

# The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at the Community Centre Dalton Barracks at 7.30 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs. G. Fitzgerald (in the Chair), M. Bailey, M. Gilbert, K. Houlden, C. Parkin, B. Rogers, M. Russell and V. Talbot.

**In attendance:** George Edmonds-Brown (Clerk). Mr John Higgs.

### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Carole Priestley, County Councillor Richard Webber and District Cllr Catherine Webber.

### 2. Declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None

### 3. Matters raised by a) members of the public

None

#### b) attending Councillors and MOD

Mr Higgs said that the Station Commander had moved on following promotion. The St Helen Without grant of £1,000 towards the Dalton Barracks play area was much appreciated. The project will go ahead once the price is confirmed and the Parish Council will be notified on whom to make the cheque out to. The meeting with Shippon residents was scheduled for 10 October at 7.30pm. The Commanding Officer will be designating an officer to cover the event and there will be presentations of the flood relief carried out by 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment on flood relief and training in Canada. There will be a Vale of White Horse Chairman's Charity Dinner on the 7<sup>th</sup> November at the Officers' Mess. The CAR-nival event in June had raised £14,000. Gliders had not been able to participate on the airfield due to safety checks – there had been problems with the paperwork and shortages of staff and volunteers. A boot sale was planned for 27<sup>th</sup> September (subsequently cancelled) to raise funds for the regimental rugby tour. A volunteer to serve on the Parish Council would be named shortly. Mr Higgs said he would be moving on in January and a new Liaison Officer would be appointed. Mr Higgs commented on items 5a) and 5d) on the agenda are recorded below.

JH

### 4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014

It was noted that although the ownership of the land adjacent to Elm Tree Walk was not specifically clarified in the minutes relating to Item 5e), the minutes of the meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> June should be accepted. The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman

### 5. Matters arising from the Minutes

#### a) The Jubilee bench

The Territorials had apologised for the delay in installing the Jubilee Bench. The concrete base would be laid on 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> September and the bench installed a week later. The Media Officer will inform the Parish Council on suggested dates for a photo opportunity.

JH

#### b) Community website and newsletter

The Community Centre had decided not to do their own copying and expect to introduce collating by the printer soon.

#### c) Shippon Plan developments

Nothing to report

#### d) Tree planting Cholswell Road

Mr Higgs explained that the planting of trees was not possible due to key electrical, gas and water services running through the area concerned. This was accepted by the Council.

#### e) Vandalism – Wootton PC Open evening – 16<sup>th</sup> September

The Wotton Parish Council Open Evening to address vandalism and other issues would take place from 7pm to 9pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September. The event would involve a panel comprising the Chairmen of Wootton and St Helen Without Parish Councils and representatives of Thames Valley Police. This would be followed by refreshments and staffed community tables allowing residents to have one to one conversations with councillors and Thames Valley Police Officers. Cllrs Fitzgerald, Bailey, Houlden and Rogers agreed to attend.

GE-B/KH/GF/MB/BR

## The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

### f) St Helen's Church

St Helen's Church was grateful for the offer of £500 towards the cost of cleaning the War Memorial. Cllr Fitzgerald agreed to find out how the grant should be paid.

GF

### g) Remembrance Day Wreath

It was resolved that wreaths should be purchased for Shippon (Cllr Russell) and Dry Sandford (Cllr Fitzgerald).

GE-B

### 6. Transport Review – No 4 Bus

The evening, Sunday and Bank Holiday service of the No 4 bus was under threat as the Oxfordshire County Council subsidy is under review. Wootton Parish Cllr Eileen Langley is leading for Wootton and a petition has been launched. Cllr Fitzgerald agreed to represent St Helen Without Parish Council and to liaise with Cllr Langley. Mr Higgs agreed to represent Dalton Barracks in opposing the removal of the subsidy.

GE-B/GF/JH

### 7. Matters raised by members of the Council

Cllr Houlden said a visit had been arranged to view the adult equipment at Littlemore on the 18<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm.

