

**OWSLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
10th MARCH 2008
AT 7.45 PM IN OWSLEBURY PARISH HALL**

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Mr A Manship

Councillors: Mr J Chapman, Mrs J Chase, Mrs T Meads, Mr R O'Neill, Mr R Page, Mr G Tull.

IN ATTENDANCE

County Councillor: Mr P Mason

District Councillors: Mr L Ruffell, Mr R Humby

Clerk: Mrs E Manship

37/08 APOLOGIES

None

38/08 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Chairman welcomed Cllr O'Neill as a member of Owslebury Parish Council. Cllr O'Neill signed the "Declaration of Acceptance of Office".

39/08 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Cllr Chapman disclosed a preferential interest as a neighbour to Marwell Activity Centre – agenda item 18a

40/08 POLICE CONSTABLE REPORT

None

41/08 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2008 had been circulated. One amendment was made. The Chairman signed the minutes.

42/08 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) To cut the hedge at the top of Crabbes Hill so that the 30mph sign can be seen.

Cllr Tull reported that his hedge had been cut that afternoon.

b) To e-mail comments re: WDDF to Cllr Manship who will forward to WCC as part of consultation

Cllr Manship thanked Cllrs Chapman and Meads for their contributions. He had forwarded the views of OPC to WCC as part of the WDDF consultation

c) To e-mail a contact for Hazeley Estates to the Clerk so that Cllr Manship can contact them direct re: Footpath 2

Cllr Tull confirmed the Manager who he knew had moved from Hazeley Estates.

Action	By When	By Whom
• To contact the Manager of Hazeley Estate re: the styles on footpath 2	14/04/08	AM

43/08 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

a) RTA at Longwood Crossroads 12/02/08

Mrs Sprot informed the Council that the Hampshire Chronicle had stated that speed was not an issue in the above RTA. But that Mr White, owner of the lorry concerned had confirmed speed was an issue.

Cllr Manship confirmed the Council's concern as to the number of accidents in this stretch of the Morestead Road.

Action	By When	By Whom
• To contact WCC Traffic Management to request double white lines to prevent overtaking and a speed camera on the Morestead Road. 12/08	14/04/08	Clerk

b) Whaddon Lane

Mr J Ward, landowner in Whaddon Lane between Hollybank and Lower Farm Lane, reported his concern regarding the serious erosion to his land and that of Cllr Tull's at the top of Whaddon Lane. Due to the volume of traffic that is using the lane and vehicles driving on the banks to pass in opposite directions. Accelerated damage had occurred over the past month since the hedges had been cut back. He confirmed he had written to the Chairman on 5th March 08 expressing his concerns. He asked the Parish Council's course of action and his rights to kerb his land. He confirmed his preference would be to contribute financially to a proper scheme of kerbing and traffic control that addressed this problem. Mr Tull also confirmed his willingness to contribute financially to kerbing alongside his land.

Cllr Manship reported that he had recently met with Chris Wilson from Hampshire Highways to discuss options. Mr Wilson's suggestion is that Whaddon Lane is made one way for timed periods morning and evening. And that the width of the road be narrowed and kerbed with double kerbing (similar to that at the corner of Hurst and Whaddon Lane) to protect the banks. Another option would be to widen the road by compulsory purchase however Mr Wilson strongly advises against this option, as it will increase the volume and speed of traffic through the village.

Please refer to section 51/08 for discussion and actions on this topic.

c) Bottom Pond Farm – Planning Application 08/00311/08

Mr Paul Hellard spoke to the Council regarding the recent application at Bottom Pond Farm. He confirmed that it was currently an unviable agricultural unit. That permission had already been granted for conversion to 2 large 4-bedroom houses but he and his brothers felt that smaller units would be more appropriate on the site. Considering highway safety they proposed to close both entrances to the site and create one entrance using the best site lines. The question was asked as to whether these would be "affordable houses". The answer was that they would be "more affordable".

