

LONG WITTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held 14th December 2011, 8.00pm, Long Wittenham Village Hall

Parish Council: Tom Bowtell (Chairman), Gordon Rogers, Simon Thompson, Clifford Bosley (RFO), Julie Braley (Clerk)

Councillors: Celia Collett (District Councillor)

Apologies: Teresa Benké (Vice-Chairman), Ann Tomline, Andrew Macduff, Patrick Greene (County Councillor)

2011/82 Acceptance of the Minutes

The Minutes of 9th November 2011 were approved as a true record of proceedings.

2011/83 Public Question Time

No members of the public were in attendance.

2011/84 Councillors' Reports

Cllr Collett:

- SODC have prepared to minimise potential disruption in the event of extreme weather. Cancelled refuse collections will be notified by website, text, radio, website and hotline.
- Core Strategy, the Inspector has given his first report and SODC will be forwarding further information requested. A report of all proposed changes will go to Cabinet mid-January, the Inspector's final report should go to Full Council in May 2012.

Cllr Greene (by email):

- Further to a recent meeting in the village with Cllrs Tomline and Rogers, the estimated cost of a 30mph Vehicle Activated Sign is £4,500; the PC would be required to provide half of the funds.

Cllr Bowtell:

- The Chairman of Clifton Hampden PC is trying to confirm ownership of the car park at the Barley Mow PH, LWPC to assist if possible.
- New Village Hall Action Group: the village school are now represented on this group. Feasibility studies now requires at each of five possible sites. Other parties are being approached regarding co-funding.

Cllr Benké (by email):

- Village map, progress ongoing.

Cllr Rogers:

- Attended meeting referred to by Cllr Greene, in addition to the possible installation of a VAS other traffic issues discussed included:
- Chicanes, the cheapest option is to refurbish the white lines and improve the existing speed humps, the removal of which will be expensive particularly as one encases electrics. Awaiting costings.
- Parking on grass verge by The Vine, this area is being churned up, would The Vine consider planting the area of installing bollards?
- Parking at Saxons Heath, white lines on the roads adjacent to the Green are possibly but would be impossible to police. PC to monitor the area as best it can.

Cllr Thompson:

- Also attended New Village Hall Action Group, reported above.
- Village website, ongoing, village directory yet to be transferred to new format.

2011/85 Clerk's Report

- 2011-12 licence fees collected from The Crescent residents.
- Bodkins insurance claim, submitted and awaiting reply from insurers.
- Refuse collection at Fieldside, following complaints that the collection lorry was reversing up the track confirmation has been obtained that the original system of collecting the bins on foot will be reinstated.
- Thames Water pumping station, disrepair reported and building inspected, awaiting decision.

2011/86 Planning

The Parish Council submitted responses to the following planning applications:

P11/W1787 Wittas Ham Cottage, High Street No Strong Views

2011/87 Finance

Current account balance at 1st December £38,196.45

Payments authorised included: village maintenance

Clerk's salary (November 2011)

For consideration the RFO had provided schedules of the PC's projected income and expenditure for the remainder of the financial year.

Charitable Donations: none to consider.

2011/88 Items For Decision

- 2012-13 Precept: it was resolved to set the precept at £16,153.00, ie no change from the previous year.
- Funding of a Vehicle Activated Sign: it was resolved to earmark £2,500 for this purpose.
- New Village Hall Group: it was resolved to grant consent for the committee to obtain three quotes for feasibility studies to be conducted on each of the five sites under consideration.
- Defibrillator funding: it was resolved to contribute £1,000 towards the cost of this project.
- RoSPA Report Recommendations: costings to be obtained by Cllr Benké.
- Village Planting: A request had been received for the PC to fund the planting of 2,200 snowdrop bulbs in the village churchyard at a cost of £308. It was resolved to fund half the project (£154), and request match funding be sought from the church.

2011/89 Any Other Business

- Crispin Evans has forwarded a progress report on the defibrillator project; he is currently trying to source funding to match the Parish Council's commitment of £1,000.
- Two copies of the new Acklings lease were signed on behalf of the Parish Council.
- A wooden bollard outside the Village Hall has been knocked down and requires repair/replacement.
- The 2012 Village Fun Run will take place on Sunday May 20th.
- A letter has been received asking the Parish Council to note the request that resurfacing of the bridleway between Long Wittenham and Didcot should be of a suitable substrate for horses and that notices should be displayed stipulating that horses have right of way.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on **Wednesday 18th January 2012**