

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held in the Function Room, Village Hall, Woodcote
Wednesday 3rd February 2016 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. D. Hadaway
	Mr. R. Lewin
Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham

1. To receive apologies for absence.

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.

Mrs. E. McCadden re planning application.

4. To approve Minutes Parish Council Meeting held on 20th January 2016.

Approved as true record.

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

Cllr. Crockett noted the letter from SODC Planning Enforcement regarding the mobile home being placed on the site in Beech Lane. No further communication yet received.

6. District Councillors Report

Cllr. David Nimmo-Smith reported that the District Council is not going to raise Council tax this year, however OCC will be increasing it by 4%. The Revenue Support Grant that OCC receive from central government is expected to disappear by 2019/20, which means money will need to be raised from business. He said he has been involved with the well published cuts that OCC have had to make to this year's budget for the past few weeks. In the District he has been involved with some planning applications.

The Chairman updated Cllr. Nimmo-Smith on the progress of the 5 WNHP development sites, one being complete the Old Bus Depot. Applications have been submitted for Chiltern Rise and The Old Reservoir and an application for the Garden Centre is had been submitted today but was not yet registered.

The planning application from T. Booker for a cottage with an agricultural status is currently withdrawn as he does not yet have enough cattle, likely to be resubmitted when the numbers increase. The Chairman acknowledge that the PC had received the report from our other District Councillor Charles Bailey. He then invited questions from the Council.

Cllr. Botting asked Cllr. Nimmo-Smith to encourage the District to get things moving on the Community Infrastructure Levy payment process, as the existing Section 106 process meant that Woodcote could receive reduced amounts until the CIL was finalised. Cllr. Nimmo-Smith advised that he was involved and that “robust” discussions had been ongoing.

Cllr. Botting advised that the 2nd edition of the WNHP would be produced at the time that SODC update their Core Strategy.

Cllr. Smith mentioned the work that the Traffic Group are doing and that the PC had paid for some white line repainting around the village. He referred to OCC suggestion that Parish Councils funded more highway improvements now OCC budgets had been drastically reduced. He suggested that Woodcote PC be a front runner with OCC on certain highway improvement projects around the village to jointly work on the best process which could then be adopted in other parishes.

The Chairman advised Cllr. Nimmo-Smith that the planning application in Beech Lane for a development of 5 new houses had been refused but that the applicant would likely go to appeal as advised by SODC Planning Officer. The Chairman advised that the PC had requested an informal hearing for this appeal as and when it comes forward and asked Cllr. Nimmo-Smith to support this.

7. Planning Applications

P15/S4236/HH (Householder) Proposal: Erection of a single storey side extension.

Address: Bramley Beech Lane Woodcote RG8 0PY.

The PC had reviewed this application and visited the site the extension would not be visible from Beech Lane and was to add bedroom space as the existing “loft” bedrooms were not adequate due to the pitch of the roof. The neighbours had no objections.

The Chairman invited Mrs. McCadden the applicants daughter to speak who is now living at the property with her husband and children. She gave some background to the reasons for the extension and how the current space was restricted.

The PC Recommend Approval.

P16/S0005/HH (Householder) **Amendment :No. 1** - dated 25th January 2016

Proposal :New entrance gates Address : 11 Bridle Path Woodcote Reading RG8 0SE.

The applicant has now withdrawn this application as OCC have advised that it is not required and falls under Permitted Development. However the applicant advised that he had taken into account the PC’s comments regarding the height and design of the gates and will alter the design accordingly.

7.1 Applications Granted by SODC:

P15/S3735/LB 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. Site Location :Dean Farmhouse Red Lane Woodcote RG8 0PB.

P15/S3877/HH 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 (Retrospective).

Site Location :Longmead South Stoke Road Woodcote RG8 0PL

Cllr. Nimmo-Smith left the meeting

7.2 Applications Refused by SODC:

None.

7.3 Other Planning Matters

The clerk had circulated an email with a draft response to a resident with concerns about parking and visibility on Long Toll due to the new development at the Old Bus Depot. The draft reply was discussed and agreed, Clerk to send reply. Most of the issues fall under OCC Highways so advise the resident to contact them.