44/08 COUNTY AND CITY COUNCILLORS AND POLICE CONSTABLE REPORTS

a) Posts and Rocks in Verges

Cllr Mason confirmed that, further to the previous discussion in Public Questions and Comments, he could confirm that HCC does not look favourably to landowners placing posts and rocks in their verges. They can be removed by HCC but most importantly if a vehicle is damaged on a post or rock the landowner is liable not HCC. Permission from Hampshire Highways needs to be obtained by anyone wishing to privately kerb their boundary.

b) Definitive Map of Rights of Way

Cllr Mason confirmed the definitive map of Rights of Way had been published and a copy is being sent to all Clerks.

Action	By When	By Whom
• To follow up.	10/04/08	Clerk

c) Countryside Service Grant to Recreation and Heritage

Cllr Mason confirmed that the Countryside Service Grant had been increased from £11,000 to £20,000. 50% grants could be requested from Andrew Smith, Head of Countryside Service to improve the condition of rights of way.

d) Council Tax

Cllr Mason reported that the County Council Tax rate had increased by 4.5%. He was disappointed to note that whilst he appreciated the Police needed the additional finance their rate had increased by 8.1% which was above the capped level of 5%. He wished to reassure the public that he had not voted for this increase as he felt an increase above the capped level was fundamentally wrong. Cllr Ruffell confirmed the WCC rate had increased by 3.9%.

e) Highways Repairs

Cllr Mason confirmed that Balfour Beattie had lost the contract for highways repairs, being replaced by Amy Construction.

f) PUSH & Transport for South Hampshire

Cllr Humby reported he had attended a joint Transport for South Hampshire and PUSH meeting on the 7th March. The purpose of this meeting was twofold; firstly to brief the PUSH authorities on the transport strategy and secondly to look at the draft PUSH Business Plan.

45/08 HIGHWAYS

a) Baybridge Lane

The Clerk reported on correspondence received regarding the condition of Baybridge Lane.

Action	By When	By Whom
• The Clerk to notify Hampshire Highways	10/03/08	Clerk

b) Bus Shelter – Morestead

Cllr Manship raised the condition of the bus shelter in Morestead with the Council. He confirmed that he had taken the opportunity of asking Mr Brian Foot, when erecting the new noticeboard in Morestead, for a quote to repair and repaint the shelter. This stood at £140. Cllr Tull stated this was far too much to spend on a bus shelter he had never seen anyone use. Other councillors felt it was important to keep the bus shelter in good condition.

Action	By When	By Whom
• The Clerk to obtain comparable quotes	10/03/08	Clerk

46/08 RIGHTS OF WAY

No general matters

47/08 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

Cllr Manship asked Cllr Page to pass on the Council's thanks to Mrs Sue Page for providing and organising the refreshments for the VDS meeting. It was very much appreciated.

Cllr Manship invited Mrs Sprot to feedback on the outcomes of the meeting of 3rd March 08: Mrs Sprot confirmed that of the 30 in attendance 18 people had offered to help and 7 had offered to stand on the VDS Working Party. She felt positive about the research required as this could be divided up between volunteers but was concerned about who had the skills to write the document using the terminology to meet planning law. She was wary about calling meetings when everyone was so busy but she would probably call a meeting of the Working Party to discuss the next stage. Cllr Manship confirmed that Steve Opacic had volunteered to guide the working party in the writing of the document and that Sparsholt had found him extremely helpful in this regard.

Action	By When	By Whom
• To call a meeting of VDS Working Party	10/03/08	Mrs Sprot

48/08 RESPONSIBILITIES FOR NEW COUNCILLOR

In line with Cllr O'Neill's areas of interest he agreed to join the VDS working party alongside Cllrs Chapman, Meads and Page. Also to take a lead in Enforcement Issues and act as representative with WCC Enforcement Team for the Council.

