

MINUTES OF THE CODFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 14th DECEMBER 2009 AT 7.30.p.m IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Beagley, Mr. Brayne, Mrs Edmonds, Mrs Johnstone, Mr. Peters, Mr. Thornton, Mr. Woollard and Mrs Wyeth.

In Attendance: Mr. Robert Cole, a member of the electorate, and Mr. L. Hoareau, Clerk.

1. Apologies.

None

2. Open Forum.

Mr. Robert Cole spoke to the Meeting in connection with the wording of the item recorded in the minutes of the 2nd November meeting, as published in the Ashton Gifford Community News, which reported the planning appeal decision for his property, 16 High Street. He stated that the words "with additional conditions" were factually incorrect and that the appeal decision had specified a change in the conditions. He asked for the error to be rectified in the next issue of the Community News and the minutes. The Chairman assured him that it would be done and apologised for any wrong impression the reporting of the decision might have given. Mr. Cole also expressed concern with the number of tree branches and shrubs which have accumulated in the Chitterne Brook from Chitterne Road towards the Wylfe, in view of the prevailing high water level of the brook.

3. Minutes of Meeting of 2nd November 2009.

The minutes of the meeting were agreed, subject to the error stated at Item 6 as referred to in item 2 above, to be a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising.

1) Road Safety Measures, Green Lane/New Road.

Reply received to PC's reminder as follows:-

Speed limit Green Lane (284177). Included as part of the new housing development agreement and funded by the developer. The documentation was now with WRHA and the 30m.p.h. signs will be resited from the High Street junction to the New Road/Green Lane junction in due course.

Resiting 30m.p.h. signs High Street (284159). Resiting 30m.p.h signs Chitterne Road (284175). Speed restrictions, New Road (284179). In accordance with the Wiltshire Council review the A & B class roads have been dealt with and work will start in the future on the C class roads and the Codford signs are included in this phase. A decision is expected in 2011.

2) Planning Contravention Notices.

Letter received from the Planning Authority that this issue had been finalised in January 2009 to the effect that the decision had been taken that no further enforcement action was necessary and the file had been closed then. Neither the PC nor the residents involved had been informed of the decision by the Authority at the time and the information was only made available in November 2009, after a query by the PC. It was agreed that the PC should complain formally to the Authority to express dissatisfaction at the way this matter has been dealt with.

3) Bench Seat Broadleaze Bus Stop.

Work to start as per contractor's schedule, probably by January 2010.

4) Heavy Goods Vehicles, Chitterne Road.

The PC's request for heavy goods vehicles to be routed away from the bottom of Chitterne Road has been accepted by the County Council as a feasible option and has been added to the signage work schedule. However due to the fact that the proposal will need to involve the Highways Agency, because of the A36, its implementation may be protracted.

5) Wool Store Building.

Letter received to inform of further investigation by the Planning Authority regarding four flag pole holders. Copy response letter from the owner has been forwarded to the PC. Owner has also requested the identity of the original informant under the Freedom of Information Act. It was resolved that the issue of the flag pole holders was now a matter between the owner of the Wool Store and the Authority. It was also agreed that the identity of the informant, who requested anonymity, was protected under the Freedom of Information Act as the legislation was only concerned with recorded, (viz. written), information and not telephone conversations.

6) Wiltshire Rural Housing Association.

The Association has asked for suggestions for the use of the spare wooded area adjoining their development site at Cherry Orchard. Mr. Thornton to liaise with the Wylfe School and report back

7) Tree Pruning A36.

Request acknowledged. No action yet.

8) Grips New Road/Chitterne Road.

Partially attended to.

9) Leaves Green Lane/High Street.

The PC has received a number of requests for the village streets to be swept which have been passed on to Wiltshire Council who has advised that the road sweeping vehicle is not due to attend the village until 21st December. It was agreed that the PC should complain to the Council about the poor level of service which is replicated annually following the fall of leaves.

5. Budget/Precepts 2010/2011

The Parish Council's annual budget for 2010/2011 was agreed at £5745.00 which, based on the existing number of Band D properties, equates to a village precept of £15.88p per household.

