

FLADBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Fladbury Parish Council held on Monday 28th January 2013 at 7:30pm in the Sports Pavilion, Fladbury

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Present: | Chair I Southcott | 0 Parishioners |
| | V/chair G Mills | WCC Cllr Eyre |
| | M Anderson | WDC Cllr McDonald |
| | D Day | Clerk – R J Coles |
| | A Stephens | |
| | B Carter | |
| | N Manser | |
| | S Insall | |

Apology was received from Cllr Llewellyn.

2. Declarations of Interest - none

3. Approval of Minutes – Cllr Stephens proposed, seconded by Cllr Manser, and the meeting agreed that minutes for the 17th December 2012 be accepted and signed by the Chair.

4. Intentionally Blank

The meeting continued as there were no parishioners present.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) MyParish/website/ecomunications – Cllr Day reported that some additional information (glasshouse, defibrillators) had been posted. He requested those councillors who had not provided a photo to send one in. It was agreed that WDC Cllr McDonald would issue his monthly report in a format more suitable to be added straight to the website and WCC Cllr Eyre would forward her blog site hyperlink. The issue of usage statistics was being investigated with Steve Curtis. Cllr Day is investigating the total cost of the website over a specific timescale so that sharing the cost with at least two to three other village organisations can be set up formally. It was agreed to give this topic its own agenda slot in future.
- b) Annual Parish meeting/Bus shelter – Chair Southcott reported that he had written to WCC Safety Officer again with regards to the outstanding risk assessment and other matters; although it is believed that there were delays due to the many recent highways issues with floods and snow, the urgency of the subject remains. WCC Cllr Eyre advised that the other matters (eg Farm Street should be referred to Ian Bamford and/or David Lavender)
- c) Meadows interpretation panels – Chair Southcott requested that this be carried forward to February meeting.
- d) New Homes Bonus (NHB) usages – The clerk reported that the third year of the NHB award had resulted in a null value (Year 2 £1842x6 and Year 1 no award, of which £1250 claimed to date). Cllr Insall reported that the third defibrillator training course had been held and the list of responders increased to 24. A new list will be produced for circulation/noticeboard and the website. Wider awareness will also be addressed. The insurance situation will be rechecked by the clerk. It was agreed that an invoice of £50 towards the free training would be acceptable. Other projects were again encouraged and one of these may be the surfacing of the Recreation Ground car park. It was agreed to give this topic its own agenda slot in future.
- e) Road Signage re Flooding – Chair Southcott reported that there were still issues in particular to the exact siting at the A44 junction with Station Rd. On Sunday morning the signs were on the junction and three quarters of the way across the carriageway. This was thought to be unsafe, were moved and WCC Cllr Eyre advised. The original WCC siting right on the junction had initially thought to have been changed to further down Station Rd. This would not appear to be the case and a new safer alternative has been implemented by WCC in the meantime which may have not been implemented correctly to start with thus causing the recent concerns. WCC Cllr Eyre would take up this issue. The lack of signage at the Green this time around was admitted to be in error.
- f) Village Sign – It was reported that the sign had been demounted the previous day. In addition to the routine maintenance required, it was noticed that the colouring of the sign had faded badly and a repaint will be investigated.
- g) A44 cover repair – The clerk reported that this had been completed and was under monitoring.
- h) Recreational Ground Grit Bin resiting – The clerk reported that this was still bogged down internally within WCC who were trying an alternative approach.
- i) Recreation Ground Watering – Chair Southcott reported that this was being investigated by Peter Sudlow (Cricket Club) and David Train (Paddle Club).

- j) Wharf damage – V/chair Mills reported that LANT had been back to smooth the surface damage and when the better weather arrives seeding and a post cemented in were required.

6. PARISH & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

7. **POLICING** - contacts are PC Dave Shortell & CSO Simon Hall (03003 333000 Ext 3408/3499)
(Also new less urgent 101 services complement 999 emergencies)

The clerk will instigate the procedure for the Walkabout cones and also inform the police of the new A44 roundabout traffic lights due from February 17th to April the 5th with manual monitoring during week day rush hours, morning and evening. The police will also be asked for their advice and extra vigilance with regards to any additional traffic using the village as a short cut to miss the temporary traffic light layout.

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

WCC Cllr Eyre reported that there was an email report awaiting circulation after the meeting. Cuts of 7.4% Year 1 and 15% Year 2 were now to be followed by an extra 650 redundancies to the 850 already. Concern over rural area grants being less favourable than urban grant was being pursued with Central Government. WCC would soon be only 60% of its original size at the start of the Austerity Programme. Broadband Service programme has been put out to tendering, maps are available and it is incumbent on businesses to notify WCC of their requirements.

