

**OWSLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
13th OCTOBER 2008
AT 7.45 PM IN OWSLEBURY PARISH HALL**

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Mr A Manship
Councillors: Mr J Chapman, Mrs J Chase
Mr G Tull joined the meeting for item 186/08

IN ATTENDANCE

District Councillors: Mr R Humby and Mr L Ruffell
PC Charlie Farley
Clerk: Mrs E Manship

183/08 APOLOGIES

County Councillor: Mr P Mason
City Councillor: Mr R Humby
Parish Councillors: Mrs T Meads and Mr R Page

As only 3 Councillors were present the Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and immediately closed the meeting for 'Police Constable Report' and 'Public Questions and Comments'

184/08 POLICE CONSTABLE REPORT

One crime to report – a saddle stone stolen.

Cllr Ruffell asked about the accident on the Morestead Road, on Thursday 9th October. The Clerk confirmed the accident had taken place between Whiteflood Farm and Longwood Dean Lane. A vehicle hit a pheasant and stopped in an unsafe location. Other vehicles then became involved. A sad occurrence as the motorcyclist was seriously injured but it is believed it was caused by a tragic set of circumstances.

185/08 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

a) Planning Application 08/02268/FUL

The owner of 1 Bankside Cottages talked through his application designed to support a growing family. He confirmed he had met with the Planning Department and shown the plans to his neighbours at 2 Bankside Cottages. He had tried to accommodate their comments into the plans e.g. not building a first floor extension on the boundary and not adding any overlooking windows. The ground floor extension is the height of the existing hedge and there will only be one (existing) window overlooking their neighbours, which will be opaque glass. He had also spoken with the neighbours opposite who had not voiced any concern. The drive is being widened to maximise the room available. He confirmed there would be room for a turning circle on the site. Building materials used will be in keeping with the existing property. E.g. he had recently installed new sash windows to retain character.

b) Co-option of a New Councillor

Mrs Paula Sharpe introduced herself to the Council. One of the founder members of the Toddlers Group, she is currently working with other mothers and the Parish Council to update the play area. Her family has received a warm welcome to Owslebury and she would like to give of her time to the village through the Parish Council.

c) Play Area update

Mrs Sharpe updated the Council of work to date. She thanked the Chairman for polishing the slide and confirmed it has made a huge improvement, particularly for the older toddlers. A meeting had been held between Cllr Page, the Clerk, and 3 mothers of toddlers (Playground Committee). The group is exploring several pieces of equipment to support the toddlers and the older children. Different areas of funding are being investigated. The Playground Committee will bring an overall plan to the Council for either the November or December meeting.

d) Village Design Statement – New Resident

Mr John Tipping introduced himself to the Council. Recently moved from West Dorset he is renting in the village. In 2000 he wrote the 1st Village Design Statement in West Dorset for his village of Bradford Peveril, which became a model for others in West Dorset. He would be pleased to contribute in anyway as helpful to Mrs Sprot and her team.

Cllr Tull arrived. The Chairman opened the meeting.

186/08 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

There were no disclosures of interest.

187/08 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2008 had been circulated. The Chairman signed the minutes.

188/08 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Cycle Safety

Cllr Chapman fed back from a meeting held between Cllr Meads, himself and David White. It seems the cycling proficiency scheme has moved on in that it relies on parents coming forward to be trained but Mr. White said he would enquire further with HCC regarding other options and think through whether / how the Council could support the school with this.

Cllr Chase reported that young children were shooting in and out of the driveways on their bikes and she was concerned that the commuters through the village would not see them.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
• To raise awareness PCSO Ralph Akehurst's awareness	13/10/08	Clerk

b) Longwood Crossroads

The Clerk circulated copies of the casualty reduction scheme for the Longwood Crossroads and reported on work outstanding. Peter Critchell from Hampshire Highways has confirmed double white lines cannot be installed, as this would not be within Highways law. Mr Critchell is aware of the continuing overtaking on the brow. VAS Signs have been ordered and are awaiting erection by Amey, who will also cut the hedges around the new signs. Speed enforcement checks have and will continue to take place arranged by Chris Ashcroft. Hopefully the VAS signs will lead to safer driving but if no improvement results, hatching can be considered though this is not a preferred option in a rural location.

