

# WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held in the Function Room, Village Hall, Woodcote  
Wednesday 23rd September 2015 commencing 7.30pm.

## **PRESENT**

Chairman Mr. R. Peirce  
Vice Chairman Mr. G. Botting  
Mr. M. Smith  
Mr. B. Williams  
Mr. A. Crockett.  
Mr. B. Lewin  
Dr. P. Sudbury  
Mr. D. Booth

Parish Clerk Ms. Jenny Welham

**1.** To receive apologies for absence.

Mrs. D. Hadaway, Mrs. S. McGurk

**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.  
Claire Dunk Checkendon parish Clerk. Jill Playford Checkendon Parish Councillor who arrived later to speak about the A4074 bus stop project.

**4.** To approve Minutes Parish Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015.

Spelling mistake, should read “aquifer” not aquifiller.

Approved as a true record.

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

Cllr. Crockett reported that he had reported to Environmental Health in regard to the many bags of rubbish in the empty property for sale on Bridlepath. They have registered his complaint.

## **6. Planning Applications**

P15/S2646/HH Demolition of existing conservatory/extension and erection of replacement conservatory/extension (retrospective) 46 Bridle Path Woodcote.

Recommend Approval.

P15/S2734/HH erection of single storey rear extension and conversion of integral garage to habitable room. 57 Wayside Green Woodcote RG8 0PR.

Recommend Approval.

P15/S2099/HH (Householder) Amendment : No. 1 - dated 9th September 2015

Proposal : Proposed single storey side extension to rear of garage and double storey extension to rear of house (as amended and amplified by documentation received 6 September 2015) Address : 136 Wayside Green Woodcote RG8 0QJ.

Recommend Refusal for the same reasons as on the main application, the amendment does not change the development it shows trees that need to be felled.

### **6.1 Applications Granted by SODC:**

P15/S2345/HH Single storey timber outbuilding. Location : The Rosary 31 Whitehouse Road Woodcote RG8 0RX.

P15/S2302/FUL Replacement of external windows and doors. Site Location : Langtree School Reading Road Woodcote RG8 0QY.

P15/S2540/HH Erection of single storey side, rear and front extension incorporating front dormer roof extension to facilitate loft conversion to habitable rooms. (Amended plan received 24th August 2015 showing parking layout). Site Location : 18 Croft Way Woodcote RG8 0RS.

P15/S2554/HH (Householder)Proposal: Erection of two-storey rear extension and first floor extension, reconfiguration of decking and reconstruction of front porch.  
Address: Austwick House South Stoke Road Woodcote RG8 0PL.

### **6.2 Applications Refused by SODC:**

P15/S1919/FUL (Full Application)Minor

Proposal: Reposition existing access and erection of a 3-bed detached house.

Address: Little Acre Beech Lane Woodcote RG8 0PY.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman had attended the SODC Planning committee meeting on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October to speak on this application and recommend refusal. SODC Planning officers voted refusal. The official notice will be issued in the next few weeks.

*Councillor Jill Playford from Checkendon PC arrived.*

The Chairman invited her and Claire Dunk to join the meeting to discuss their points. He gave some background that following the NHP Woodcote residents had raised again issues about public transport and the X39 not coming through the village. Based on this and following up on the NHP transport issues the project had come about when OCC David Bellchamber contacted the PC to join a meeting that was arranged with OCC Highways Technician about traffic and transport issues within the village. Also present was the Commercial Manager from the bus company, and Thames Valley Police Representative.

The matter of bus stops on each side of the A4074 was discussed the outcome of which was that these Officers agreed to them in principal and David Bellchamber circulated photos and details of locations to Woodcote PC and Checkendon PC.

The Chairman advised that Woodcote PC had not yet debated this matter and were about to at this PC meeting. The outcome was that the PC agreed with the safety points and objections raised by Checkendon PC and had the same concerns. They agreed that they would still pursue the preferred solution of the X39 coming into Woodcote on one loop and stopping once on the Reading Rd, and had raised this point at their meeting with MP John Howell asking him to investigate this.

All agreed that the bust stops on the A4074 should be put on hold at this time so as not to jeopardise the preferred solution. The bus timetables are due to be reviewed Again in the early part of next year and Woodcote PC will very actively be involved and push for the X39 to enter Woodcote.

*Claire Dunk & Jill Playford then left the meeting.*

### **6.3 Other Planning Matters**

Proposed development Chiltern Rise. Cllr. Botting gave an update on the meeting he had attended with SODC Planning officers.

The meeting was reference to the planning application for the development at Chiltern Rise. Also at the meeting was the Architect, and the Traffic Consultancy. Certain matters regarding this application were reviewed;

Footpath – this is now resolved as the owner of the Garden Centre has agreed that a footpath can be made to pass over his property.