The EVG application for a variation to condition 8 will go to Committee in the last week of March due to there being ten objectors, particularly from Lower Moor. Another planning variation is due for an Educational Centre and other minor changes. Cllr Eyre reported that she would circulate this by email. There was some concern that FPC had not been consulted on this. (see below).

WDC Cllr McDonald referred to his already circulated report. He had had some success in garnering support for investigating river dredging. The Mushroom Farm activity is being closely monitored by enforcement. Issue of Fladbury Hill drainage has been addressed with the help of V/chair Mills. Severn Trent has offered to meet with local representatives/residents with regards to the Mill Bank pumping station. Work on providing a Training Academy In Evesham to address knowledge gaps in the workforce is well under way.

9. PLANNING

- **W/09/01922/LUE – Ms L Hyett, Whitsun Brook Farm, Hill Furze – Certificate of lawfulness (existing use) – use of land as the garden area to the farmhouse** – Concerns over the quality and detail of this application have been filed and a decision is awaited. WDC have agreed to attempt to progress and resolve this long outstanding issue. WDC Enforcement has indicated that this is not their top priority and will respond in due course. **(No change)**
- **W/12/00835/PN– Wood Norton Farmhouse – Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 4 bed two storey dwelling & erection of workshop** – An objection was filed and permission has been refused. An appeal based on the provision of a specific individual's medical needs has been raised. An appeal date of 27th November at 10am was attended by V/chair Mills and Cllr Day and the inspectorate's decision is awaited. The expected decision time of six weeks is against an average of eleven weeks of which only nine will have passed by January's Parish Council meeting. **(STOP PRESS Appeal dismissed, costs refused - decisions notified by email day after this meeting)**
- **W/12/01129/AB– Spring Hill Farm, Salters Lane, Fladbury WR10 2PE – Agricultural irrigation reservoir** - Concerns have been filed and a decision is awaited. The two main outstanding issues appear to be a waste pipe under the site and Worcestershire archaeological staff indicating a major sensitive site. Since then the Environment Agency have shown concerns and a proper survey of the site has been requested. EVG consider that the costs of the archaeological work are excessive and they were not intending to proceed on that basis. **(No change)**
- **12/000079/CM – Vale Green Energy – Variation of condition 8 of 11/000020/CM (Glasshouse site request to build digester in parallel timescale with A44 roundabout rather than sequentially)** – It had been generally agreed at a meeting held at the beginning of last year that it would be unreasonable to insist upon the implementation of the condition requiring EVG to complete the roundabout construction before work began on the AD as this would have meant the loss of a 'growing season'. This meeting had been attended by WCC, WDC and Fladbury PC councillors (Eyre, Tucker, McDonald, Southcott and Mills) as well as officers from WCC. However, it was agreed that Cllr Day and the Chair would revisit the permission to ensure that all other conditions were being adhered to. A no objection response was filed by WDC in support with the Parish Council to offer no objection responses to WCC and a decision is awaited. **(WCC meeting end of March)**

- **W/12/02789/PP – Mr D Taylor of Laurels for Manor Cottage West, Coach Drive – Demolition of existing 2 no. garages and build 1 larger garage** – Early indications are no objection but a request to replace a holly tree being felled with one or two other suitable plantings. **WDC reply required within 21 days of 10/01/13 (i.e. 31/01/13)**
- **W/12/02827/LB – Mr P Stubbs, White House, Station Rd – Internal alterations and improvements, replace 4 no. roof lights. Insert new window to kitchen** – Early indications are no objection. **WDC reply required within 21 days of 10/01/13 (i.e. 31/01/13)**

Glasshouse Liaison Group – Chair Southcott reported that he, V/chair Mills, Cllr Day, two from Lower Moor, WDC Cllr Eyre, WDC Cllr Tucker and three EVG representatives had met the previous Tuesday. WDC Cllr McDonald was unable to attend. Traffic lights for the construction of the new roundabout on the A44 expected from 17th February to 5th April (although weather delay likely already) based on five day working but may be reduced by seven day working being acceptable if no local complaints are forthcoming. They will be manned at weekday rush hours, morning and night, to address any substantial build ups in either direction. Thirteen street lamps are the minimum requirement but they will be very directional. Attempts to limit the signage and also cost implications (£22-38,000) appear not to have been successful – WCC Cllr Eyre to investigate. EVG again raised the local village issues of incursions of garden waste and other items onto their land, particularly behind Paynes Lane, and also dogs roaming amongst their crops. The Parish Council will try to liaise with local residents in order to broker some form of cooperation to eradicate the issues. The issue of an Educational Centre is noted above.

