



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Councillors present : Justine Garbutt (JG) Richard Munro (RM) Becky Hird (BH) Dennis Govan (DG) Mike Honour (MH)

Residents in attendance: J Harter (JH), S Williams (SW), R Mawle (RJM), K Govan (KV), C Carter (CC), S Barling (SB), L Abberley +2 (LA)

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49 **Apologies for Absence:**  
None

50 **To Receive Declarations of Interest:**  
None

51 Thames Water representative:

Denise Kinsella walked round Lower End with DG and JG representing APC. She was shown where the problems lie.

- The pumping station goes to Carterton, there is a drainage strategy being implemented which should relieve the situation.
- Surface water should not drain into foul water- old houses do but new build houses cannot connect soakaways have to be built. Connecting to foul drain is last resort
- Sewers flow with gravity so from Filkins/Broadwell to Alvescot on to Carterton
- Sewers are not water tight and cannot be due to gas build up so water can leak into system through surface water or faults in pipes
- Surface water is taken into account when survey is done on the capacity of pipes. 10% is allowed. If there is a problem when land is flooded there would be problems with eg flushing toilets, bubbling drain covers. There is capacity in the sewers currently
- Any planning applications- probably less than 10% increase- will not cause a problem
- Old rectory Farm has had problems in wet conditions
- Pumping station has 2 pumps, which alternate; they are regularly maintained and are linked to engineers if there is a breakdown. At peak times they can run together. New telemetry and boards will make them more reliable and robust
- Carterton Drainage Strategy document- pumping station is being upgraded. Could be new or specialised pumps, there is no mention of Alvescot. Alvescot is a lower priority than other areas.
- Low priority as only 1 call this year, 1 2016 and 1 2015. If TW are not phoned then calls and problems will not be logged and no action will be taken
- Sewage on the road is usually a problem with the pumping station. **0800 316 9800 is 24 hr number, residents must speak to TW.** New plate will be put on pumping station.
- Area where sewage pipes connect there is a reported waterfall effect so this will be inspected to see if there is a problem. APC will be contacted so a Councillor can attend.
- Rising main- pipe exiting pumping station is sealed as it is under pressure, it is the only pipe that goes through a field. All the others are in the road.
- Items put down the drains so not help with flow, cotton buds, wipes and fat. The pipe was cleaned from Greystones to pumping station and down to rectory Farm.
- Pumps are rattling in pumping station so concrete is disintegrating

Thanks were given to Denise for attending. If any further questions APC will contact her.

52 **Adjournment for Public**

SW – Footpath from The walk to the green lattice work of trees have fallen over.

njm- At public meeting 99% of residents were against the application but 1% were not. They should have been mentioned in APC letter to WODC so it was not a true report. Councillors on APC should not give their personal views they should represent the village.

Gap of 30m between Old rectory and new houses was left because of complaints about farm machinery in Lower End so this was used as access. Gate is now locked and will not be used again, traffic will go down Lower End.

Trees have grown over speed indicator

War Memorial- what is progress. Discussed later in meeting

Planning – people always going on about flooding. There has only been flooding once in 2007. Stone Cottage and Home Farm are only ones affected.

KG- Any update on Rectory Farm application? Archaeological digs has the interim report been published.

Ecological report describes Alvescot as Conservation Target Area not Conservation Area. This means that on the day nothing of note was found- some only reply on desktop surveys. The barn owls could not have been there so were not included.

SB- Field 1468 application not significantly different Max height 3.75m single storey. Bradstone is not in keeping better in timber.

53 **David MacFarlane:**

Unable to attend

54 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

54.1 Minutes of meeting 19<sup>th</sup> July were accepted and signed

54.2 None

55 **Planning Applications: RM**

55.1 17/01237/FUL – Field 1468 – withdrawn

55.2 17/01707/FUL – Park Farm- approved

55.3 17/01874/HHD – Ramblers Cottage – approved

55.4 17/02098/OUT – Land south of Station Road 54 dwellings – awaiting decision

55.5 17/02159/HHD – 5 Thorpes Field – approved

55.6 17/02481/HHD – Rectory Barn – awaiting decision

55.7 17/02628/HHD – Greystones – awaiting decision

55.8 17/02476/HHD – Stoneycroft – awaiting decision

55.9 17/02570/LBC & 17/02569/HHD – Mill House – awaiting decision

55.10 17/023853/FUL – Field 1468 – awaiting decision. This shows the stables attached to the barn in the application which has been withdrawn. There is still insufficient and confusing information on the WODC website Clerk will contact them again.

LA: Application does show both buildings WODC lost half the application and so it was split into two. Stables were not supposed to proceed the barn hence the drawing. Barn will be re-submitted. WODC suggested they put in for stable block only.