c) Potholes (repairs)

The Chairman confirmed he had met with Chris Wilson to inspect the work. Clearly not up to standard without cavity liner, Chris confirmed he would ask Amey to return and repair potholes in Beechgrove and Whaddon Lane etc. again. He reported that Colin Taylor had confirmed tar to seal the pothole could not be used as this could cause motorbikes to skid. Cllr Tull reported that potholes have been cut out properly in both the Test Valley and Alresford areas.

d) Flooding in Whaddon Lane

The Chairman confirmed he had followed up progress with Mr Adams at Marwell Zoo, who apologised for the delay owing to other work that had taken priority. He would discuss work draining the bunker at his next team meeting with a view to taking this forward.

e) Play Area

The Clerk reported that she and the Chairman had polished the slide and filled the gap around the roundabout with loam to encourage the grass to grow over the edge. A number of children had volunteered and helped with both jobs, which was very much appreciated. Unfortunately other smaller children had subsequently played with the loam like sand, which was unfortunate but this did not negate the excellent work undertaken by the children for the benefit of all. A thank you to these young people from the Council.

f) BT Telephone Box

The Clerk reported that BT has stated that they cannot advise on the status of the consultation response just yet as they are analysing the responses to many of their proposals. Neither can they comment at the present time with regard to individual phone boxes. They confirmed that they cannot remove any of the phone boxes without Local Authority consent, however the LA need to show a clear social need to retain individual kiosks. 157/08

They have also confirmed that if the Unitary Authority highlight to them that a particular kiosk is essential to the area, for instance in an accident blackspot, then they will not remove it. Whenever there isn't another kiosk within 400 metres walking distance they will not remove it without Unitary Authority consent.

WCC Planning Department has objected to the removal of the Payphone in Beechgrove on the following grounds: -

- The level of use of the phone box is sufficient justification for its retention
- Local residents have indicated a concern over the quality and reliability of mobile phone coverage in the area
- The removal of the phone box would reduce the facilities available to residents in rural communities, particularly in an emergency.

The deadline for the Adopt a Box and Sponsor a Kiosk schemes has been extended to 1st November 08.

g) Paths to Partnership Conference – 9th October 08

Cllrs Tull and Manship attended and contributed to a variety of workshops covering funding etc.

h) The Ship

The Ship has still not opened. Cllr Tull reported that 2 qualified chefs had indicated an interest via voicemail but had had not to date had a response. Cllr Manship reported that there were adverts for bar staff in the Hampshire Chronicle at various public houses, but not for The Ship.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
• E-mail names of Chefs to Cllr Ruffell	ASAP	GT
• Write again to the Managing Director of Green King	ASAP	LR

g) Website

Cllr Chapman reported that he and Cllr Meads had met with David White to discuss the Parish Council sponsoring an educational programme at the school using the website. Mr White confirmed that the school was updating their own site and would give consideration to Cllr Chapman's suggestions. Cllr Chapman also confirmed he had approached the Football Club with regard to advertising matches and results on the website.

189/08 CITY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

a) 'Somewhere to Live' Consultation

Cllr Ruffell reported that the South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) is currently working towards a Partial Review of the South East Plan, relating to the future accommodation needs of gypsies, travelers and travelling show people. The Review process will, in due course, result in targets for those individual authorities/groups of authorities in areas where there are identified shortfalls and, consequently, there is a need to provide additional sites/pitches for one, or more, of these groups.

As requested by SEERA, a series of events is planned within Hampshire and for the south of the county, including the Winchester District. There will be exhibitions/displays held in Fareham, Havant and Winchester. Information on the times and locations of all the exhibitions will appear on the SEERA website soon.

Explanatory material will be held at the City Offices in Colebrook Street, Winchester from Tuesday 21 October to Thursday 23 October and will be available to view during normal office hours.

b) Reporting Anti Social Behaviour

Cllr Ruffell reported that Winchester residents can now make use of an online form to report incidents of anti social behaviour in their area. The form, which has been launched by the Winchester Community Safety Partnership, is designed to make it easier for residents to quickly and discreetly report problems.

