

MINUTES
of
WARBOROUGH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Wednesday 5th April 2017
Held at The Greet Memorial Hall Thame Road Warborough 7:30pm

Present – Cllr - Michael Herbert Chair (MH)
Cllr – Paul Duncan Vice Chair (PD)
Cllr - Eliza Jones (EJ)
Cllr - Kerry Burbedge (KB)
Cllr – Jonnie Bradshaw (JB)
C. Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale (LLG)
Lynda Raynor – Clerk

Approx 50 members of the Public

Apologies – D. Cllr - Richard Pullen

2017/042 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting had been circulated & approved in May 2016

2017/043 **Chair's report** – MH explained the purpose of the Annual Parish Meeting and thanked Councillors for their continued work and paid officers for the work they have done on behalf of the village. Three councillors had resigned in the past year, Anne Brewer, Moray Scott Dagleish & Bill Oscroft. They had all worked diligently for the community. MH said public service of this nature is unpaid and puts Councillors at some risk from unwarranted abuse and this was partly the reason for one Councillors resignation.
The work the Council had been involved in during the past year was the leasing of a piece of unused allotment land to the Cricket Club to enable the provision of Cricket Nets. The Tennis Courts had been resurfaced and the Council had given some financial contribution to both clubs who had successfully raised large sums by grants & donations.
Erosion around the Green continues to be a problem and the planned Golpla installation is going to cost a substantial amount of money and is being reviewed in the coming year
The ditches around the village had been significantly cleaned during the winter.
The Council had received four Freedom of Information requests and this had resulted in high legal costs which would become clear with the publication of the Audited Accounts
The Council had made a significant increase in its Precept and MH clarified the costs that had led to the increase. He answered questions from the floor about this subject.

2017/044 **Finance report**
As MH had covered this in some depth in his answers to the floor no further report was requested

2017/048 **Reports by village organisations – (taken out of sequence on Agenda)**
Rob Marsh gave a report on behalf of **PAGE** – OCC continue to push for gravel extraction in the south of the county & to extract in excess of the 10 year demand. PAGE & OXAGE have worked together to put forward an objection. They are respected by OCC for the extensive evidence they provide within their reports. A legal challenge, if required, could cost £16000 and it would likely be Autumn before any decisions were made.

2017/045 **Committee Reports**
Planning – MH read a report compiled by Bill Oscroft setting out the number of applications the Council had considered over the previous year. This and the decisions by SODC will be filed with the minutes
Infrastructure – EJ read the report compiled by Bill Oscroft detailing the achievements of the Council with regard to infrastructure issues. These included advising Parishioners to report potholes and other infrastructure problems via 'Fix my Street' and following up slow repairs.
Repairs to a noisy rattling sewer access in Henley Road
Defective radar-triggered speed sign on Henley Road.
Investigating subsidence at New Road culvert & follow up of already reported culvert collapse

north of Warborough

Follow up possible vehicle damage to traffic light loops at Shillingford Bridge

Dealing with overhanging hedges obstructing footways and footpaths & liaising with landowners or OCC as appropriate.

Liaising with the footpath warden and a landowner for footpath problem to prevent the same problem at next sowing point

Assisting the Chair with ditch maintenance and associated management

Liaising with OCC to organise repairs to surface drain outfalls in the Thame road ditch

Fixing pedestrian safety signs at Wharf Road and the bus shelter.

In conjunction with the County Councillor, expediting bollard replace outside the shop.

Liaising with Gigaclear to fix an outstanding infrastructure beautification problem.

During the period of this report the Parish Council was provided with a direct access route to OCC for infrastructure-type problems. Using this facility was undoubtedly a great help with expediting repairs and generally better contact with OCC over and above 'fixmystreet'. It must be placed on record the co-operation shown by the OCC CSC Liaison Team, together with the help from our County & SODC Councillors and, of course, our very own and valued Parish Clerk.

Finally, Parishioners must be thanked for increasing their use of 'fixmystreet' and the PC will endeavour to help Parishioners if the statutory body appears slow to react to already-reported problems.

Environment – MH reported that it had mainly been tree work covered under the environment heading – these included the trees in the churchyard & the willow by the telephone box. Dog fouling continues to be a significant issue all around the village with the Green & around the Play Equipment being particularly affected which puts those using the recreation facilities are put at risk – particularly young children. Efforts to educate dog owners have been largely unsuccessful.

