

# WEST HENDRED PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2009

### Present:

Jonathan Barton (Chairman)  
Amanda Axel-Berg (Parish Councillor)  
Robert Clayton (Parish Councillor)  
Robert Williamson (Parish Councillor)  
Julia Evans (Clerk)

Terry Fraser (District Councillor)  
Iain Brown (County Councillor)  
PCSO D Baker  
PCSO L Gardner

### 1. Apologies

Julian Taylor sent his apologies.

### 6. District Councillors' Report.

The meeting agreed to bring forward this item.

Cllr Fraser reported the following:

- The proposed reservoir has been put on hold for up to 5 years. Figures will need to be re-examined and the revised proposal is likely to be smaller.
- VWHDC held a reception for returning soldiers at Dalton Barracks. There are to be three of these.
- A letter was received from Charlotte Jenkins regarding dog fouling. She requests a dog waste bin. TF responded to Miss Jenkins outlining the costs of installing and maintaining a bin - £240 for the initial purchase and £143 per annum for emptying. He pointed out that this is quite a large commitment for a small parish. He invited Miss Jenkins to attend the next Parish Council meeting or to write to the clerk.

TF left the meeting at 7.45pm

### 2. Minutes

- The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2009 were reviewed and approved.

### 3. Declaration of Interests

None declared.

### 4. Playing Field Report

Mr Hutchinson is awaiting a quote from Trevor Stewart regarding the replacement of the swing seats.

### 8. Matters Arising

This item was brought forward.

- Proposed Reservoir. This item to be removed from the Agenda.
- Outstanding OCC Highways items
  - Blocked Road Drains at Church View. OCC highways have been notified several times.
  - Footpath repairs at Brewer's Lane. These need to be extended up to Luke House.
  - Potholes in The Millham.
  - Road cleaning on Ginge Road, from Church View up to Goldbury Cottages
  - Gully cleaning in the Greenway. A blocked gully is causing rainwater to run down the road instead of draining away. From Bankside down the gully is overgrown.
  - Metal grille on The Greenway is standing proud of the road and needs to be put back flush with the road surface.

IB suggested that someone from OCC highways should come out and go around the village with a Parish Councillor. RC volunteered to be the point of contact. IB agreed to arrange this.

**Action: IB**

- Speed Monitor on The Greenway. There has been no feedback on the outcome of this. Clerk has requested this.
- Speed Limit on A417 – The 60mph limit now starts closer to West Hendred and there is concern that as people may not slow down straight away this could present problems for people using the bus stop (especially school children). The meeting resolved to monitor the situation.

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- Bus Shelter Cleaning. A grant toward this has been applied for. Mr Evans has volunteered to carry out the work. The meeting approved this. Item closed.
- The hedge at the Barnyard – This has now been cut back. This item is closed.
- Core Strategy Preferred Options Report – WHPC response was sent to the VWHDC.

### 7. Police Report

The PCSOs arrived at 8pm at the meeting agreed that item 7 should be raised immediately.

The PCSOs reported the following:

- 1 nuisance message has been reported.
- SID operations in the locality have found no speeding offenders. The A417 is regularly monitored. SIDs are used throughout the area on a daily basis. This has resulted in an overall reduction in speeding offences of 60%.
- Operations targeting Deer Hunters and Hare Coursers are in progress.
- Petty crime in the area is very low.
- PCSOs are on hand 24/7 now. This area is the only one in the country to have such coverage.

The PCSOs left the meeting at 8:15pm.

### 5. County Councillor's Report.

Cllr Brown arrived at 7.50pm. This item was deferred until his arrival.

Cllr Brown reported the following:

- OCC Halcrow report. Comments on this are to be received by 28<sup>th</sup> April. IB urged that WHPC review it carefully and respond as it affects West Hendred.
- Proposed reservoir – Thames Water may have postponed this but they haven't given up. GARD is trying to get it taken out of the Water Management plan. Thames Water have been made to think again, but local councils must not be complacent.
- Council Tax will rise by 3.75% this year. The target for councils is 2.5%.
- £5 million has been put aside for the shortfall in pension funds, but Cllr Brown assured the meeting that there won't be cuts in services. He said OCC was in reasonable condition.

### 9. Planning Applications

- WHE/1892/13 – Change of use of coach house to 1 bedroom dwelling, Barn 3, Ginge Manor. This has now been approved.

### 10. Finance

[Redacted]

Financial information is available on request from the Parish Clerk.

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### 11. Miscellaneous Correspondence

- Making Fusion Happen. A talk and tour of the fusion experimental facilities at Culham has been arranged for local councils on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Mr Evans has volunteered to attend. The meeting agreed.

13. **Dog Poo Bin.** Clerk to confirm the costs of installation and emptying. Put on agenda for next meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

14. **Grass Cutting.** Clerk to check whether payment was made for the previous year.

**Action: Clerk**

15. **Councillors contact details.** Clerk to circulate councillors contact details to TF and IB.

**Action: Clerk**

16. **County Council Elections.** These are being held on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

### 17. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 in Village Hall. This will also be the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed .....

Dated .....