Action	By When	By Whom
• To supply enforcement documentation for Cllr O'Neill	10/03/08	Clerk

49/08 MARWELL ZOO – GREEN TRAVEL PLAN

Cllrs Chapman, Chase, Tull, Manship and Meads attended a presentation led by Pro-vision at Marwell Zoo to introduce their Green Travel Plan. The purpose being to look at how the zoo can improve green travel to the zoo by public and staff. Nearly 100% of the public travel by car to the zoo. General discussion took place regarding alternative methods of transport e.g. links with Winchester Park and Ride, additional bus service, a minibus to collect staff for work etc. James Cretney, CEO confirmed this is a yearlong project and the zoo will keep the Parish Council updated. General feeling of the Council is that the Green Travel Plan for the zoo needs to be considered alongside the village as a whole as part of the VDS

Action	By When	By Whom
• To be considered as part of the VDS	Ongoing	Mrs Sprot

50/08 PLAY AREA

a) Dunlop Play Area Assessment – March 2008

A copy of the recent play area assessment had been circulated to all Cllrs. The Clerk and Cllr Page indicated their disappointment at aspects of the report further to the work that had taken place over the past year. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Stuart Dunlop-Dempsey from WCC Open Space Fund who had confirmed a number of Parish Councils had raised their concerns over the 2008 play inspection reports. He confirmed that should an incident take place in relation to the report then the Parish Council would be liable. However, the Parish Council may wish to arrange for a comparative inspection report from Rospa, which may be more balanced. The supplier that carried out recent works has the required safety certificates and the Cllrs were surprised at the comments made. On receipt of the Rospa inspection report the Council will be in a better position to carry out necessary steps and/or speak to the supplier regarding work completed. Meanwhile Cllr Page will continue to regularly monitor the site.

Cllrs Manship and Page confirmed that they had inspected the play area, taking into consideration the recommendations made within the play area inspection report and confirmed there were no repairs that required immediate attention.

Action	By When	By Whom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to monitor the equipment on a regular basis To arrange a 2nd inspection report with Rospa 	Ongoing May 08	RP Clerk

b) Swings

Cllr Page confirmed that whilst the play inspection report had highlighted the swings as having a low risk factor he recommended to the Council that new swings are purchased. The Council agreed. Cllr Page asked the Council whether they felt the swings should be put out of action. The Council confirmed this was not required. The recommendation of the inspection report, to monitor the swings, was the appropriate way forward. The Clerk reported that Stuart Dunlop-Dempsey had confirmed new swings could be purchased through the Open Space Fund.

Action	By When	By Whom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To obtain a range of brochures of different style swings for consideration To arrange quotes To discuss with Owslebury School children their thoughts for the design of new swings. 	14/04/08 14/04/08 14/04/08	Clerk Clerk / RP TM

51/08 COUNTRY KERBING

Cllr Manship reported on his meeting with Chris Wilson on 12th February 2008. He confirmed that all sections of the kerbing in Main Road agreed by Hampshire Highways last year had now been completed. The next stage to be completed is the kerbing in Longwood Road and thereafter any infill kerbing required in Main Road. Chris Wilson will obtain a quote for this work from the new contractor in May, when the new finances are released.

With regard to Whaddon Lane, Chris Wilson suggests that as a single carriageway road the answer is to make Whaddon Lane one way; possibly up in the morning and down in the evening. Cllr Manship suggested this should be considered but the other way around to enable residents to leave the village in the morning and return in the evening. Cllr Tull considered this to be an absolute non-starter, particularly considering the movement of farm vehicles and families driving to the school. Cllr Meads felt that whilst there may be some inconvenience to residents who lived in Whaddon Lane, this proposal would make a huge impact on traffic through the village and we need to find a version of the idea that is viable. It would be important in such a plan to ensure that traffic does not divert along Baybridge Lane i.e. the traffic restrictions would need to cover the whole of Whaddon Lane from its junction with Hurst Lane and Thompsons Lane.