A44 Mushroom Goods Vehicle Operating Centre Licence Variation - Chair Southcott reported that feedback from our Peter Luff MP following written questions to the Minister and civil servants would see no change in the way the Traffic Commissioners worked without consulting Parish Councils. But as previously reported WDC have the site under review and have indicated to the applicant that a change of use application would be expected if the licence variation were granted.

Housing Needs Survey – Chair Southcott requested carrying forward with the Bretforton visit still outstanding.

10. FINANCE

a) Cllr Insall proposed, seconded by Cllr Stephens, and the meeting agreed to approve the Receipts and Payments A/C up to 28/01/13 for chair to sign with the addition of a British Gas monthly electric bill for the pavilion.

b) Invoices for Payment from above approval – £

1680	66 bgas pavilion electric	17.72
1681	67 lighting 3Q12/13 4Q12	685.08
1682	68 clerk jan sal/all paye	285.71
1683	69 clean pav jan	160.00

1684	70 bgas pavilion electric	23.86	late
------	---------------------------	-------	------

c) Cllr Anderson proposed, seconded by Cllr Insall, and the meeting agreed that Councillors should have a 'monthly heads up' expectation of what expenditures were being incurred within budget and any over £250 'out of the ordinary' should be deferred to Council, except in an emergency where Chair or respective 'Responsible Councillor' could agree with work to go ahead. The Clerk will produce an analysis of a typical yearly profile of payments to identify any specific issues in order to improve the process. It was also agreed that this item should be moved well forward in the agenda with time permitted for the official signing of the cheques.

11. LIGHTING (Cllr Carter 860 247) - none

12. FOOTPATHS/TREES (WCC Warden Cllr Mills footpaths 860 644, WDC Warden Cllr Stephens trees 860 320)

V/chair Mills reported that after contacts with Network Rail on 10th September, 17th December, 18th January he had been told it was Work In Progress on 15th January, he will continue to progress. The proposed Jubilee Walk 2012 issue of under the bridge access may have been solved with the original landowner having sold out to Birmingham Anglers for whom the proposals may be more attractive with regards to disabled access.

Cllr Stephens reported minor activity with regards to a No 1 Chantry request to tidy up trees. The trees at the Recreation Ground have again been a cause of concern and Cllr Stephens will talk to their owners at WCC to attempt to get them inspected and tidied up if possible, whilst also ensuring the WDC Tree Officer is aware of the situation due to their being in the Conservation Area.

13. CORRESPONDENCE - none

14. OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- a) Cllr Anderson reported that the current football contracts needed tightening up with regards to 'fitness to play' provision which will be addressed with the clerk for next season. Current use was very marginal and he will talk to the current clubs to see what mitigation can be put in place immediately.
- b) Pavilion/Recreation Ground – It was agreed that Chair Southcott, V/chair Mills and Cllr Anderson would share support and oversight responsibilities for the pavilion and Recreation Ground.
- c) Following Cllr Llewellyn's indications that he would like to be relieved of his Lengthsman duty, Cllr Manser volunteered to take over and the clerk will arrange a meeting and village wide tour. V/chair Mills indicated that he was receiving mixed messages with regards to Lengthsman's ability to work on A class roads. The clerk was asked to investigate the issue.
- d) Complaint handling procedure – Chair will draft a proposal for the next meeting.
- e) Informal discussions on roles and responsibilities of councillors and clerk had taken place. The clerk has agreed to keep an activity diary for future reference.
- f) Communication – in council communications. The clerk was requested not to copy all councillors into all outgoing correspondence, only the chair and relevant councillor(s) need be copied in. Councillors were reminded that a nil response was not normally acceptable and that some form of response (as with planning applications) be provided.
- g) Postings on Parish Council section of the village website was dealt with above.
- h) It was reiterated that it was in the Council's and Councillors' interest to ensure that if training was required then Councillors should indicate that they wish to participate in any such available courses.
- i) The state of the Car Park and in particular access on foot by the rail to the pavilion is cause for concern and all are to investigate or pass on any contacts to the clerk for a solution.
- j) Cllr Anderson proposed, seconded by Cllr Insall, and the meeting agreed to accept a request from Fladbury 'Woodward' Community Orchard for an annual grant of £100 towards their separate insurance costs.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(s)

Monday 25th February 2013 – Parish Council Meeting will take place at the Sport's Pavilion at 7:30pm. Any items for the agenda and proposed corrections to the minutes must be lodged with the Clerk by Sunday 17th February 2013.

The meeting closed at 9:50pm.

Signed: **Date:**