

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held in the Function Room, Village Hall, Woodcote
Wednesday 16th December 2015 commencing 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Chairman	Mr. R. Peirce
Vice Chairman	Mr. G. Botting
	Mr. M. Smith
	Mr. A. Crockett.
	Mr. D. Booth
	Dr. P. Sudbury
	Mr. B. Williams
	Mrs. S. McGurk
	Mr. R. Lewin
Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham

1. To receive apologies for absence.

None. Cllr. Diana Hadaway maybe arriving late.

2. To Receive declarations of interest.

None.

3. Public Forum: Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council, the public may also speak about specific items of business as they arise, with the permission of the Chairman.

None present.

4. To approve Minutes Parish Council Meeting held on 4th November.

Approved as a true record.

5. Matters arising from those Minutes not on the agenda elsewhere.

None.

6. Budget Review for FY 2016/17 – Review and agree precept.

The Clerk had circulated the budget forecast showing forecast amounts against receipts and payments.

The receipts reflected a 5% increase in the precept as discussed at the last PC meeting.

Some payment categories had increased, Village Hall Capital Maintenance was increased by £2K to £7K, salaries had been increased by £200. There was a surplus of just over £2K.

It was agreed to allocate £1K to the Grass Cutting as it is anticipated that the OCC grant received for this will be cut next year and also increase Legal Fees by £1K.

Any surplus from this year's payment categories will be put into PC reserve funds, it is anticipated that with OCC service cuts next year the PC will need to pick up certain areas. These are likely to be more of the village maintenance, traffic and highways, from their funds.

The Budget for FY 2016-17 was then agreed with the precept amount being increased to £59102.00. The Chairman signed the precept request form to be sent by the Clerk to SODC.

7. Planning Applications

P15/S3963/FUL Replacement dwelling Address: Lynwood Goring Road Woodcote RG8 0QD.

PC recommend Approval.

P15/S3735/LB Proposal: Repair and replace rotten windows/patio doors to include:

1 x Dining Room window

1 x 1st Floor Bedroom

1 x 1st Floor Bedroom

1 x 1st Floor Bedroom

Family Room - Patio Doors and Side lights

Drawing Room - Pairs of Doors and Drip

Address: Dean Farmhouse Red Lane Woodcote RG8 0PB.

PC recommend Approval.

P15/S3877/HH Proposal: Replacement of flat roof on single garage with pitched roof and replacement of existing carport with similar, erection of open porch over front door and enlargement of drive and additional landscaping.

Address: Longmead South Stoke Road Woodcote RG8 0PL.

PC Recommend Approval.

7.1 Applications Granted by SODC:

P15/S3629/HH Application proposal, including any amendments :

Single storey front, side and rear extensions and dropped kerb.

Site Location : 68 Whitehouse Road Woodcote RG8 0SA

P15/S3157/HH Application proposal, including any amendments :

Erection of summer house (retrospective).(as amended by drawings received 29 October 2015)

Site Location : 13 Hagbourne Close Woodcote RG8 0RZ

7.2 Applications Refused by SODC:

None.

7.3 Other Planning Matters

P15/S3434/FUL Letter from Planning Officer regarding infrastructure impact and contributions required by the PC.

Cllr. Botting had prepared a draft of what type of funding for infrastructure would be requested by the PC. This being £30/40K for improvement of the road junction Beech Lane, Wood Lane, Behoes Lane. Also some funding towards the Village Hall and Village Play area on Folly Field. He will send this to the Clerk so she can formally respond to SODC Planning Officer with the PC requirements.

The Planning Officer had advised by email that they are not supporting this application but it was necessary to get the information as the Agent will go to Appeal.

Long Toll Old Bus Depot development by Millgate Homes. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr. Smith had met with Millgate Homes regarding Millgate's proposed change to the Section 106 Agreement to transfer woodland to the rear of the development to the PC. They are requesting to retain a section of it to add to Plot 14's garden.

Initially the PC approach was to refuse, however after negotiation they have accepted the change on behalf of the PC subject to certain conditions, that will be to the PC benefit, as this plot has a steep slope making maintenance difficult. Millgate will reduce this and they will fence it with close board fencing, plant hedging and ground cover plants, shrubs and some trees. Clerk to write letter to SODC and Millgate accepting but stating the conditions agreed and required for the change to the previously agreed transfer area.

Millgate also had submitted a draft flyer to go to all the village offering them first choice of the four free market 3 bedroom houses nearing completion. This was a policy for this development in the NHP. The PC agreed to the wording with one small addition. Millgate will print them and send to the PC for distribution.

Cllr. Smith advised that OCC Highways response to the outline planning application for Red Lane Bungalow to be demolished and 3 dwellings erected was now on the website and they had not raised any major objections.

Cllr. Smith had circulated a flow chart for the Section 106 process to be followed in the future. The PC agreed to the process with some minor changes that Cllr. Smith will make. He will then circulate to the PC and the Clerk who will send to other village committees such as the Village Green and Village Hall committees.