Action	By When	By Whom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors to give the above consideration and bring ideas to the May 08 meeting To bring the rapid deterioration of the banks in Whaddon Lane to the attention of Chris Wilson for bid consideration in May 08 	12/05/08 12/05/08	All Cllrs AM

52/08 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

a) Speaker

Two suggestions were made:

- Andrew Smith – Head of Countryside Service
- Director of Finance within the Environmental Department

The first choice following a vote was the Director of Finance

b) Councillor Reports – Areas of Responsibility

The Chairman requested that all Cllrs make a short report at the Annual General Meeting to inform parishioners of the current situation, progress over the past year etc. to individual areas of responsibility. This was agreed.

Action	By When	By Whom
• To invite a speaker to the APM	12/05/08	AM
• To prepare short reports for the APM	12/05/08	All Cllrs

53/08 HCC CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PLANNING AND RELATED APPLICATION REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT (1APP)

The recommendation to increase the consultation time from 4 weeks to 6 weeks will help the Council by removing the need for additional planning meetings between the monthly parish council meeting.

There is no mention of the role and expectations of the Parish Council in the pre-application procedure. The Parish Council would like to see a statement addressing this in the final report.

There is no mention of the way forward within the Winchester area with regard to E-Planning. The Parish Council would welcome consultation in this development

Action	By When	By Whom
• To forward the above to WCC as part of the consultation	29/03/08	Clerk

54/08 PLANNING

a) To discuss planning applications

08/00250/FUL:	Marwell Activity Centre, Hurst Lane, Owslebury. SO21 1EZ
Proposal:	Conservatory to existing barn (amendment to planning permission W07718/11) Retrospective
Closing Date:	Thursday 20th March 2008

PC Comments: Objection, related to café.

08/00311/FUL:	Bottom Pond Farm, Morestead Hill, Morestead. SO21 1JE
Proposal:	Conversion of existing farm buildings to 4 no. two bed dwellings and 3 no. three bed dwellings with associated garages and car parking; creation of new access to serve new development and 1 and 2 Bottom Pond Cottages and Bottom Pond Farm and the stopping up of all existing vehicular accesses.
Closing Date:	Thursday 20th March 2008

PC Comments: Objection, related to density of properties in relation to highway safety

08/00226/FUL:	Marwell Zoo, Thompsons Lane, Owslebury. SO21 1JH
Proposal:	Refurbishment of play area to include installation of new timber equipment and soft landscaping
Closing Date:	Friday 21st March 2008

PC Comments: No comment

08/00514/FUL:	2 Lower Farm Cottages, Whaddon Lane, Owslebury. SO21 1JJ
Proposal:	Single storey front extension
Closing Date:	Wednesday 2nd April 2008

PC Comments: No comment

b) To hear planning decisions:

08/00134/APN:	Hensting Farm, Hensting Lane, Fishers Pond, SO50 7HH
Proposal:	Hay barn and feed store
Decision:	That no objection be raised

08/00096/FUL:	The Manor, Jackmans Hill, Morestead. SO21 1LZ
Proposal:	Erection of a tennis court with associated fencing
Decision:	Application Permitted with Conditions

07/03064/FUL:	The Granary, Lane End Farm, Longwood Dean Lane, Owslebury. SO21 1JZ
Proposal:	Two storey west extension, single storey west extension and single storey south extension (RESUBMISSION)
Decision:	Application Permitted

07/03182/FUL:	Marwell Zoo, Thompsons Lane, Owslebury. SO21 1JH
Proposal:	Demolition of existing cattle shed and replacement with kangaroo enclosure and emu house with associated external works (THIS APPLICATION MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OF A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY)
Decision:	Application Permitted with Conditions

55/08 AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

None

56/08 MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: FOR INFORMATION ONLY

a) Winchester Passenger Transport Forum – Monday 19th May 2008

Action	By When	By Whom
• Cllr Chase to attend	19/05/08	JChase

57/07 FINANCE

Payments were approved in accordance to the budget.

58/08 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 14th April 2008 at 7.45pm**

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

Chairman..... Date.....