



CHARLBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of Charlbury Town Council held on Wednesday 24th July 2013 at 7.30pm in the Corner House.

Members Present: Mr R N Potter (Chairman), Mrs K Broughton, Mr J Holah, Mrs V Pakenham-Walsh, Mr R James, Mr R Fairhurst, M/s L Reason, Mr P Kenrick and Dr A Merry

Apologies: Mrs S Finch and Mr W Hackmann

Prior to opening the meeting the Chairman reported that he had attended the AGM of Oxfordshire Scout Association on 17th July. This had been a well-attended event. He went on to report that the NFU had invited him to a river maintenance demonstration, near Witney, on 29th July at 3.30pm

1. To receive the minutes of the last meeting.

Subject to minor typographical errors, Dr Merry proposed that the minutes be signed as a correct record this being seconded by Mrs Broughton and carried nem con.

2. To deal with matters arising.

Mrs Pakenham-Walsh is still available for the surgery on 3rd August

Radio Oxford - letter of thanks to Station Manager to be sent.

Skate Park event OK given to Mr Edwards

Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils The Chairman and Mr Kenrick had attended. Mr Kenrick reported on proposals for faster rural broadband. Map for locations to be served is awaited.

Traffic Issues Meeting to be arranged to consider the topic. The working group meeting on 23rd October will consider the issues and report back.

Wigwell Fencing Mr Kenrick reported that Thames Water have placed an order for the agreed fencing with work starting during August. The land is being prepared and some money may be spent by the Council to provide support for this.

Walkers are Welcome Bid has been successful. Dr Merry and Mr Fairhurst have publicised this on Radio Oxford.

Play Equipment – Nine Acres Off-site construction has started.

Walkers are Welcome – Launch event Probably on the 25th August. Lord Rotherwick has agreed a route in Cornbury Park.

Quarry Lane Dog notices having some effect. Dumping has started – joint inspection with Oxford Citizens Housing Association (Green Square)

Mr Kenrick Minutes Add reports in full and avoid acronyms where possible

3. Declaration of Interest

There were none

4. To sign orders for payment / receive report.

The accounts due for payment were circulated and explained by the Clerk. Dr Merry proposed that the accounts be paid this being seconded by Mr James and agreed. Accordingly cheques were signed by three Councillors together with the Direct Debit mandate to pay the Public Works Loan Board twice yearly.

5. To receive a report from the Planning Committee.

The following plan was considered:-

13/0991/P/FP Erection of timber gate and fence (retrospective) at Talbot Barn, Thames Garden.

1. We deplore retrospective applications
2. Otherwise no objection

Planning Results

13/0398 Extensions and conversion of barn to create dwelling and detached garage at Hopkins Yard Market.

Permitted

13/0587 Alterations and extensions at 21 The Green

Permitted

13/0752 Variation of condition 2 (consent 11/1771) to relocate bin store, new footpath at land adjacent to Little Lees

Permitted

Mark Ames and Deborah Lamb of Oxfordshire Fire Service attended the meeting on 22nd July. There was a useful question and answer session following the presentation.

6. To deal with Correspondence.

Routine correspondence was considered and the Clerk instructed accordingly at the meeting on 22nd July. The following was brought forward:

Charlbury Motor Fire Brigade Fund M/s Reason reported on her first meeting as this Councils representative. The Trust will be meeting members of Thomas Gifford Charity to discuss how funding assistance might be possible. She reported that Mrs Chadwick was no

longer the District Council representative and that Mr Hywel Davis was now the trustee in her place.

The Corner House and Memorial Hall The Clerk reported on a meeting he had with Mr Andrews and Dr Merry this morning to consider the issue of trustees of the Corner House Charity and the request that the Council agree to Mr Andrews proceeding with the steps necessary to progress the proposed Memorial Hall extension up to the point of being prepared to let the contract to a builder. This would allow time to consider any outcomes related to this arising from the Community Led Plan considerations.

The letter from Mrs Kenrick had been circulated and the Clerk will include this in the report on the matter of trusteeship of the Corner House Charity for the August meeting.