KH

Cllr Talbot proposed that daffodils be planted on the roundabout and in other areas of Shippon. Mr Higgs said that some help planting might be available from Dalton Barracks. It was considered that the schools might be interested in helping. It was resolved that daffodils could be purchased up to a cost of £250.

VT

The Vale of White Horse District Council had advised that the site proposed for allocation at North-West Abingdon-on-Thames in Abingdon has been included in the submission version of the local plan. The proposed allocation at North-West Abingdon-on-Thames has remained unchanged at 200 homes.

### 8. Finance

a) The 2013/14 External Audit had passed without comment. It was resolved to note the outcome of the audit.

#### b) Accounts for payment

Payee	Purpose	Total	VAT
George Edmonds-Brown	Salary September 2014	£249.76	
George Edmonds-Brown	Expenses September 2014	£44.55	
Post Office Ltd	Inland revenue PAYE	£998.40	
ST Grounds Maintenance	Emptying litter bin - August	£20.00	
Wootton Parish Council	Contribution World War 1 event	£123.86	
Playsafety Ltd	ROSPA Inspection	£78.00	£13.00
BGG Garden and Tree Care	Grass cutting – 15.8.2014	£117.00	£19.50
BDO LLP	External Audit fee	£120.00	£20.00
Geoff Fitzgerald	Framing of 612 VGS Squad award	£40.10	
Martin Gilbert	Repairs to noticeboard	£26.51	
Ken Houlden	Goal post & bin repairs re-issued	£16.88	

It was resolved that the above payments should be made.

#### c) Applications for grants

None

### 9. Planning

#### a) Decision Notices

None

#### b) Applications dealt with between meetings

Ref:	P14/V1798/HH
Date	14.8.2014
Description:	Reinstatement and addition of dormers to the roof of the central block of the farmhouse
Address	Church Farm House, Church Lane, Dry Sandford OX13 6JP
St Helen Without	No objection

## The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

PC's comments	
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It was resolved to confirm the Planning Committee's action

### 10. Sandleigh Road Recreation Ground

#### a) Inspection report; September Cllr Gilbert

Cllr Gilbert carried out the September inspection. He noted the damaged seats on the sputnik and small splits on the swings. Several trees in the community orchard had died. The grass had been cut well and there was no litter. Cllr Priestley was due to carry out the inspection in October.

CP

#### b) New Inspection Roster

It was resolved to approve the revised roster.

#### c) Refurbishment of play area

Cllr Houlden said that 8 pieces of adult equipment would cost £10,000. It was resolved that consideration should be given to splitting the equipment between Dry Sandford and Shippon.

KH

### 11. Correspondence

Cllr Fitzgerald went through the correspondence and it was resolved to note it and his comments.

#### Oxfordshire County Council

Winter Preparedness 1.9.2014

Annual Parish Survey: Community Emergency Planning

Review of Subsidised Bus Services

#### South and Vale

Vale News - August

#### Other

Fields in Trust update

Rural Vulnerability Service – Rural Transport

OALC Update August

OALC Revised Legal Topic Notes – Openness

*In practice the changes are more relevant to large councils rather than parish councils. Decisions are always taken by the full Parish Council and are not delegated to individual officers or sub-committees which only make recommendations. The minutes which are retained for a long period record all decisions. The question of members of the public filming, tweeting or blogging again is more relevant to large local authorities. The knowledge that these revisions exist could be relevant if the Council is considering a specific issue in the future. Minor changes will need to be incorporated in the Standing Orders when next revised.*

Clerks & Council Direct – September 2014

Road Signage MOD

Allocation of Abingdon Airfield – September

### 12. Cllrs reports and items for future agendas

It was agreed that the No 4 Bus Review would be on the next Agenda.

GE-B

### 13. Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held 7.30pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at the Dry Sandford Primary School.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm

Signed.....Date.....