Recreation – PD gave a brief resume of the recreation facilities although much of this had been covered in Chair's report and the discussion on Finance. He again noted the Cricket & Tennis Club facilities. Play equipment still requires some attention or replacement and the long-term viability of the Hammer Lane site needs to be reviewed in the coming year. He & JB will consider the budgeted updating of the Pavilion interior which may take advantage of money available in the form of a grant from SODC

Communications & Website – KB reported that the Parish Website is regularly updated with Council notices, minutes of the meetings and documentation regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. The Community email continues to be a good tool for communicating to the village although it is noted that not everyone subscribes to it. The Parish Magazine carries a monthly report from the Parish Council. Work is proceeding with the Warborough & Shillingford Society regarding using the Parish Website to display items of historic interest. KB is to attend an OALC course on Social Media as a way for Parish Councils to communicate.

Events / Filming – EJ reported that last year's event had been the celebrations for Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday. Profits raised at that event would be used to purchase a picnic bench for the Play area. There had been one half day filming in the village this year which brought in an income of £500. A fayre was planned for this year.

Greet Hall – MH reported that as a result of a lot of effort and work by Will Partridge, for the first time in many years the Greet Hall had made a profit. He thanked Will Partridge for his continuing work. Money spent in refurbishment had been well spent and the hall was now very regularly used.

Allotments – Colin McLarty reported that 47 allotments were now taken with just three remaining. There were in poor condition and unlikely to be taken up in their current state. Allotment holders had asked if a perimeter fence could be installed to prevent deer. PD advised the meeting that he would soon be having pigs back on the allotments and last time there were there the deer stayed away.

2017/046

District Councillors Report – JB read the report circulated by email and it will be placed on file.

2017/047

County Councillors Report – LLG gave a resume of her report which will be placed on the Parish Website – she highlighted the Potholes – OCC had purchased more equipment to speed up repairs. Highway services had been given money and this would be spent on highway verges. Subsidised buses ended in July but communities could make use of the Comet Service which uses transport that only take Children to school and adults to day centres. A new Park &

Ride is to be located at Sandford-on-Thames. Children's services in Oxfordshire are now 'outstanding'. OCC had criticised SODC first Local Plan but were more supportive of the second draft. Oxford – Cambridge Freeway was planned but could be 20 years in the making. Footpaths at Dorchester – The landowner had not done anything illegal & talks continue. LLG had been able to alleviate a traffic problem in Warborough with white lines outside the School giving opportunities for vehicles to pass. Berinsfield Children's Centre had been granted £30000 over three years with a rent free period of twelve months.

2017/048

Reports by village organisations

Neighbourhood Plan – EJ as PC representative on the NHP presented the report reminding the meeting that the NP Steering Committee had begun their work in Oct 2015. Since that time 13 villagers have given their considerable time and they have conducted two village surveys (Dec 2015 and April 2016) and led 8 public meetings – which is above and beyond any statutory requirements of a NP. The draft plan will be published soon, exact time still to be confirmed. We are currently liaising with SODC and waiting for them to come back to us on a few points and then we can publish the draft which will start the statutory consultation process which is a 12-week consultation. This is made up of pre-submission which takes 6 weeks where the village can give feedback. This is followed by submission of the plan to SODC where it is reviewed for the next six weeks. The process for consultation will be explained nearer the time but every parishioner will be given the opportunity to comment. The plan then goes to an external examiner, this can take any length of time and then finally there will be a referendum for the village to vote. SODC are currently in a consultation period with their local plan. Within the context of our NP we have to consider the moving target of their local plan which in the latest draft last week gives us a target of 5 to 10% of new houses 5% being 22 new homes but if it's the higher 10% target that would mean 44 new homes. There were no questions from the floor

2017/049

Representations by Parishioners

Will Partridge set out his wish that the War Memorial be restored to its former glory with the replacement of the railings that once surrounded it. He felt the design may have to be slightly modified because the old design would probably not comply to current health & safety regulations. If the Council approved the suggestion he would take control of the project in the first instance, obtaining designs & quotations. He hoped to raise the funds by Public Subscription but may be requesting some assistance from the Parish Council. He was keen to reinstate to coincide with the 100 year anniversary of the end of WWI – 2018. It was agreed by Council. Will also would like to thank the people who worked to keep the Memorial neat & tidy. MH suggested it may be a good time to refurbish the lettering on the names.

MH asked the meeting if anyone else had anything that they wished to draw to the attention of the Council. Tina Pascoe requested that it be minuted that the village thanked Bill Oscroft for all the work he had done while on the Council and expressed her regret at his resignation.

The meeting closed at 21.05