An itemised breakdown of the budget is attached to these minutes.

6.Planning Applications.

16 High Street.

The appeal to build has been allowed with a change in the conditions from the extant application. The previous entry in the minutes of the Parish Council's November meeting and the precis in the Ashton Gifford Community News referred to, incorrectly, as "additional conditions". This should have read "a change in the conditions". (Item 2 above refers).

8 Greenhill Place.Single storey extension to rear and timber decking.....Permission.

7. Grant Application.

The PC had received a request from St. Peter's PCC for a grant of £200.00 as a donation towards the funding of a community event for the children of the village being organised by the two churches. The event is a live show based on the birth of Jesus, performed by a theatre company called "Riding Lights", in the Village Hall on 19th December at a total cost of approximately £750.00. A token charge of £2.00 will be made for adult tickets but children will be admitted free including hot dogs and refreshments for all. Resolved that £200.00 be donated from the S.137 budget. Mr. Peters and Mr. Thornton declared a personal interest.

8.Health and Social Group (End of Life Care).

Mrs Johnstone reported that the Group was engaged in discussions to develop an end of life care policy for the Health Authority which is tending to adopt the "Liverpool Pathway" – withdraw food and drink in accordance with set criteria. Consultations are being sought as to the public understanding of the policy. A discussion took place and Mrs Johnstone will take back the PC's views to the Group.

9.Community Flood Plan.

The Clerk had recently attended a Flood Warden Seminar, organised by the Environment Agency, in his role as the Village Flood Warden. The Agency has strongly recommended that all communities should have a prepared flood plan to help improve the response in dealing with localised flooding events. It was agreed that such a plan would be an asset to members of the electorate who live in potential flood areas and a working group comprising of Cllrs. Bartlett, Beagley, Thornton and The Clerk would prepare a draft plan and report back.

10. Village Policy Limits.

Wiltshire Council are in the process of reviewing policy limits and have published a consultation document which seeks submissions from Town/Parish Councils with regard to their existing limits. It is emphasised that parishes can only suggest changes, the final decision will be made by Wiltshire Council in 2011. A long discussion took place, copies of the existing village limits having been previously circulated to Members. It was resolved that the PC's submission should suggest that a site specific village policy, to allow development of specified sites, be adopted in order that a number of properties which are currently located outside the existing policy limits could be "tidied up" to improve the general appearance of the village scene. It was further decided by a majority of 5 against 4 that the PC's submission should also recommend that the plot of land previously used as allotments should be excluded from the village policy limits.

11. PC's File Storage Facilities.

It was agreed that the storage of all the PC's administrative documents, including archived historical items which were previously kept in the Village Hall, should be filed in a four drawer metal cabinet and stored in the Clerk's garage.

12. Correspondence.

Copy Deeds.

Mr. Thompson, Secretary of the Village Hall & Social Centre, has registered the village hall land with the Land Registry and the PC, being trustees, has received a copy of the revised deeds for filing.

Major Cottrill's Legacy.

Letter received from Solicitor that the finalisation of the will will be delayed until February 2010.

Wiltshire Rural Housing Association (WRHA)

Request received from the WRHA for comments on the general impact of the Church Acre development on the village. Attended to.

13.Matters to Report.

ANZAC Leaflets.

Mrs Wyeth queried the availability of leaflets from the Anzac Liaison Officer. Mr. Thornton to arrange for more leaflets.

State of Pavements.

Mrs Johnstone reported that in addition to leaves on the pavements she had received a number of reports on the poor state of repair of the pavements, especially from St Peter's Church towards the garage and certain sections of Cherry Orchard. Clerk to attend.

Damage to Cars.

Mrs Edmonds reported a number of parked cars having been scratched in Cherry Orchard and outside the Theatre during the pantomime shows. Mrs Cameron to be made aware.

14. Agenda Items for next Meeting

None

The meeting closed at 10.05p.m.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30p.m. Monday 18th January 2010 at the small hall of the Village Hall.