Bus lay bys, these cannot be specified as a condition as the Oratory do not own the land where the lay bys are proposed. However the District Council can specify that funding is made available under section 106 which will enable OCC to then have the funds to construct the lay bys.

The access into the site is still being reviewed but it is now being proposed to be a T Junction.

The Developer has had a further tree survey carried out which is more details and is more in line with the SODC Tree Officers report, the issues can now be worked on.

An amended plan will need to be submitted.

The Chairman pointed out that Cllr. Botting had attended this meeting as a partner of the adopted neighbourhood plan for Woodcote to ensure the policies and conditions of this appointed site are adhered to.

Proposed development Old Reservoir Site, Greenmore.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman had met with SODC Planning Officer at this site as an application has been submitted. There are some issues to be considered and this matter will be on the agenda for the Pc meeting 7<sup>th</sup> October. Residents in the vicinity of the site will be advised in advance of this meeting so they can prepare should they wish to attend and give their views.

**7. Finance** To approve payments. To note receipts.

**7.1 Quotations/Grants** received for review/approval.

Quotation received from Kings Tree Services for Weed Spraying £120 parts of Wayside Green – Council agreed to this as a trial to see the effectiveness or not of spraying.

Tree works to trees on green in Wayside Green overhanging footpath and properties. Council agreed.

**7.2 Section 106 Funds** – agree terms and conditions & sign form. Future projects.

The Hearing loop application for the Village Hall was agreed by Council.

Further projects need to be considered and more Section 106 monies will be allocated against new developments and there is limited time to claim these funds before they are allocated by SODC. Projects to be discussed at next PC meeting.

**8. License Agreement** – sign license for land Thames Water.

The final document was as per the previously agreed Draft, Council agreed, Chairman signed.

**9. Traffic & Transport** – update on meeting with OCC.

Cllr, Botting & Smith had attended a meeting with OCC Highways Traffic Technician to discuss some of the issues and possible solutions to the Traffic problems in Woodcote as raised in the Neighbourhood Plan and subsequently by the Traffic Group.

The meeting had been positive, certain solutions are not feasible and OCC Highways would not sanction speed cameras, sleeping policemen, interactive signs that flash the actual speed vehicles are travelling at.

Pedestrian Crossing and Zebra Crossings are acceptable but need to be investigated in detail as they are expensive. Repainting of some of the white lines such as the slow signs and zig zags, give ways etc. The cost is approx £450 per day and it is estimated that 3 days would be needed.

The Traffic Group need to start to look into areas that may need double yellow lines and areas that do not.

Speed cushions on the Goring Road need to be held until the planning applications pending are finalised as they specify traffic calming measures.

The buses through the village it was proposed that they all travel one way this would remove the need for the bus stop directly outside the Co-op stores which does cause issues when buses stop there. This change would not be implemented until the time tables change which is planned for beginning of 2016.

Cllr. Botting had attended a meeting at OCC for Town and Parish Councils. He reported that the budget cuts have caused OCC Highways to have very little funds to do anything and they are proposing a transitional highways offering. They are asking for the Town and Parish Councils to take on some of the highways responsibilities, and it is assumed paying for them.

### **10. Other Committee Reports**

#### **Village Hall MC**

The manhole outside the Pavilion on the green has been repaired. Cost was £350, it was agreed that the PC to pay.

#### **Village Green Committee**

They have received a quote for security fencing at the rear of the Allotments, this is £2500 and a further £2000 to install. The PC will need to seek further quotes. Clerk to action.

#### **Conservation Group**

Cllr. Lewin and Sudbury had attended a meeting with this group. There is opportunity for the group to look into some of the Environmental issues that are highlighted in the NHP. Karen Woolley advised that grants are available towards a carbon free village. The group have agreed to work on this area on behalf of the PC.

#### **Police**

Cllr. Williams reported that our PCSO Petar has moved and is now a police constable. The new PCSO Ashley Richardson is yet to have a meeting with him.

#### **Youth Club**

The re launch was successful. An agenda item to be raised for the YC to present their finances to the PC, date to be advised.

### **11. Other Matters for Chairman**

The Woodcote Festival had been very successful with good attendance and a lot more activities. Approximately £1000 was made, which is a great improvement. The PC thanked Cllr Smith and McGurk for their work and the time they had put in and also expressed thanks to the whole Festival Committee for all their hard work.

MP John Howell had met with several of the Parish Councillors on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Several ongoing matters were covered, he urged the PC to encourage as many people as possible to give their views on the proposed OCC Household Waste Recycle Centres closures.

He is also the Government's "Champion" for Neighbourhood Plans so takes a keen interest in Woodcote and its plan, he is very supportive and complimentary.

### **12. Correspondence**

None.

**13. To note date of next Parish Council meeting Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

*Meeting closed 9.55pm*

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