Land south of Station Road – in answer to RHW comments- there seems to be a misconception. The APC letter to WODC was not a report on the public meeting. some comments at the meeting were not relevant to planning issues so our response stands. Any Councillors speaking out of turn will be dealt with under APC rules.

55.11 16/03585/FUL -Discharge of Conditions- MH has read all the emails and understands the school are doing all they can. He proposed this item now be put to bed and progress will be monitored. After school clubs are being introduced later in year so pick up will be staggered. They are under a lot of financial pressure due to grants being cut on rural schools, they do have some ideas but the walking bus cannot be considered at the moment.

JG – school strongly implied they were going to do a travel plan. Phil Shaw volunteered to write to school to impose some pressure to find a solution.

MH: David Waters is contacting the Diocese to ask what alternative they recommend if the gate at the top of the car park is not thought suitable. It is not considered productive to impose pressure if there are no finances available.

MH and RM will review at a later date.

55.12 E mail was received from Joe Harter concerning his planning application. He has been given permission for 5 houses and on talking to WODC they are encouraging more houses on the site. JH is asking

the APC if 24 were too many is there a number which would be supportable. If it reaches 11 there will need to be affordable housing. Application was dropped to 5 on advice from WODC 0 with the LP not being adopted there is scope for more.

Does the APC need to have another public meeting or do we have enough information. 11 houses would be 40% affordable ~ 4 affordable and 7 market.

Plan A – is supportive of affordable housing- our Development Strategy states that we do want to talk to residents before submitting an application. Anyone has the right to put in an application or re-submit for a change. APC will have a site meeting with JH and on the result of this will decide if a public meeting needs to be held. If so this will be convened 1 hour before the October PC meeting.

**56 Playing Field: MH**

56.1 Nothing to report.

56.2 No quotation received before the meeting

56.3 MUGA cleaning – quotes have been obtained by MDCH. Dragon Courts quote for £576 was accepted.

56.4 Groundsman L Garbutt has painted the gates but they will need a third coat. Slide and benches are done.

**57 Traffic & Highways - MH**

57.1 Road works resiting a drain were advertised for 2 weeks and it was 4½. The phone number gave no information. Paul Wilson to be contacted as not so Oxfordshire Together. Heavy equipment has crushed the gravel in the car park.

**58 Environment & Conservation: DG**

58.1 No report

58.2 Litter pick up. Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10am. DG will advertise in Parish Pump. Clerk will put on website. MH to organize pickers and gloves from WODC. Clerk will update risk assessment for next meeting.

**59 Countryside & Footpaths: MH**

59.1 As path warden MH has received a list of footpaths requiring action, we presume this is in response to our footpath survey.

**60 Village Hall Rep: BH**

60.1 Nothing to report

**61 Plan A:**

RM circulated list. Appendix 1. Updates have been attached.

- Point 6.1 permission has been obtained from Mr & Mrs Pearce for which APC is very grateful. Clerk has had plaque price renewed, which is £888. Installation in wall £260. RM will check the wording and the plaque will be ordered. It will not be in time for Remembrance Sunday but will be in place for 2018.

**61 Finance:**

61.1 Cheques were authorized for payment and account balances circulated.

61.2 Income & Expenditure figures were circulated. Clerk has written comparison with precept and it shows the year is running to budget.

61.3 Audit – audit has been completed. Notice of Conclusion has been displayed and Certificate was reported to APC. There were no issues.

61.4 Clerks hours were reviewed with new legislation and website needing updating. This was agreed.

**62. Fireworks:**

62.1 Insurance has confirmed there is no minimum number of trained personnel required on the evening. Help: DG proposed Joe Harter, who was present and agreed; He will contact Matt Lane and Chris Banbury to see if they are available. MH will contact PCC to tell them it will go ahead.

62.2 Clerk has updated Risk Assessment. This will be sent to Insurance Company.

**63 AGGROW:**

63.1 Plan has been approved and Clanfield is not mentioned.

64 **Parish Council Policies:**

64.1 Communications Policy – approved and signed

64.2 Health & Safety Policy – approved and signed

64.3 Equality & Diversity Policy – approved and signed

All will be published on the website. They will need to be reviewed annually.

65 **St Peters School:**

MH has been contacted as they wish to hold after school clubs in the playground. Football on the open space, which there was no objection to, and netball on the MUGA. They have asked to store the netball goals in the corner of the MUGA and bring them out when needed. Concern was raised as to whether moving them about would cause damage to the surface. MDCH will be asked for his opinion and raise with Dragon Courts if necessary.

66 **Fete Committee:**

RM circulated the revised constitution for approval. The Council agreed in principal to the Constitution with two main question: if there are 4 trustees and a fifth independent as Chair plus up to four more independent trustees a quorum of 3 may be too low. Is there a way of appeal to rejected applications.

67 **Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be on 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm