

# WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Wootton (Abingdon) Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre**

**Present:** Councillors Ludlow (Chair), Fysh, Langley, Mann, Parker, Rayner, Werrell, Westell and White and County Cllr Johnston.

## **1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **a) To receive any representations from any member of the public present.**

None

## **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Carter and Berrill

## **3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS**

None

## **4. DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS**

County Cllr Johnston said that he had been heavily engaged with two issues that did not impact significantly on Wootton, the reworking of the County's Mineral Plan which would protect the County from unwanted speculative exploitation and on which there was general political consensus and railway electrification. The road works on the Bypass near Redbridge were now complete and a yellow striped junction box had been installed as suggested. The County Council budget was work in process. Two areas of additional funding had been identified; councils had been permitted to increase their precept by 1.99% which yielded an additional £3.2 million and there had been a surplus on Council tax collection of £6.6 million. Extra funding was required for adult social care and sheltered housing for vulnerable young people. Reserves were now at £16.2 million. The final figures would be available when the Council sets its budget in February. There was still money (around £3,000) available in the Big Society Fund for capital but not revenue spending.

## **5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2014**

The minutes of the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> December were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## **6. MATTERS ARISING**

### **a) Community Centre - Para 8(a)**

Cllr Fysh apologised that the New Year's Eve event had had to be cancelled due to the serious illness of the lead singer. Usage of the Community centre had increased by 30% on last year. Abingdon College were interested in using the Community Centre. New rules on safeguarding children and DAB checks would be discussed at the next Board meeting. Cllr Ludlow had obtained a quote of £6,000 for tree maintenance, significantly lower than the original quote.

### **b) Hedges and footpaths - Para 8(b)**

The Orchard Lane footpath which had been reported in the summer has been reported again as it is still virtually impassable.

### **c) Highways – Para 8(c)**

The Area Stewart was looking at flooding at the Deerhurst Park roundabout and in Wootton Village. OCC had inspected the problem in Wootton Village on 6<sup>th</sup> January and had also promised to re-cut the grips.

### **d) Transport/No 4 Bus Review – Para 8(d)**

The Meeting of Transport Representatives would take place on 16<sup>th</sup> January. County Cllr Johnston had confirmed that some subsidies but not all would remain under the current budget.

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e) Cricket Club and Recreation Ground - Para 8(e)

The insurance company had agreed to meet Dr Mirco Meniconi's accident claim from the Parish Council's Public Liability insurance. There would be no excess payable by the Parish Council although future premiums could be affected.

Mr Simon Kidd had quoted £450 for a notice board with doors, including staining and installation which although a bit small would suffice and would be much cheaper than purchasing a new board. However, it would need rubber or cork to stick the pins in so the price would be slightly increased. The cost will be covered from the insurance. It was resolved to purchase the board from Mr Kidd provided the additional cost of the pinboard was reasonable.

f) Deerhurst Park Playground – Para 8(f)

The Clerk said that he had spoken to Mr Peter Beer of the VWHDC Properties Department and asked him to push this forward

g) Community website and newsletter – Para 8(g)

Quotes for the new printing contract to include collating were still being obtained.

h) Broadband – Para 8(h)

Gigaclear continued to extend its network in Wootton.

i) Vale of White Horse Local Plan and Green Belt Review (Para 6)

The Comments from the Parish Council had been sent and would now be evaluated by the Inspector.

j) Smart water – Para 10

Cllr Langley said that this had been raised in the NAG and anyone can purchase it from the Police Station. If it is sufficiently used in the village, notices can be displayed saying that smart water is in use. It was resolved to contact Thames Valley Police to get a piece for inclusion in the Community Newsletter.

## 7. DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

### a) Applications received from the District Council for consultation and consideration by the Planning Committee

None

### b) Decisions of the Local Planning Authority

P14/V2350/HH 23.10.2014	Proposed alteration and extension of existing outbuildings Windy Ridge, Old Boars Hill OX15JJ Mr & Mrs S Kam	No objection in principle but strong concern was expressed that this could be the first step to introducing a dwelling	Permit 10.12.2014
P14/V2382/HH 27.10.2014	Single storey rear extension and part garage conversion 2 Parsons Close, Wootton OX13 6FE Mrs Kay Lyon	No objection	Permit 17.12.2014
P14/V2434/HH 3.11.2014	Removal of existing garage and erection of replacement garage 210 Cumnor Road, Boars Hill OX1 5JS Mr Graham Bowsher	No objection	Permit 18.12.2014

It was resolved to note the Planning Authority's decisions

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## 8. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Rayner confirmed that the litter was from the junction of Mathews Way and Hawkins Way to Huxley Close.

Cllr Langley said that the Emergency Plan was being revised in time for the next meeting.

## 9. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

### a) 2015/16 Precept and Budget (recommendations of the FGPC)

The 2015/16 Precept and Budget had been considered by Cllrs Ludlow and Fysh at the Financial and General Purposes Committee and their recommendations had been circulated. Cllr Ludlow proposed that the 2015/16 budget be accepted and that the Precept bid should be set at £39,000. The £1,332 grant should also be accepted. This took into account the potential extra cost of elections in 2015/6 and the need to build up reserves for use as matched funding for the new playground adjacent to the Cricket ground. This was seconded by Cllr Mann and approved unanimously.

### b) 2015/16 Risk Assessment and Inventory (Recommendations of the FGPC)

Cllrs Ludlow and Fysh, at the Financial and General Purposes Committee, had considered the proposed 2015/16 Risk Assessment and Inventory and their recommendations had been circulated. Cllr Westell proposed that the 2015/16 Risk Assessment and Inventory be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Fysh and approved unanimously.

### c) January 2015 Accounts for approval

Clerk Salary January	£465.54
Clerk Expenses January	£112.16
Post Office Ltd – HMRC – PAYE and NI September – December	£894.24
Lowe and Oliver – defibrillator electrics	£267.00
ST Grounds Maintenance – litter December and cricket field hedge and ditch	£725.00

It was resolved that the January 2015 invoices be approved for payment.

### d) Applications for grants

None

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

- i. Launch of Rural services Network for 2015
- ii. OALC Update – December 2014
- iii. ORCC Update December
- iv. LCR Winter 2014
- v. Parish Transport Representatives Meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> January
- vi. RSN Parish Rural Sounding Board Survey
- vii. Peter Bowell – e-mail on No 4 Bus
- viii. ADTTS Newsletter
- ix. Community Emergency Plans – reminder

It was resolved to note the communications received

## 11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

The Emergency Plan

## 12. FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 at 7.30pm at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre

Chairman.....Date .....