8. Finance To approve payments. To note receipts.

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Detail
05/12/2015	R. Peirce	504	£120.00	Chairmans expenses for year
16/12/2015	K. Smallbone	505	£30.00	War Memorial Garden Dec
16/12/2015	Woodcote Parochial Church Coun	506	£850.00	Grant churchyard maintenance
16/12/2015	Berinsfield Community Business	507	£1,914.00	Annual hedge cuts
28/12/2015	J. Welham	SO	£782.00	Dec Salary
28/12/2015	A. Crockett	SO	£200.00	Litter picking Dec
		TOTAL	£3,896.00	

Approved.

Noted receipts, payment of recreation ground fees from Football and Cricket Clubs.

8.1 Quotations/Grants received for review/approval.

Quotation from Wilson & Scott for repainting of highway white lines and highway signage in 24 locations in Woodcote. The Traffic Group have recommended this and the PC will fund this as OCC Highways have stated due to lack of budget they are not re painting.

The total cost quoted is £1625.00 the PC agreed to proceed. Clerk to action.

9. Other Committee Reports

Village Hall Management Committee

The Chairman gave a summary of the PC's previous position in regard to funding for the Village Hall, capital and maintenance, as owners and custodial trustees. He stated that past agreements and ways of funding did need to be reviewed and changed. He felt that the increased budget to £7K for next year was a good amount to cover the necessary maintenance and any small capital projects. Large projects Section 106 funds could be sought, but are not guaranteed.

The PC are looking at covering the VH insurance next year so the £7K figure will also cover that should the PC take it over, in principle the PC agreed to this, the detail still needs to be finalised. This will remove another cost from the VHMC, their Treasurer Cllr. Booth forecasts a loss for this year of approx £1400.

Cllr, Smith as the PC representative on the VHMC had circulated a draft set of guidelines for funding from the PC to the VHMC for the next financial year. These guidelines were agreed by the PC, Cllr. Botting refrained as he is the new Chairman of the VHMC. Cllr. Smith to circulate when he has agreed more detail regarding the maintenance costs versus capital with the VHMC.

The VHMC Treasurer had submitted a request for the PC to pay maintenance invoice to the electrician and also to pay for the new LED low energy light bulbs to be fitted in the Function Room, The total cost being £780.00. The PC agreed this cost as there are funds in this year's budget for the VH.

Village Green Committee

No new meeting.

Cllr. Booth advised that they are preparing an overall plan of the VG and Folly Field as proposed by the PC to map what improvements and new equipment they are likely to request from Section 106 funds.

Cllr. Smith proposed that the PC should hold a public consultation showing this detail and also include the Woodland area off Long Toll.

The Chairman suggested deferring this to the agenda for a future meeting, this was agreed.

Education Group

Report will be available in the New Year.

Youth Club

Cllr. Williams advised that they had sent thanks to the PC for their continued support.

Police

The Clerk advised that the landlord of the Red Lion had reported that youths continue to be a problem for the two houses facing the VG. They congregate in the bus shelter and shout abuse and also run into the gardens and kick the front doors. The PCSO to be advised, Cllr. Williams to follow up.

13. Other Matters for Chairman

The Chairman supported Cllr. Crockett's suggestion for No Smoking Signs in the bus shelter on the Green. All agreed, Clerk to source signage and costs.

Cllr. Smith had circulated the Woodland Groups draft terms of reference. The Chairman asked him to make a change to the name regarding the Scout Group, to local Scout and Guide Group.

Then approved. Cllr. Smith advised he will try to recruit a volunteer to the group from the new houses once they are occupied.

The Chairman commented that SOHA had only resurfaced part of Folly Orchard Rd. He asked the Clerk to contact them to ask when they are going to do the other half. The Clerk advised that their previous communication had specified that was the section they were going to cover.

Clerk to action.

Cllr. McGurk related another problem with Thames Travel and the X40. She had travelled from Reading and the X40 missed Woodcote completely continuing along the A4074. Sarah alerted the driver who had to turn round on the A4074 at the junction of Icknield Road and come back to Woodcote.

In the process of turning around the driver damaged the vehicle. It was suggested that she write into Thames Travel herself as the passenger but the Clerk to also contact them about service in general and any timetable changes.

Wayside Green last week had a burst water main again! In a similar place as last time, it was outside No. 80, last time it was outside No. 82. Clerk to follow up with Thames Water again asking them to come and meet the PC to discuss a scheduled plan of work for this area to replace old pipes etc.

14. Correspondence

The residents of 50 Wayside Green are asking for the PC to look at removing a large sycamore tree that is outside their front garden but on the PC owned green. The roots of the tree have caused a pipe blockage and they are very worried this will happen again. The Clerk had received a hand written letter from the person who had come out and dealt with the problem. Clerk to action getting a drain specialist on behalf of the PC to investigate the pipe work before taking further action regarding the tree.

Email for Cycle Race in village on 28 August 2016. PC agreed but asked that the Clerk request they keep South Stoke Rd Clear for church goers, as before they caused some blockages.

Letter regarding Queens 90th Birthday and celebrations. Clerk to circulate to committees and get placed in the Correspondent.

16.To note date of the next PC meeting: Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 6th January 2016.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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