

A meeting of Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council was held on Wednesday 20 February 2013 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillors Collett, Rawlins, Haine, Marsden, Naish, Helen Jones and Laura Jones.

APOLOGIES: Cllr Smith and County Cllr Rose

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16 January 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

PUBLIC:

There is activity at the Quart Pot and the Council were asked if they knew what was going on. The outbuildings have been demolished which did not require planning permission. The boarding has also been replaced which the Council complained and asked for its removal. Cllr Haine will report back as soon as he has any further information. Cllr Rawlins has met the selling agents who confirm the vendors do want to sell and price has been reduced. But this does not include the car park.

Cllr Laura Jones apologised for the delay with showing the Agenda on the Website.

The roads are in a terrible state with potholes and need urgent attention. County Cllr Rose is well aware that the roads are in a poor state of repair.

There is surface water on the bend at Bruern Road at the parish boundary.

MATTERS ARISING:

Cllr Helen Jones reported that she is waiting for residents of Church Meadow to get back to her regarding the trees and she will liaise with Builders Ede.

Cllr Marsden reported that there has been activity along by the brook at the Allotments.

Street lights have been reported to OCC.

Branches and over growth have been removed from footpath along by the bus shelter.

Cllr Haine has spoken with County Cllr Rose regarding the brook at the Allotments. County Cllr Rose has arranged a meeting with Mr Gordon Hunt (OCC Highways) to discuss this matter on Tuesday 5 March 2013 to meet at the Allotment gate, Lyneham Road at 9.00am. Councillors and residents of The Heath are invited to attend.

Grant of £1000 has been applied for through County Cllr Rose from the Big Society Fund towards new gates for the Cemetery.

Grit bins have been delivered. The Clerk will check with OCC Highways regarding proposed siting of the new bins. Additional bin was purchased for the Village Hall.

Cllr Naish and the Clerk are to attend WODC Forum meeting on Thursday 28 February 2013.

Advert for the Village Grass Cutting will appear in Witney Gazette this week. Contract will be put on Agenda for next meeting.

The surface water at Upper Milton is being looked into. Contact is to be made with the Landowner to clear the ditch.

Manhole in the road at High Street has been reported to OCC Highways.

Bank mandate has now been updated and is in order.

PLANNING:

During the month and for information only:

13/0090 3 Shipton Road. Erection of two storey rear extension and conservatory.
No objections.

WODC has granted:

12/1758 9 Ansell Way. Two storey side extension.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters of thanks have been received from West Oxfordshire Citizens Advice Bureau and The Wychwoods Day Centre Ltd for the Parish Council donation of £100 given to each cause.

Copies of The Bishop's consecration documents for the extension of the Cemetery have now been received from the Oxford Diocesan Registry.

Parish Councillors are invited to attend Wychwood Wild Garden AGM, to be held on Tuesday 5 March 2013 in the New Beaconsfield Hall at 7.30pm.

The Parish Council agreed to renew annual membership fee of £45.00 to Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association.

Carole Lushington, OCC Manager for Adult Community Learning would like to work with communities interested in setting up local Adult learning in response to community needs and interest.

With effect from 6 April 2013 HMRC has advised that the Parish Council will have to start reporting PAYE information in real time. Details will have to be sent to them every time an employee is paid and at the time the payment is made. Cllr Haine offered to help the Clerk with this matter.

Oxfordshire Playbus has sent their information. They have visited the village in the past.

The Clerk has various circulars.

VILLAGE GREEN:

The swings should be sorted out soon. Cllr Marsden can sort out hire of digger. The Clerk will check insurance cover. The work is reliant on the ground conditions. Hardcore will be required. Excess soil could be put at the bottom of the village green, behind the hard play area. This matter will be put on the Agenda for next meeting.

The work on the ash tree was carried out to the specification and recommendations.

Mr Pratley has been made aware that the entrance gate is sticking.

Options are being looked at relating to the tree guard.

Chairman will look at the entrance opposite the Co-Op. The gravel needs taking out and replacing with a paving slab.

SUB COMMITTEE FOR NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT:

Cllr Rawlins, Cllr Helen Jones and Cllr Laura Jones together with Mr Martin Gibbs and Mrs Beth Smith are to form committee to formulate scheme for new play equipment for older children.

ACCOUNTS:

The following payments were agreed:

E Parsons	– Salary	228.80	M Ricketts	144.38
	Expenses	12.50	Treetech	900.00
B & E Transport		222.00	Alfred Groves & Sons	3.52
Oxfordshire Playing Fields Assoc.		45.00		
			TOTAL	£1556.20

INCOME:

Burial fees	220.00
Allotment rent	7.00

PUBLIC: There were no matters for discussion.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Cllr Rawlins asked if any comments have been received following the Council's decision to increase the Precept. No comments have been received. Cllr Haine confirmed that he did receive a call from WODC finance Department wanting to confirm the increase, which he did.

Cllr Laura Jones has received an email via the Website from Mr Light who rents spaces at The Pound. He has asked if he could put a storage unit at the site. The current tenancy agreement does not allow storage. The Council discussed this matter and agreed that this may set a

precedence and that the conditions should be left as they are at present. The rents were last reviewed and increased to £2.50 per week per space in 2011. It was suggested that any amendment to the terms and conditions should be done at the same time as any change to the rents.

Cllr Marsden reported on the Better Together Campaign and the importance of people power. The idea of the campaign is to form a register of households and individuals covering interesting issues. This should be brought to the attention of residents via the website and newsletter.

Cllr Naish reported that the telephone kiosk at Church Road is vandalised and out of order. The Clerk will report the problem.

The Village Emergency Plan will be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Councillors were asked to report any potholes to the Clerk who will send a list to OCC Highways.

Chairman reported that part of the wall at The Pound is in a poor state of repair. The options are to take down the wall and rebuild which will be costly or to take down and remove the wall and replace with wire fencing which will make it easier to maintain. Chairman will look again at these options and report back with costs.

The meeting closed at 8.27pm

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 20 March 2013