**Minutes of a Meeting held in the village hall at 7.30 pm on**

**Thursday 9th March 2017.**

Present: Cllr H Thomas (Chair) Cllr J Perrin, Cllr C Mitchell, Cllr B King, Cllr C Mathew (OCC) Cllr P Emery (WODC) two members of the public and the Clerk David Casey.

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| **31/17** | **APOLOGIES**  Cllr P Kelland, Cllr A Thomas. | | |  |
| **32/17** | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  The Chairman explained that any pecuniary or personal or non pecuniary interest in an item should be declared. | | |  |
| **33/17** | **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**  The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd February were approved subject the an amendment to para 20/17 line three after ‘Cllr Thomas’ insert ‘and Cllr Perrin have’. | | |  |
| **34/17** | | **MATTERS ARISING**  **a**) Thames Valley Police: - The website reported on six recorded crimes that had occurred in the village in December. These were mostly burglaries which will be discussed later on the agenda.  **b)** Report from the Clerk on actions from the last meeting:-  **i)** Parish tour with Robert Courts MP. Some suggested dates for a meeting have been sent to Robert Courts.  **ii)** The deteriation in the baby seat at the play area is being monitored by WODC.  **iii)** Street Vendors on The Green. WODC have now agreed to include The Green in their next review of streets were permission will be required to trade. This will take place in three years time.  **iv)** Cllr Thomas will report on Mill Lane drainage later on the agenda.  **c)** To review the content of the website. There were no further comments about the content of the website. The Clerk had circulated details of a company that develop websites specifically for parish council’s to ensure compliance with current financial legislation. This included Curbridge Parish Council’s new website as an example. Grants are available to fund web site improvements for council’s with a turnover of less than £25,000 and It was suggested that OALC could advise on grant funding. It was agreed to investigate costs of improving the website and available grant funding. Clerk to action.  **d)** Update on proposedParish Tour Robert Courts MP. The Clerk had contacted Robert Courts office with suggested meeting dates but there had been no response Clerk to follow up.  **e)** Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr Perrin reported on the recent Neighbourhood Watch meeting she was due to attend but had been cancelled. In the light of recent robberies and other criminal activity in the village it was proposed to place a notice in CAWN asking residents to attend the next council meeting with a view to starting increasing the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.  **f)** Manor Farm planning proposal. Blenheim Estates provided details of a ten unit housing development within Manor Farm with access onto The Green. The design appears to be sympathetic to existing dwellings. It is not known if some of the units will be available as Social Housing. The full planning application is yet to be submitted and will be considered at the next meeting assuming WODC have been notified. | |  |
| **35/17** | | **CORRESPONDENCE:**  **a)** To consider the recommendation of the War Memorials Trust for the appointment of a conservation specialist to prepare a report on the condition of the War Memorial. The War Memorials Trust require two quotations from a conservation architect or surveyor to prepare a specification for the repairs needed for which grant funding may be available. The Clerk to investigate appropriate companies who can undertake the work.  **b)** Consultation from OCC Proposed Main Modifications to the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Part 1 – Core Strategy Cllr Mathew explained the county council’s proposals for future gravel extraction which was evident would not impact on Cassington.  **c)** To consider a request from Long Hanborough Parish Council for joint scheme of highway verge grass cutting. This was discussed and given the fact there was only a short stretch of verge for cutting along Yarnton Rd it was decided not to join the scheme. Clerk to inform Long Hanborough PC. | |  |
| **36//17** | | **REPORTS FROM COUNTY, DISTRICT & PARISH COUNCILLORS:**  Cllr C Mathew reported on the unitary proposals agreed by the county council SODC and The Vale DC based upon a single authority for the county, with area boards at macro and micro level, which would now be submitted to Government.  Cllr P Emery put forward the case for smaller unitary authorities arguing that county sized unitary was too large and would not achieve savings. |  | |
| **37/17** | | **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:**  There was a report of two boys playing football in the churchyard. A note will be placed in CAWN asking those responsible to stop this and Cllr H Thomas will raise this with the head teacher of St Peter’s Primary School. |  | |
| **38/17** | | **DITCHES DRAINAGE AND FLOODING:**  See under maintenance. |  | |
| **39/17** | | **MAINTENANCE:**  **a)** To consider further estimates for Church Lane –planting. This was discussed and it was **Resolved** to accept the quotation from Garden Maintenance and Design for for £485.  **b)** To consider an amount to be set aside for grants to village organisations. This was discussed and The Clerk said that between two and three thousand pounds is currently made in grants each year on an ad hoc basis. The grant to Bike Night was discussed and it was agreed not to make payment without receiving a set of annual accounts. Clerk to write to Bike Night Committee to request this.  **c)** Update on flooding issues around Mill Lane. A leak in the water main near to The Chequers has been discovered which has resulted in water being present in the field at the end of Mill Lane. Thames Water are aware of the issue and propose to carry out repairs at the end of March that will necessitate a road closure. |  | |
| **40/17** | | **TRAFFIC:**  **a)** Worton Farm junction –update. Cllr H Thomas reported he had met with Adam the farm manager and they have appointed the county council recommended consultants to draw up a road scheme.    **b)** Report on presentation of Speedwatch Radar device from TVPA**.** Sheila Nelson  attended the presentation on behalf of the council and produced a report. The cost of the device was about £1,900 and did not appear to provide any additional features compared with the current radar device. No further action proposed |  | |
| **41/17** | | **PLAY AREA:**  **a)** To consider maintenance priorities for theforthcoming year. It was agreed that Cllr A Thomas and the Clerk should meet at the play area to discuss what is  required.  **b)** Proposal to write a letter of support for the grants for new equipment on the playing field. This was discussed and it was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Sports & Social Club secretary supporting the proposed additional play equipment for teenagers on the playing field. It would be helpful to know what is proposed and how the equipment this to be maintained to minimise the council’s liability.  **c)** WODC inspection report for February. This was noted. |  | |
| **42/17** | | **FINANCE**   1. **Payments:**   It was **Resolved** to make the following payments after considering the budget.    WODC Play area inspections for November 2016 and February 2017 £43.20 x2  OALC subscription £145.66  Green Gym –clearance of St Peter’s ditch £25  CllrB King -reimbursement for dog waste bags £5.50  **b)**  **Income:** HMRC refund of VAT £3,456.55 |  | |
| **43/17** | | **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** a) Application No1700343/HHD 10 The Green Cassington - Infill to rear of propertyb) Application No 17/00481/HHD Trewavas Bell Lane Cassington - Alterations and erection of two storey rear extension. c) Application No 17/00428/S73 Jericho Farm Worton – Non compliance with condition 2 of planning permission to allow new approved drawing PA200A  d) Application No 1600592/Ful . Change of use, alteration and extension of Class B1 office accommodation to 3 dwellings. Erection of double garage amended plans.  Applications deferred to midmonth meeting.  **b) Mid Month Planning meeting:** This was agreed for Tuesday 14th March at 8pm in the Red Lion. |  | |
| **44/17** | | **AOB:** The Clerk stated that a two year pay award had been agreed by Local Govt employers and that a 1% increase in pay giving an hourly rate of £10.73 per hour would be effective from 1st April.  The Clerk reported on a letter received from the High Sheriff of Oxon regarding the plight of carers in Oxon. A representative may attend a future meeting to discuss helping this group. |  | |
| **45/17** | | **Date of Next meeting:**  This was agreed for Thursday 6th April 2017 in the village hall. |  | |