not Eaton Leys (half in MK and half in AVDC) and SWMK Salden Chase sites are approved by AVDC in the coming weeks/months. Whatever the outcome MKC would be looking to AVDC for substantial section 106 payments to provide for essential services that are directly related to the various developments. Cllr. Stewart would keep both WPC and residents informed as matters unfolded.
- vii. Salden Chase SWMK. Cllr Stewart stated that this was shaping up as a likely to be approved site (defer and delegate to officers to approve) but much work was still to be done on the legal and 106 agreements, before detailed approval could be granted. It seemed likely that with MKC preferring to expand east of motorway, the hope is that Whaddon may not be impacted during this round by the allocation of WHA001 – but we need to wait and see. In the report published 11th May (the date of this meeting) BCC had responded to the highway issues in WPC's May 2015 objection. WPC's submission regarding traffic and highways had specifically included serious concerns about traffic generation the existing rat-run problems and the impact on rural areas. However, the report by the consultants for the developers, had stated that spare road capacity was available through Whaddon. A phone call to request information about the 'theoretical capacity' of local roads established this was considered to be 1500 vehicles per peak hour and roads could accept a great deal

more traffic. However, if the site goes ahead Whaddon could expect to receive £22k for the implementation of a 'variable speed limit' system outside the school and 'kerb/verge improvements' between the Ladymead traffic calming area and the junction with Coddimoor Lane, both of which were put forward as essential requirements on the 'Local Infrastructure Priority List' prepared by WPC for BCC. Speed limits, footpaths and HGV limits were not possible improvements from this development because they did not directly relate and are covered under separate BCC schemes.

8. OTHER PARISH MATTERS

- a. Cllr Stewart reported that he had chased the Briary View garage repairs. Insurance settlement is still awaited. He suggested to VAHT that they submit their planning application in readiness for the work to start as soon as an insurance settlement was received, but doubted that this would happen.
- b. Cllr Stewart requested the Clerk chase the verge repairs for Vicarage Rd.
- c. Allotments. Cllr White reported that three allotment tenants had done nothing to cultivate their plots. It was agreed that the Clerk should send an email to the three tenants reminding them of their obligations and that the allotment holder will be charged for clearance. It was agreed that the rent was too low to encourage allotment holders to think twice before taking on the plot, and an increase should be considered on renewal in September.
- d. MVAS Update. Cllr Hain confirmed he had received the traffic data spread-sheets for analysis, and the data for last month by email. Analysis was awaited.
- e. Cllr Hedges confirmed that the Post Office was up and running. No issues had arisen.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council in 2017; 13th July, 14th September, 9th November.