8. Finance.

28/01/2016	Blandy&Blandy LLP	521	£2,640.68	First registration VH & VG
29/01/2016	British Telecom	SO	£51.00	Phone services Jan
03/02/2016	Music & Sounds	522	£711.00	T Loop Hearing system
		Total	£3,402.68	

Noted no receipts.

8.1 Quotations/Grants received for review/approval.

The Clerk presented the quotation from Community Heartbeat Trust for the Defibrillator for the Village Hall. The quote included the unit and the cabinet (for mounting to an exterior Wall) £1995, there will be installation costs from the electrician on approximately £300, making the total project cost £2295.00. The PC agreed this and the funds will be applied for from Sec 106 funds, Clerk to submit the application.

9. Parish Council Communications Use of Social Media.

Various social media was discussed. the Clerk had updated the PC with information received from other Parishes regarding the use of Facebook. The PC agreed this would be another source to communicate information and facts to the village and was not a mechanism to be used for “debate”. The PC agreed that the Clerk should set this up.

10. Other Committee Reports

Village Hall Management Committee
Next meeting 8th February 2016.

Village Green Committee

Cllr. Booth reported that the VGC are drawing up the plans for projects for new equipment on the two greens for presentation at the public consultation, he said they are progressing well.

The Clerk mentioned that there will be another Cricket Club using the VG this summer Kidmore End and asked if they should be charged a seasonal fee. The PC agreed that they should be charged and suggested that the VGC should look at what is a current charge rate.

The Clerk advised that the VGC minutes had referred to the Youth Shelter being added to the PC insurance. This items value is unknown, the Chairman advised that he thought that the VGC had received various grants to fund its purchase. Cllr. Booth to request detail from the VGC as a value is needed for insurance cover.

Primary School

Cllr. Hadaway advised that the school would like to work in association with the Cabin Pres School regarding the land for parking etc.

Police

Cllr. Williams advised that the PCSO will send a report for the Correspondent more regularly. Burglary figures have reduced as certain suspects have been apprehended.

Youth Club

Their AGM is 18th February 2016, all are welcome to attend.

Traffic Working Group

Next meeting is 18th February.

The laser speed monitoring boxes are now in position on the Goring Road so speeds can be recorded for detail required to progress a possible pedestrian crossing.

The Clerk to obtain quotes for further speed signs.

Woodland Group

Cllr. Smith reported their first meeting would be held shortly.

11. Other Matters for Chairman Date for Annual Parish Meeting and format, and date for Annual Parish Council Meeting.

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 19th April 2016. The Chairman suggested that we try a different more attractive format and encourage joint communication with the village. He suggested that we could try to link the Public Consultation in the Spring with the APM.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will follow on 4th May. The Clerk advised that she cannot attend the PC meeting on 18th May. The PC will need to consider if they move this meeting, to be reviewed.

Cllr. Smith advised that he had attended the first meeting for the Woodcote Festival in September. He said that most of the previous committee were present and some newcomers. The plans are being discussed, Cllr. Smith said he will attend to represent the PC. The Chairman thanked him.

Cllr. Smith advised he had been contacted by a resident who wanted to plant a fir tree on the corner of the village green (the war memorial corner) so at Christmas lights can be put on it and a Carol Service held. The PC need to consider this.

The Clerk advised that Blandy and Blandy had responded regarding writing the letter to Mr. J. Ralley and Mrs. J. Baston regarding erecting new fencing around their paddock plot in Tidmore Lane and moving the previous boundary line.

This matter is not straight forward, the Clerk read the relevant points to the PC. They need to check title and deed numbers, the PC agreed to this and advised the Clerk to advise them to proceed.

Cllr. Lewin raised the matter of the 10K road race that had been in Woodcote in January and that complains had been made by residents some had been published in local newspapers. They felt that the runners and some officials had been rude. The route caused issues with access to the Catholic Church. The PC agreed that they did support the race being held in Woodcote however the Clerk to write to the organisers stating that in future the route would need to change so as not to include South Stoke Road as this affected residents going to the two churches.

12. Correspondence

None.

13.To note date of the next PC meeting: Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 17th February 2016.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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