

WEST HENDRED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 3rd February 2011

Present:	Jonathan Barton (Chairman)	Catherine Johnson (PCSO)
	Amanda Axel-Berg (Parish Councillor)	Iain Brown (County Councillor)
	Robert Clayton (Parish Councillor)	Mr Beecraft
	Julian Taylor (Parish Councillor)	
	Robert Williamson (Parish Councillor)	
	Julia Evans (Clerk)	

1.	Apologies
	Terry Fraser sent his apologies.

2.	Minutes
	The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8 th November 2010 were reviewed and approved.

3.	Declaration of Interests
	None declared.

4.	Playing Field Report	Action:
	The clerk reported that Mr Stoter had been asked to complete the pruning of the beech hedge by the village hall. This needs to be checked.	
	The clerk raised the letter from a parishioner regarding the state of the fence and gate in the playing field. RC apologised that this has been delayed. It is in hand but will take another month or so to be completed.	RC
	The clerk confirmed that Mr Hutchinson has been asked to obtain an estimate for topping up the bark in the Playing Field. At the September meeting a spend of up to £300 was approved. Mr Hutchinson thinks this could be £500-£600. He will organise a team of volunteers to carry out the work in the spring. The clerk asked if WHPC would fund refreshments. This was approved.	

5.	Police Report	Action:
	This item was presented after item 3.	
	PCSO Johnson reported that there had been two crimes in the area. One was the theft of copper and the other was damage to RC's land by a vehicle. The vehicle was later apprehended.	
	PCSO Johnson asked that any suspicious vehicles be reported on the usual police number. She also reported that speed checks are continuing and they bring the benefit of slowing people down. PCSO Johnson left the meeting after presenting her report.	

6.	District Councillors Report	Action:
	This was not available.	

7.	County Councillors Report	Action:
	This item was presented after item 8.	
	Cllr Brown discussed Parish Plans. He informed the meeting that a grant of £1000 is available from ORCC, who will also explain policy and provide guidance. Sparsholt, which is of a similar size to West Hendred, recently completed a Parish Plan. Theirs cost £1500-£1800.	
	Cllr Brown explained that planning laws are changing. If there is an approved	

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<p>and adopted plan it will give the parish greater say in the planning process. When asked what was meant by 'approved and adopted' Cllr Brown explained that it was approved by the County and District councils and adopted by the Parish Council.</p> <p>When asked about time frames for the completion of a plan, Cllr Brown said that Garford's plan took 12-14 months.</p> <p>A Parish Plan doesn't have to be just about planning. It can also be aspirational and can outline requirements for transport etc etc.</p> <p>IB advised WHPC to look at other village's plans – they are all available on the ORCC website.</p>	
<p>Cllr Brown asked about WHPC's response to the consultation on the transport plan. The Chairman informed him that WHPC had supported East Hendred's comments.</p>	
<p>Cllr Brown informed the meeting that OCC's budget would be set on 15th February. Savings of £155 million will need to be made over the next four years. It is hoped that bus route cuts will be avoided.</p>	
<p>Cllr Brown informed the meeting that traffic flows over the bridge into Milton Park will be changed to help relieve congestion at peak times. The delay to the work there was due to Network Rail failing to check the embankment and it has subsequently failed.</p>	
<p>JT asked about traffic lights at the roadworks on Harwell Road. They are badly sequenced especially at peak times. IB agreed to pass this on.</p>	IB
<p>JB asked about potholes – how quickly would they be fixed. IB explained that very serious ones, which are likely to cause damage to vehicles, should be fixed within 24 hours.</p>	

8.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p><u>Outstanding OCC Highways items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potholes. Most of these have been completed. RC questioned whether the one at the top of The Greenway had been done and agreed to check. He also mentioned that there was still one at Goldbury. <p><u>Tree Pruning.</u> The meeting resolved to ask Mr Stoter to do this work in July. Clerk to ask whether the previous quote still stands.</p> <p><u>Scottish Power.</u> Letter has been received from John Peters confirming that one of the poles is on Parish Council land. He has offered to help resolve the situation. WHPC is concerned that asking for the pole to be moved would be more detrimental to the residents concerned. Clerk to speak to Mr Riggs. The meeting also discussed the request for a feasibility study into underground power supply. Following input from Cllr Brown it was agreed that this was unlikely to be successful as the cost would be prohibitive. Clerk to discuss with Mr Riggs.</p> <p><u>Parish Plan –</u> Following email correspondence from a number of residents, the meeting discussed the possibility for developing a Parish Plan. The meeting resolved to defer further discussion and a final decision until after the elections, which will be the May meeting.</p> <p><u>Rubbish Collections –</u> shortly after Christmas JT suggested writing a letter of complaint about the appalling refuse collection situation. It had been agreed that this was to be discussed at the next WHPC meeting. However, due to the postponement of the meeting it was felt that the moment had now passed. No action to be taken.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>RC</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>c/f to May</p>
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9.	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>WHE/21396 – conversion of existing barn in Manor Lane. WHPC responded with No Objections. This has now been approved by the Vale.</p> <p>WHE/1892/20 – Erection of detached double garage at 2 Stable Cottages, Ginge Road. WHPC responded with No Objections.</p>	<p>Action:</p>
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10.	Finance
	Financial Information is available on request from the Clerk

11.	Miscellaneous Correspondence	Action:
	Great Poppy Weekend – Clerk presented information from the Royal British Legion who are organising a nationwide weekend on 10-12 June to celebrate their 90 th Birthday. The meeting asked that this be postponed to the next meeting.	Clerk
	Requests for Donations were received from The Independent Advice Centre and the South and Vale Carers Centre. They both support people from West Hendred. WHPC usually supports them with £20 each. However, this would take the total of donations outside the village over the agreed amount. The meeting resolved to approve a donation of £15 for each charity.	

12.	AOB	Action:
12.1	Royal Wedding The clerk asked the meeting whether the village should mark the event in some way. The meeting asked the Clerk to look into commemorative mugs.	
12.2	Silver Birch Tree This tree on The Greenway was cut down because it was dead. Clerk had previously spoken to George Read at the Vale who agreed it could be done without formal application. Clerk to contact him again to clarify the situation since a letter has been received by a resident. WHPC wishes to replace the tree as it was donated by the Bullard family. Neighbours have agreed to water the new tree. Clerk to find out prices.	Clerk
12.2	Bright Lights A complaint has been received about bright lights at a village property. Clerk to establish what the regulations are for outside lights.	Clerk
12.3	Website Payment for the Website Service Provider is now due. AAB agreed to establish how much and to whom. The status of the website was questioned. The clerk informed the meeting that data still needed to be uploaded. JT feels it should be used. Clerk asked WHPC to review the current situation and approve the website as it stands so that it can be publicised.	AAB/All councillors
12.4	Dog Fouling This is a problem once again, especially on The Greenway and on the footpath between Pathways and Biuna. There is also an issue with people bagging dog waste but throwing the bags into hedges. RC raised the issue that Neospora, present is dog waste, is a danger to cattle. Clerk to check facts and put an item in the newsletter.	Clerk

13.	Date of Next Meeting
	The next meeting is Thursday 10 th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
	JT advised the meeting that he would not be able to make it and offered his apologies in advance.
	The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed

Dated

