

WEST HENDRED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 13th November 2008

Present:

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

- **Apologies**

Julian Taylor and Terry Fraser sent their apologies.

2. Minutes

- The minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2008 were reviewed and approved.
- Outstanding actions: -
 1. Footpath repair between The Barnyard and the Playing field. Work has been scheduled. Carried forward.
 2. Blocked Road drains in the village. This is still a problem at Church View. Further letter written to Martin Turner. Asked him to contact RC to discuss the situation. Carried Forward.
 4. The hedge at the Barnyard. This has now been cut back but is not ideal. Meeting agreed to monitor.

CLOSED

3. Declaration of Interests

None declared.

4. Playing Field Report

Mr Campbell's pipe works have been completed. WHPC visited the site and agreed that all was OK and the bond was returned. Mr Campbell donated £250 to WHPC, which the meeting agreed to use for repairs to the equipment in the playing field.

Clerk presented the playing field report:

1. RoSPA visit. The following issues were raised:
 - a. Comment that chestnut paling was not ideal as park fencing. This has been noted before. It is listed as low/medium risk. Recommendation – defer.
 - b. Litter bins – bins in the park are recommended by RoSPA. This has been considered before and not actioned because of concerns that they would encourage wasps and would discourage people from taking their litter home. Mr Hutchinson suggested that a compromise might be to move the existing bin outside the park closer to the gate and ask the village hall committee if a bin could be placed near the gate in the car park. This was debated at length. The meeting decided to take no action at the present time.
 - c. Bird fouling on seats – this is an ongoing maintenance issue.
 - d. The grass under the spinning bowl in being eroded. Mr Hutchinson offered a number of options for dealing with this, but recommended monitoring for the moment and instigating remedial work when necessary. The meeting discussed the options and resolved to accept Mr Hutchinson's recommendation.
2. RoSPA commented that "consideration resources and work have been put into the playing field which has resulted in a much higher standard of provision – excellent."
3. It was noted that the revised standards for play equipment surfaces state that grass is acceptable for a fall from up to 1.5 metres, which means that there are no longer any issues with the low level equipment.
4. All equipment is in good working order. The undersides of the swing seats are beginning to crack. Mr Hutchinson will get quotes for replacements when required.

5. County Councillor's Report.

This was not available.

6. District Councillors' Report.

This was not available.

7. Police Report

This was not available.

8. Matters Arising

- Proposed Reservoir. Thames Water's report on stage 2 involvement is being circulated to parish councillors.
- Icknield Way – BOAT 9 – closed.
- Cyclists on the Furlong – A meeting with Mark Sumner has been scheduled for 19th November at 2pm.
- Speed Monitor on The Greenway. This is currently in place.
- Speed Limit on A417 – WHPC were asked by OCC Highways to comment on the proposal. WHPC have expressed its complete support of the proposal.
- Policing The Ridgway National Trail. Patrols on The Ridgeway have now stopped although illegal driving and anti-social behaviour continues. A letter from the National Trails authority asking that local councils bring the situation to the attention of the relevant police authorities. The meeting agreed to support this action.

Action: Clerk/RW

9. Planning Applications

- WHE/6289/3 – demolition of existing porch and erection of replacement at The Old Bakehouse. WHPC responded with no objections.
- WHE/1892/11 – proposed external works to 1 and 2 Stable Cottages, Ginge Manor. WHPC responded with no objections.
- WHE/1892/13 – Change of use of coach house to 1 bedroom dwelling at Barn 3, Ginge Manor. This is currently in circulation.

10. Finance

Financial information is available on request from the Parish Clerk.

11. Miscellaneous Correspondence

- Request for donation from The Soldiers of Oxfordshire. The meeting declined to make a donation on this occasion.
- Request for donation from Oxfordshire Carers forum. The meeting declined to make a donation on this occasion.
- Request for donation from South & Vale Carer's Centre. The meeting approved a donation of £20.
- Local Community Flood Groups in the Vale. VWHDC is encouraging towns and parishes to develop community flood groups in order that they may apply more direct and effective control in their areas. WHPC considered this and resolved that it was not required for West Hendred.

12. Stile by Church View. It was reported that this is damaged. RC/JB to discuss with Mark Sumner on 19th November.

Action RC/JB

13. Litter in Ginge Road. This was discussed at length. The meeting resolved to monitor the situation and to discuss again at the next meeting.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 8th January at 7.30 in Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed

Dated