The completed forms will be forwarded to the Community Safety team where they will be handled by Winchester City Council's Acceptable Behaviour Coordinator. The form will include the option to report problems anonymously and can be used to report incidents that have caused alarm, distress or harassment. Information provided within these reports will allow Winchester Community Safety Partnership to target resources effectively and work in partnership with residents to tackle anti social behaviour across the whole district.

Residents wishing to report incidents of anti social behaviour can visit www.winchester.gov.uk/asb to complete an online reporting form.

c) Local Development Framework

Cllr Humby reported that he will attend the Rural Delivery Strategy run by Hampshire County Council at Sparsholt College on 14th October. On 24th October he will attend a Rural Planning Seminar he has organised, along with the Economic Development Officer from Winchester City Council, at Hursley. The purpose of these meetings is to look at the problems rural villages and businesses are encountering and to see how we can adapt our planning policies through our new Local Development Framework.

d) Hampshire Economic Partnership

Cllr Humby reported he will attend the Hampshire Economic Partnership meeting on 4th November.

190/08 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

Cllr Chapman confirmed that the VDS Committee had not met since the last PC meeting so nothing to report.

191/08 HIGHWAYS

a) Virtual Footpaths

Virtual footpath – a reflective line indicating the edge of the footpath. Cllr Chapman questioned whether this would work without street lighting. Cllr Manship indicated his concern as children tend to jump lines or walk along them. Would they add danger rather than reduce it?

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
To discuss possibilities with Colin Taylor e.g. hatching the edge of the road to improve road safety for pedestrians	10/11/08	AM

b) SLR's

The cost of these, supplied by Cllr Mason, had been circulated. Cllr Ruffell confirmed the cost of a power source also needed consideration. Cllr Ruffell confirmed a traffic survey; using SLR's would be taking place through the village in November.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
• To ascertain from neighbouring Clerks parishes that may wish to joint purchase an SLR to be used rotationally through the parishes	08/12/08	Clerk
• To notify the Clerk when the result of the survey is known, who will allocate an agenda item for further consideration	08/12/08	LR
• To investigate the possibility of a grant	08/12/08	LR

c) Annual Hedge Cutting Blitz

Many farmers automatically cut their hedges and this is much appreciated. Others don't which can result in a reduction in highway safety.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
• To liaise with landowners on the north side of Main Road where hedges are not cut as a matter of course	Ongoing	GT
• To liaise with landowners on the south side of Main Road where hedges are not cut as a matter of course	Ongoing	JC/RP

d) Whaddon Lane Bank Preservation Project

The Chairman reported that the Highways Committee had met with the landowners, Mr Burns and all agreed to the specification suggested. It was agreed that Mr Burns should engage a surveyor to draw up plans to take to Colin Taylor. He also reported that Colin Taylor has agreed to fund the entire cost of the project, other than the cost of the survey.

e) Country Kerbing Project – West and East End of Main Road and Longwood Road

The Chairman reported that Colin Taylor has agreed to complete the kerbing at the West End of the village at no charge, at the same time as work is undertaken in Whaddon Lane. Colin Taylor also confirmed that Chris Wilson should have sufficient money in his budget to cover the cost for kerbing at the East End of Main Road and Longwood Road.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
• To request again that Chris Wilson places an order for kerbing at the East End of Main Road and for Longwood Road	ASAP 159/08	AM

f) Speeding in Whaddon Lane / Hurst Lane

Cllr Chapman reported that he is working with his neighbours to address the speeding down the lane, which is causing considerable danger to children and their families who live in the corner houses.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discuss issues with PC Charlie Farley To forward accident statistics to Cllr Chapman Once information / issues compiled, to request the Clerk arrange a meeting with Peter Critchell and the residents to discuss solutions 	ASAP ASAP When approp.	JC Clerk JC

192/08 PARISH COUNCIL LAWNMOWER

The Chairman reported that Mr Harfield would like to keep the lawnmower, which he will repair at his own expense. Discussion took place with regard to the next steps. The Council agreed that a replacement lawnmower should be purchased. The Chairman put forward a range of lawnmowers that met the specification and made a suggestion that fell within the agreed budget. Cllr Tull and Chapman shared their reservations and it was agreed further research needed to be undertaken.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To undertake further research 	10/11/08	JC