Mrs Pakenham-Walsh proposed that the management committee of the Corner House proceed with steps to progress the planning consent as outlined above this being seconded by Mr Fairhurst and carried nem con.

Community Led Plan The recent public event had been well attended and the next stage would probably need to involve a facilitator to consider ideas and views put forward. An independent person would be best placed to pull ideas together but would incur a cost. The CLP group will develop a brief for such facilitator. Costs may be in the order of £2k. Dr Merry proposed an in principle agreement up to a maximum cost of £2K this being seconded by Mrs Broughton and agreed unanimously.

7. To receive reports

a The County Councillor Mr Rodney Rose reported as follows

Rural Broadband 95% of Oxfordshire is to be covered and OCC are part funding (£10m)

Hanborough Rail Car Park Now open – may help with parking in Charlbury

OCC Budgets £200m to be saved by 2017 with further £50m to be funded from more difficult areas.

Gifford Charity He has met the Chairman Mr Cox to discuss

Councillor Community Fund He has £10K to spend in his division and will consider requests for funding.

In a reply to a question from Dr Merry relating to the funding agreement between OCC and The Gifford Charity and the urgent need for this to be agreed Mr Rose said that the business plan had been accepted and that the funds from the sale of the old Primary School (OCC share) were ring fenced at present.

b. District Councillors Liz Leffman reported as follows:

Mill Field Bin As she had noticed that this regularly overflowed she had asked that it be emptied by WODC more frequently. This will now be done three times per week instead of once.

Greystones The Lib Dem/Labour group had called in the decision on this matter for review. She is still working on this matter and there are apparently some differences between Officers and Members on the matter. The matter is to be discussed further on the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership agenda. She will continue to pursue this.

Hywel Davies reported as follows

Funding cuts may mean that further plans will not automatically be funded or receive funding assistance. He went on to say that WODC is committed to funding a recycling facility for the Northern part of the District.

A number of questions were answered

8. To consider affordable housing

The opening event will be as previously agreed with those involved subject to the availability of the Prime Minister. SOHA will arrange this and let us have a date in due course. There is a need to begin to consider where the next site might be.

Dr Merry said it is good to see the new residents walking into town. There is a nice atmosphere at this site.

9. To consider a Community Led Plan

The event held on 20th July attracted 120 visitors. 100 individual responses have been received by card or email.

The key themes appear to be

- Affordable Housing
- Retail facilities
- Parking
- Road Maintenance
- Speed limits
- Future of Corner House – positive future wanted
- Provision of new Community Centre

The CLP team will continue to meet and develop the inputs received. Mr Holah and his team were thanked for the work they have put in.

10. To consider attending an introductory visit to the Wilderness Festival

Clerk to arrange for 2pm on 10th August meeting at the Stable Block entrance via North Lodge subject to the agreement of Eloise Markwell-Butler. Number of attendees likely to be 12 or so in total.

Circulate reply when received from organisers.

11. To consider Winter Maintenance and Community Resilience Plan

Mr Holah was thanked for the information he had circulated on this matter. He said that it was not necessary to start from scratch as OCC had considerable information and help available.

A sub group of the Chairman, Mr Holah, Mrs Finch and the Clerk will arrange to meet to take this matter further and report back in due course.

Winter Maintenance

A review of salt bins and condition was produced by Mrs Pakenham-Walsh. There are around 15 bins in place at present.

The bin on Dancers Hill has a broken lid which needs to be replaced.

New Bins – subject to finance and consent bins would be useful at

Church Street
Enstone Road near Coop store
Kendall Piece
Lees Heights/Little Lees
Near Doctors surgery

Salt Supply Seek 2 tonnes in 25kg bags to be delivered to Lees Rest and then redistributed to points of need. Details to be agreed.

Salt Spreader Purchase of two or more to be considered. Mrs Pakenham-Walsh to confirm the type required (subject to finance).

Possible call on County Councillors funds

12. To agree dates for forthcoming meetings

The schedule attached to the minutes was agreed. Clerk to book rooms in the Corner House as needed. Proposed Mr Kenrick seconded Mr Fairhurst and agree nem con.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.13pm.