

Draft Minutes

West Ilsley Parish Council

Monday 13th November, 2000 at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllrs R.Gore (Chairman) T.Allan-Jones, P.Bartaby, P.Carlisle, A.Morris, C.Sheppard, Dist Cllr J. Morgan L.Gibson(Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 11th September, 2000, having been circulated to members were signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising.

Management of The Village Hall and Recreation Field Village Hall The draft constitution that had been produced by the secretary had been rejected by the Village Hall committee as they did not want to give up the charitable status. The secretary of the Village Hall committee had written to the Charities Commission for advice regarding changing to non charitable status and drafting a new constitution. To date no reply had been received! As both the Chairman and the Secretary of the Village Hall committee would be resigning at the A.G.M., it was felt that there would be little progress until the new Village Hall committee was in place. Recreation Ground A new constitution had been circulated. Due to it's length the committee have agreed to draft a more simple 'management agreement' which would soon be circulated to P.C. members. The Chairman suggested that a 'management agreement' for the Management of the Village Hall could also be a sensible solution. Cllr Sheppard to attend W.I.R.& S.A. A.G.M. to suggest that such an agreement be drawn up to the satisfaction of the Parish Council.

Street Nameplates The residents of Fir Tree Cottages were unhappy with the suggestion from W.B.Highways regarding the location of the new and existing signs. It was unanimously felt that the matter had now become too complicated and that the idea should be shelved. Clerk to write the Racing Welfare Charities to inform them of the decision.

Bury Lane and Flooding W.B.Highways had written explaining that there was no plans to upgrade Bury Lane in the near future. Flooding During the recent heavy rain West Ilsley had suffered severe flooding. Water had entered some homes and the road had been closed, intermittently for several days causing inconvenience and preventing the school bus entering the village. Dist Cllr Morgan was in discussion with the Highways Department and was awaiting some answers. Clerk to write to the Highways Department highlighting the seriousness of the problem and demanding that action be taken. Copies to John Ashworth, Stella Manzie and Mark Edwards. Clerk to invite Stella Manzie to the next P.C. meeting in January. Cllr Allan-Jones said that villagers had been patient long enough.

Thames Valley Police had responded expressing regret over the incident re. hare coursing

and Norman Carlisle. They stated that extra funding had been agreed for the area. David Rendel MP had also written stating similar. Cllr Morgan had highlighted the problem on Radio Oxford. From the floor Andrea Cook expressed concern that there was too little communication between the villagers regarding local crimes and maybe the W.I.News could publicise any relevant information.

War Memorial a John Green-Wilkinson had contacted the Clerk to say that the British Legion had repaired the memorial in the past. Clerk to contact them for advice.

A.O.N.B. Status Cllr Sheppard had contacted the Parish Council Liaison Officer, Miranda Wolfenden who had assured him that A.O.N.B. status still applied and that in June 2000, the Government advised Local Authorities that major scheme within an A.O.N.B. should be treated in the same way as for National Parks in that the proposal should be seen to be in the Public interest. In general terms and applied to housing, this would only apply to schemes in excess of 10 dwellings. It is therefore unlikely to effect West Ilsley. A letter has been received from The Countryside Agency reiterating this.

Village Parking To date there had been no response from the Agents of the Privy Purse and Cllr Sheppard was still in discussion with Malcolm Bowler of the Highways Dept regarding possible parking in Catmore Rd.

4. Correspondence

The charity Crossroads had written appealing for donations. Due to limited finances, the P.C. decided to continue with the policy of supporting only local organisations.

McNicholas Construction Services had sent information and a map regarding the installation of fibre optic cable for telecommunications use in the area. These works will involve digging up the recently resurfaced road! Clerk to write to W.B.Highways asking why the resurfacing program was carried out knowing that McNicholas would be soon be cable laying? Copy to Stella Manzie.

Fire Service Charities had written asking for donations to a planned Millennium Auction. Again, the policy is to support only local organisations.

5. Millennium Beacon

An invitation had been received from 'Millennium Beacon Ltd' to light a beacon on 31st December to mark the close of the millennium. The P.C. unanimously agreed not to take part but to offer the opportunity to other organisations via the W.I.News.

6. Parish Paths Map

A proof map had been received from Simon Barnett. It was agreed that subject to a few amendments, the map should now go ahead. Clerk to write requesting that the map be encased in a watertight covering and to explore the possibility of a second map for the village pond area.

7. West Ilsley News and The Parish Council

A request for a contribution of approx £50 towards the running costs had been received from the editors. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Sheppard and Seconded by Cllr. Morris. The editors had asked that a list of P.C. members and their telephone numbers be submitted for publication also details of committees that members are involved in. Unanimously agreed. Cllr Bartaby agreed to meet with Andrea Cook to pass on information regarding the powers of the

Parish Council etc. It was also suggested that Planning Applications could appear in the W.I.N.

8. Planning Applications

No. 157551(Adjacent to The Bungalow, Church Lane) Permission refused. site meeting
No. 00589/00 Downside Cottage - No objection!

White Ways - although the red notice displayed for some weeks, the Parish Council had not been sent a copy of the plans. Dist Cllr Morgan to check with planning department. The Chairman suggested that in future should there be any difference of opinion amongst P.C. Members regarding planning applications then a meeting should be called within 14 days. Unanimously agreed. Clerk to create a tick box on circulation sheet.

9. Open Forum

From the floor, residents of Fir Tree Cottages expressed the fear and anxiety felt during the recent floods and highlighting that each time the flooding is worse than the previous time. They asked that the P.C. push for urgent action to prevent a more serious situation in the future. Pumping equipment had been bought in to pump away surface water the cost of which could have been spent on improving drainage in the village.

Cllr Bartaby reported that he was still pursuing the need for a bus service to West Ilsley and is in correspondence with West Berks Public Transportation Department.

Date of the next meeting, 8th January 2001

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00p.m.