

# WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Wootton (Abingdon) Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre

**Present:** Councillors Bristow (Chair), Carter, Fysh, Mann, Langley, Parker, Rayner, Werrell, Westell and White and PCSO Richard Osborne.

### 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Nine residents, mainly from Besselsleigh Road, attended the meeting to express their concerns about the impact of the Wootton Business Park on the traffic on Besselsleigh Road. Councillors informed the group of the discussions taking place with Oxfordshire County Council about the possibility of siting a roundabout at the entrance to Wootton Business Park; however, it was likely to be costly and the Section 106 money would be insufficient to fund it. In response to concerns about the safety of children from the development crossing Besselsleigh Road to attend Dry Sandford Primary School there was still a possibility that a crossing might be provided. Cllr Bristow would be attending the VWHDC Planning Committee meeting and would pass on residents' concerns to the Committee.

#### b) Comments by the Thames Valley Police representative

Richard Osborne attended the meeting and introduced himself to councillors; he had taken over from Andrew McCormack as the PCSO for the village and had seven years' experience. Parking was the main problem in Wootton and he was prepared to be proactive. It was an offence to obstruct the footpath and perpetrators could be given a ticket; but there are no civil enforcement officers in South and Vale. PCSO Osborne handed over a leaflet which could be put on windscreens. Cllr Langley raised questions about the parking problems in Deerhurst Park which could obstruct emergency vehicles and agreed to let PCSO Osborne have specific examples. Anti-social behaviour remains a problem but has to be witnessed. Bonfires had caused problems and the Vale Environmental Officer can take action if the frequency and level of burning is unreasonable. Inspector Mags Turner has taken over from Inspector Money.

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Cllrs Ludlow and Shaw and County Cllr Johnston

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

None

### 4. DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

County Councillor Bob Johnston had sent the following report -

1. As expected the transport plan (LTP4) was agreed by the Cabinet last week. This includes the Park and Ride at Lodge Hill. Design work is proceeding on the same. However it will require planning permission and after the Inspector's firm steer on the Green Belt putting not less than 19 sites back in (and agreed by the Vale), planning permission could be problematical. The Officers have told me that the lorry park has

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been put on a lower priority for the moment (I suspect that they do not have the Officer resource to progress it), but it has not gone away completely.

2. The other big question is grass cutting, the Officers have agreed that they started far too late. They will be starting much earlier next year. While most verges will only be cut once, vision splays will be cut as often as required to maintain a safe level of visibility.

## 5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2016

The minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> June were approved and signed by the Acting Chairman.

## 6. MATTERS ARISING

### a) Community Centre - Para 6(a)

Cllr Fysh said that usage of the Community Centre had increased by 18.5% on the previous year; this comprised a 3% increase in bookings and a 10% increase in the number of hours. The Centre was now occupied 43% of the time. The places in the car park would be marked soon. A new boiler had been installed. Discussions were going on with Oxfordshire County Council on the future of the Children's Centre and with Thames Valley Police on the Police Office. Cllr Fysh said that he hoped that councillors would make an effort to attend WADSstock.

### b) Hedges and footpaths - Para 6(b)

The condition of the footpath on Cumnor Road had been raised at the meeting with the Area Steward. Cllr Mann said that the bridleway on Sandy Lane to White Barn which was a right of way had been fitted with a gate which made access difficult; this was not acceptable.

### c) Highways Para 6(c)

The condition of the roads on Mathews Way and Hawkins Way had been chased at the meeting with the Area Steward

### d) Transport/No 4 Bus Review – Para 6(d)

Following the last meeting with Oxford Bus Company it has been agreed that there will be another public meeting for residents to meet the OBC management on Tuesday 11 October. An article had been placed in the newsletter but the OBC poster had not been printed; it is however on the website. It was resolved that some posters could be printed for display locally. St Helen Without PC was working with Dalton Barracks to increase usage.

### e) Cricket Club and Recreation Ground - Para 6(e)

A meeting of the Playing Fields Committee was being arranged.

### f) Playgrounds – Para 6(f)

Cllr Bristow said that the playground planning group had identified small changes in the equipment to reduce the quote from £100,000 to £80,000. The WREN application would be submitted for the next funding round.

### g) Community website and newsletter - Para 6(g)

Nothing to report

### h) OCC: Transmissions of Responsibilities to Parish Councils – Para 6(h)

The Clerk had met the Area Steward on 22 June; councillors from St Helen Without PC were also present. There was a positive discussion about the possibility of OCC arranging the second cut and charging the Parish Council Cllr Bristow and the Clerk also

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attended the workshop on 22 June; parishes had mixed view on whether they wanted to take on services. Some saw it as an opportunity to have greater control, others took the same view as Wootton. The Clerk also attended the OALC AGM on 4 July. The Chairman of the National Association spoke about opportunities for Parish Council in taking control of local affairs; views expressed mirrored those at the workshop. When asked about the likely capping of Parish Council Precepts he said that this was not considered likely. Cllr Parker said that Mr Anthony Benson had indicated that he might be interested in getting involved in grass cutting’

i) Section 106 Funding – Para 6(j)

Responses on the Wootton Business Park roundabout and the playground project development were awaited.

j) Wootton Business Park – Para 6(k)

See also Paragraph 1a) above. Cllr Bristow would attend the Planning Committee meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July. The recommendation by the planning officer to give planning permission was likely to be approved. Councillors agreed that the priority would now be to provide a roundabout. Councillors and the Clerk met with OCC on 8 June. OCC will prepare a costing and appraisal for a roundabout with an alternative for the developer to build it against refund of cost which would be cheaper. Another option would be to amend the entrance to allow the bus to turn round, with the Section 106 money being used to provide a crossing.

k) Sunningwell Neighbourhood Plan – Para 6(l)

Cllr Parker and the Clerk attended a public meeting in Sunningwell on 16 June – Community First Oxford spoke about what the Plan can offer; they are helping Sunningwell with the Plan for a fee. Having an impact on planning is the most important element.

l) Wootton Neighbourhood Plan – Para 7

3 volunteers and 2 or 3 possible further volunteers responded to the article in the newsletter. It was resolved to defer the decision on whether to develop a Plan until more is known about the content of the Local Plan Part 2 relating to the possible addition of housing allocations to Wootton Green Belt sites.

