

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Council meeting held in the Function Room, Village Hall, Woodcote Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Mrs. D. Hadaway. Mrs. McGurk & Dr. Sudbury arrived later.

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.
Two residents from Woodcote to observe the meeting.

4. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th October 2017.

Approved as a true record.

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

None.

6. Planning Applications

P17/S2878/FUL – Minor Amendment : No. 2 - dated 25th October 2017

Proposal : Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) to convert approved garage into a playroom and provide additional parking on the frontage of Plot 2 of Planning Permission P16/S2432/FUL. (Site plan amended to previously approved plan received 25 September 2017) (Amended 2017_10_25 to reduce number of bedrooms in both plot 2 and plot 3).

The Parish Council have reviewed this application and strongly object to this amendment and recommend refusal.

All upstairs rooms in the property have the potential to be a bedroom, regardless of “renaming” a room to Home Office. Previous to this amendment the property was listed as a three bedroom property and is being marketed as such with local estate agents. Any owner of this property will be able to utilise the rooms as they wish.

These are clearly 3 bedroomed houses and therefore policy T8 of Woodcote Neighbourhood Plan applies. Parking for 3 vehicles to the front is possible with the removal of the landscaping.

Should officers be minded to approve this amended application The Parish Council will request this be called into the Planning Committee so they can speak on the matter.

6.1 Applications Granted by SODC:

P17/S2721/HH Application proposal, including any amendments :

Replacement garage and alterations to access.(as amplified by arboricultural report received 29th September 2017). Site Location : Flintstones Pot Kiln Lane Goring Heath RG8 7SR.

P17/S3320/A Application proposal, including any amendments. 1 x internally illuminates fascia, 1 internally illuminate projector. 5 non illuminated panels and 1 internally illuminated logo. (As per amended plans submitted 11.10.2017)

Site Location : Cooperative Stores 2 Bridle Path Woodcote RG8 0SE

6.2 Applications Refused by SODC

None.

6.3 Other Planning Matters

Clr. Botting raised the matter of the PC's reply to the SODC Local Plan 2032. It was agreed that Clr. Botting would prepare a draft response and circulate it to the Councillors so they can review it and make any inputs. The response can then be agreed and sent in. The deadline is 22nd November.

He also raised the matter of the recently received outline planning application for 23 houses on land at the end of Wood Lane. This application will be discussed at the PC meeting on 22nd November. The PC agreed that residents should be informed in particular those living in Wood Lane, Beech Lane and Behoes Lane. The PC to communicate on Social Media, the Website, Posters in the local shops and Notice Boards and possibly a leaflet drop. Clr McGurk to draft the wording and liaise with the Clerk.

7. Finance

To approve payments, note receipts.

WOODCOTE PC LIST OF PAYMENTS 1ST TO 8TH NOVEMBER 2017

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Detail
01/11/2017	Kings Tree Care	708	£864.00	Hedges 1 off
01/11/2017	Royal British Legion	710	£50.00	Poppy Appeal October Grass cuts
03/11/2017	Berinsfield Community Business	711	£1,227.48	
03/11/2017	SafetyShop	712	£53.82	No smoking sign
			£2,195.30	

Noted no receipts.

7.1 Quotations/Grants received for review/approval.

None.

8. Other Committee Reports

Village Hall MC

The Chairman & Treasurer attended the SODC Grant meeting and it is looking favourable that SODC Grant Officer will recommend that the grant application for some refurbishments is approved, awaiting the final decision. Next meeting 13th November.

Village Green

A working party had been carried out this week and tidied trees and cleared areas. A local resident also helped and did some strimming. Minutes of their last meeting had been circulated.

Traffic Advisory Group Zebra Crossing progress.

There have been some difficult discussions with OCC about the ditch along the side of the village green adjacent to Goring Road. OCC were insisting that it was a drainage ditch which meant that it would have to be dug out deeper to improve the drainage and to build a culvert where the footpath from the crossing crosses the ditch. After extensive discussions with officers from OCC the problem seems to finally be resolved. OCC now accept that the ditch was built to stop vehicles accessing the green, that the sections of the ditch are not contiguous and, therefore, it only provides a soakaway function and have offered to improve the soakaways where the roadside gullies are connected to the ditch. This means that the rest of the ditch is not affected, OCC can connect the new gully that is required on the opposite side of the road to the existing one and no culvert will be required, the ditch can just filled at that point.

The Traffic Group requested that the PC send an assurance to OCC confirming that the ditch was originally constructed to prevent vehicles accessing the village green and that the Goring Road has never been flooded. The PC agreed and the Clerk to send this reply.

Woodcote Festival – 2018

Cllr. Smith attended the first meeting of the committee and they will down size the event for 2018 and call it The Woodcote Fete. The previous Chairman who stood down has agreed to return. The Woodcote Fete will run on 15th September 2018.

Neighbourhood Planning Group

Cllr. Botting advised that works is continuing for the first pass of site evaluation criteria and also on the housing type required in the village. Their meeting on 7th December will be a meeting to brief the Parish Council on progress to date, all councillors are requested to attend.

9. Other Matters for Chairman

The Clerk recorded thanks to Mr. R. Hadaway for helping her to clear the dead leaves at the front of the Village Hall he took them to the local tip. Also thanks to Cllr. McGurk and Mr. Hadaway for working on the village sign at the junction of South Stoke Road and Goring Road, they had cleaned it and Mr. Hadaway had rubbed down and repainted the rusty post. The sign now looks pristine.

Cllr. Crocket reported that there is a lot of graffiti on the ceiling in the bus shelter on Goring Road. He will liaise with Cllr. Sudbury with a view to painting the ceiling with specialist paint.

Cllr. Williams reported that OCC County Councillor Kevin Bulmer will visit Woodcote Primary School to look at the repairs required on the building, which is in poor repair. MP John Howell may accompany him.

10. Correspondence

Letter from Chiltern Society requesting a donation in the region of £500. Cllr McGurk suggested that as a village in the AONB this would be a worthwhile donation to a society who protects and preserves the area.

Cllr. Botting suggested that they do need to be more supportive of certain aspects of planning in the area, and be more active. The PC agreed that the Clerk should write to them suggesting that the PC are considering a donation and advise them that one third of the Chilterns is South Oxfordshire and that they are not always seen to be that active in this area. Some reassurance of projects they are involved in within SODC area would be appreciated.

11. To note date of the next PC meeting: Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 22nd November 2017.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed Date.....