

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 11th January 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, Graham Stewart, Derek White. Cllr John Chilver – BCC.

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

Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

1. PUBLIC SESSION

Mr John Mortimer drew the Council's attention to the deplorable state of the road surface in Coddimoor Lane which he stated had become dangerous due to cars swerving to avoid the worst holes. After 18-months of closure of Shenley Rd, putting extra traffic on the road, the entire length should be inspected and repaired.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr Peter Lemagnen.

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 Bank had been in touch to request a meeting to present a potential solution to the problem of not being able to transfer money between accounts on line. This would take place shortly.
- ii. The Clerk advised that an A3 Printer/Scanner suitable for the Council's needs for handling drawings and planning documents would cost around £200 incl. VAT. Funding could be applied for under Transparency Grants. It was agreed that a suitable machine should be identified and the grant application made.
- iii. Mr Mortimer stated that he intended to look around for competitive quotes for printing of WQ.

b. Property

- i. Constable's Plot. The Clerk advised that advice had been received regarding a change in rulings about permitted development rights. Cllr Stewart did not believe that the new rules did not apply to 'ramshackle' group of buildings that clearly stood in open countryside, and the long term redevelopment future of this site, if any exists, will depend on the future growth direction of Milton Keynes.
- ii. Constable's Plot. The Clerk advised that comments about the proposed new lease had been forwarded to the solicitor by the tenant, Mr D Taylor, and a response from the solicitor was awaited. Mr Taylor's letter was reviewed by Cllrs and the Clerk was instructed to advise the solicitor to go ahead with the amendments requested by Mr Taylor.
- iii. Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that a quotation for £1k had been received from Kompan's contracting division to undertake the works identified by the RoSPA report to ensure compliance to safety requirements of the new play equipment. Cllrs agreed that it seemed likely the installation had not been done correctly in the first place. It was agreed that Cllr Hickman should contact the supplier and arrange a meeting to investigate further.

c. Finance

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

Income

The following payments have been received:

2/1/18	D Taylor Rent Constable's Plot	£145.00
Various	Misc Interest	£2.30

Expenditure

The following invoices have been received for approval:

116	Fredrick Hayward – Litter Picking November 2017	£14.40
117	Donation Winslow Bus	£100.00
118	Reg Porter – mowing and hedging 2017	£3,592.80
119	Eon Street Light Maintenance	£125.10
120	Eon Street Light Electric	£230.84
		£4,063.14

Bank Balances as at 11/1/18

Metro Bank Account – current	£6,525.61
Metro Bank Account – deposit	£6,888.45
Metro Bank Account - charity	£2,249.73
	£15,663.79

6. PLANNING

- a. Cllr Stewart reviewed a planning application 17/04616/APP for 16 High St., which requests permission to raise the roof ridge line, and provide an extension. It was agreed that the Council would respond with No Objection, but express concern about preservation of trees including an oak tree in the conservation area.
- b. 17/04717/HPDE for 36 Vicarage Rd was reviewed, which requests permission for a rear extension. It was agreed that the Council should respond with No Objection but note that there may be an issue with loss of light through the existing kitchen window.
- c. 17/04782/APP The Old Kennels, Kennel Lane. Extension. It was agreed that there would be No Objection.
- d. 17/04834/ALB Turrets, 26 High St. Cllr Stewart outlined the previous history of this site and advised this was a grade II listed building, and permission was sought for a rear porch which had previously been withdrawn following objections from the AVDC historic buildings officer. It was agreed that there would be No Objection, but subject to redesign and materials to complement the existing listed structure.
- e. Cllr Stewart expressed concern about the housing development of Morris Homes along Shenley Rd and potential access for building works requiring another closure of the road. A communication to MK Council was agreed by Cllrs.
- f. Plan MK. Cllr Stewart reported that WPC response had been submitted to MKC by the deadline of 20th December 2017. All comments had been accepted and processed.
- g. VALP. Cllr Stewart reported that WPC response had been submitted by the deadline of 14th December 2017. Plan adoption date is expected by early 2019.
- h. 12/02179/APP – Planning Enforcement Stratford Rd OS4464. WPC has been advised that planning permission is required for the works that have taken place on the site, and once the application is received any comments and objections can be submitted by WPC. Enforcement action may be taken if the application is not received or is ultimately refused.

7. HIGHWAYS

- a. Cllrs reviewed an offer from Salix Finance for 100% interest free loans for energy installation projects. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) advised that street lighting upgrades had been successfully implemented by other councils, which reduced energy use and saved money. It was agreed that Cllr Stanier would look into this further with a view to surveying existing street lighting and obtaining recommendations for possible replacement and upgrade.
- b. Cllrs agreed that as BCC were no longer undertaking highways weed spraying Mr David Taylor should be approached to ascertain if he might be interested in the work. A spraying licence would be needed for this work.

8. ALLOTMENTS

- a. The Clerk advised that Josh Jaworski had quoted £160 per allotment to dig over and reinstate to suitable condition abandoned allotments for re-letting. As one allotment had been re-let on a free to clear basis, costs for the remaining two would be £320. Mr Jaworski also recommended that the freshly dug soil should be covered with plastic sheeting to prevent regrowth of weeds at a cost of £50. Cllr agreed the costs, and that the three former allotment tenants should be billed a third of the total costs of clearance.

9. OTHER PARISH MATTERS NOT ALREADY DEALT WITH

- a. Cllr Stewart referred to the public session at the previous meeting, where two parishioners had attended to express deep concern about speeding on High Street and Stratford Rd. He had investigated the option of positioning the MVAS sign on that section, but unfortunately found that costs of approvals were disproportionate and the existing MVAS could not be used on this 40mph section. He recommended Sentinel Speedwatch as an option and if anyone was interested they could be trained on the equipment and undertake speed monitoring.
- b. Cllrs reviewed a complaint about rubbish including asbestos having been dumped in ditches along Nash Rd. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) undertook to liaise with his department at AVDC to arrange clearance.
- c. Cllrs considered the proposal for Lord Lieutenants Lunches to celebrate twelve Commonwealth countries on 22nd April 2018.
- d. Cllr Stewart reported that a complaint had been received about contractors' vehicles blocking Vicarage Rd at the location of the new house being built. Cllr Stewart had advised the complainer to contact AVDC planning department to request enforcement of planning condition 10 that requires provision of ingress and parking area prior to commencement of works.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

1. The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will be 8/3/18, 10/5/18 (AGM), 12/7/18, 13/9/18, 8/11/18.