### **7. VWHDC LOCAL PLAN; Part 2**

The Inspector has commented on the Local Plan Part 1 and decreed that sites should not be removed from the Green Belt if they had not been given a housing allocation. As the three sites in Wootton had not been given a housing allocation they have been removed from the Green Belt Review in the Local Plan Part 1.

However, they could be given a housing allocation in the Local Plan Part 2 and as such would be eligible for consideration for removal from the Green Belt. The VWHDC are awaiting information from the Oxfordshire Growth Board giving a net housing allocation to the VWHDC; once this is received consideration will be given on how to meet it. Allocations could then be given to the 3 Wootton sites. There will of course be a period of consultation but this is unlikely to take place before September.

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### 8. DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

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

P16/V1045/HH 27.5.2016	To request changes to previously approved application P14/V2797/HH. Architect's drawings show original agreed windows and subsequent changes that have been made. 175 Whitecross OX13 6BP Mr Neil Holman	Object – the retrospective change to the original plans impacts on the neighbours and results in overlooking.
P16/V1221/FUL 25.5.2016	Proposed new chalet style 2 bedroom dwelling in the existing garden 68 Besselsleigh Road, Wootton OX13 6DX Mr & Mrs Viner	No objection
P16/1317/HH 10.6.2016	Erection of single storey extension to rear. Internal work to convert garage to entrance hallway 99 Whitecross, Wootton OX13 6BS Mr Steve Diamond	No objection; reservations to garage being turned into an entrance hall.
P16/V0290/RM Amendment No 2 14.6.2016	Reserved matters application for demolition of existing building and erection of up to 64 dwellings and associated car parking and landscaping (As amended by plans and information accompanying agenda – e-mail 3 May 2016 and 7 <sup>th</sup> June) Land at Besselsleigh Road, Wootton OX136DX Oakhill Group	
<p>The Parish Council welcomes the improvements made to the internal layout to address parking and the access for emergency vehicles, but is unsure if they go far enough and considers these areas will continue to pose problems. Parking places are likely to be used by the two commercial offices on the site for which no additional parking has been provided. The Deerhurst Park development has demonstrated that real, and life endangering, problems can occur for emergency vehicles due to commercial vehicles being parked overnight.</p> <p>The ground water contamination problems need to be fully addressed before any works take place</p> <p>There is still a need for a roundabout at the entrance; failing this the access needs to be adapted to allow the No 4 buses to turn around. This both provides a service to the new development and avoids the present unsafe requirement for buses to turn round by reversing into Sandleigh Road.</p> <p>The plots in the vicinity of the existing Thames Water Foul pumping station are within the 15m exclusion area required by Sewers for Adoption 6th Edition. This affects plots 24-26. The same plots are accessed by the existing emergency access which is substandard in width and will require widening to a minimum of 3.7m or 4.1m if it is to be adopted.</p> <p>The Design and access statement highlights the need for passive surveillance in particular</p>		

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over the existing children's play area, an area where anti-social behaviour is already an issue. This is an opportunity to put this into practice possibly by turning plots 18/19 through 90 degrees to face this area and create a village green effect and to integrate the layout into the existing area. A window in the flank wall does not achieve the essence or genuineness of the Design and Access Statement.

It was resolved to confirm the Planning Committee's action

### b) Decisions of the Local Planning Authority

P16/V0899/FUL	Demolition of existing dwelling. Erection of a replacement dwelling (amendment to P15/V2906/FUL) Foxcombe Field, Fox Lane OX1 5DR Dr S Logan	No objection provided it meets all planning criteria	Permit  6.6.2016
P16/V0969/HH  29.04.2016	Convert residential store building into granny annexe/studio flat Old Bakery House, 45 Wootton Village, OX15HP (Re-submission of withdrawn P16/V0336/HH – previously no objection) Mr & Mrs White	No objection	Permit  23.6.2016

It was resolved to note the Planning Authority's decisions.

### 9. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Westell asked if there had been any developments on the taxi service being run from Old Pound. A response from Planning Enforcement was awaited.

### 10. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

#### a) Payments made between meetings

SSE - Pavilion electricity 27.2.16 – 6.6.2016 £264.82

#### b) July 2016 Accounts for approval

Clerk Salary July £561.35

Clerk Expenses July £124.88

Post Office Ltd – Inland Revenue PAYE & NI April – June £1,228.33

#### c) Applications for grants

None

### 11. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

ROSPA Inspection

Transition of Highway Services; correspondence with Cllr Rodney Rose

VWHDC Committee Report on Wootton Business Park

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Changes to the VWHDC constitution; planning scheme of delegation  
Note from the developers, Wootton Business Park  
VWHDC Local Plan Part 1; Inspector's question on Green Belt.  
Planning Committee Notification; Wootton Business Park  
Clerks and Councils Direct – July 2016  
Driverless vehicles; Consultation on Culham Science Park  
OALC Newsletter 1 July  
It was resolved to note the communications received

## **12. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

The possibility of a Wootton Neighbourhood Plan

## **13. FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 7.30pm at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre.

Chairman.....

Date .....