193/08 PARISH COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

Mrs Paula Sharpe was unanimously co-opted onto the Council

194/08 PARISH COUNCIL PRINTER

The Clerk gave an overview of printer usage and cartridge costs over the year, suggested the purchase of a mono laser printer and discussed comparable models / specifications etc. It was agreed that the Clerk should purchase a laser printer.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To purchase a mono laser printer in line with those discussed. 	ASAP	Clerk

195/08 IMPROVING THE STRIP OF LAND BEHIND THE GARAGES IN BEECH GROVE

The Chairman reported that subsequently to residents complaining about the condition of this strip of land he had arranged for Serco to clear it of long grass and scrub but it needed improving to keep it from being used as a rubbish tip. He had met with Ms Anna Longley, Hampshire Villages Initiative Project Manager, who had confirmed the Parish Council could plant shrubs on the land but the viability of this depended on volunteers to water and maintain them. Cllr Tull volunteered to dig and mulch the land in preparation for planting. The Council agreed to the improvements in principle.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To seek the views of local residents; To put a proposition together with regard to costing, installation and maintenance 	ASAP	AM

196/08 PLANNING – PROPOSED ELECTRONIC CONSULTATION NOTIFICATION

The Clerk talked through the proposed electronic consultation notification. Whilst voluntary at the moment, the proposal is that in order to save paper hard copies of planning applications, at a date unspecified, will not be sent to the Parish Council. That Cllrs and residents view plans on line. The downside of this is that not everybody in the Parish who may wish to view plans, either owns a computer or is IT literate.

For plans to be viewed at the Parish Council meeting a computer, projector, screen and Internet connection is required. For residents to view plans and submit their own comments, computer access needs to be available within the community e.g. the Parish Hall. An 'introduction to IT' class may also be required to support residents without the necessary skills.

If the Clerk prints out copies of the plans for residents and parish council meetings, not only does this not save paper, the print out is A4 in size as opposed to A2 and print cannot be clearly viewed.

The Clerk confirmed that in some District Councils e.g. East Hants, New Forest etc. equipment had been purchased for the Parish Councils, using money given to the District Councils to support e-planning. However it is not believed HCC or WCC are planning to support the Parishes in this way.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To write to HCC objecting to the proposals until viable alternative access had been provided to the Parish to enable resident / Council viewing / consultation. 	ASAP	Clerk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ask Cllrs Ruffell, Humby and Mason to liaise with WCC & HCC respectively to support a planned approach towards e-planning. To give consideration as to how IT equipment / internet access in the community can be purchased for the smaller parishes. To ensure hard copies continue to be forwarded until a satisfactory way forward had been implemented. 	ASAP	Clerk

197/08 PLANNING

a) To discuss planning applications

08/02268/FUL:	1 Bankside Cottages, Main Road, Owslebury. SO21 1LU
Proposal:	Two-Storey side extension and single-storey rear extension
Comments to WCC by:	24th October 2008

OPC: Comment Only – Landowner to be requested to ensure space is set aside on land for materials and to enable vehicles to turn, to keep vehicles off the road.

b) To hear planning decisions

08/01041/FUL:	Hangar Nurseries, Thompsons Lane, Owslebury. SO21 1JH
Proposal:	Alterations and extension to plant centre, parking and new access
Decision:	Application Withdrawn

198/08 ENFORCEMENT – ANY GENERAL MATTERS

a) Caravan on land behind Owslebury Garage

Question was raised as to whether anyone is living in the caravan that has recently been placed on the land behind Owslebury Garage.

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discuss with land owner 	10/11/08	GT

b) Blue Tanks on land at the junction of Longwood Road and Baybridge Lane

The Chairman reminded the landowner that a number of complaints from residents had been received and asked him to move them.

199/08 AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- a) Play Area
- b) Budget / Precept
- c) Lawn Mower

200/08 MATTERS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: FOR INFORMATION ONLY

a) Annual Meeting of Parish Transport Representatives 2008 – Saturday 15th November – AM

Action:	By When:	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Chase to attend 	15/11/08	J Chase

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 13th October 2008

201/08 FINANCE

Payments were approved in accordance to the budget: -

202/08 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING and ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 10th November 2008 at 7.45pm**

The meeting closed to the general public at 10.00pm

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