

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015, at 7.30pm at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, Whaddon.

Present: Cllrs Sir B Stanier Bt (Chairman), Pat Haig, Helen Hickman, Peter Lemagnen, Graham Stewart, Derek White.

Members of the Public: 0

Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

### PUBLIC SESSION

No attendees

### APOLOGIES

Cllr Hazel Hedges

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

### MINUTES

The minutes for the previous meeting were adopted and signed.

### PROJECT UPDATES AND CORRESPONDENCE

#### Roads and Footpaths

1. The clerk reported that following Cllr White's concerns, the state of weeds and overhanging briars along the pavements in the High Street in Stock Lane and High Street had been checked and problems identified. A letter had been sent to the owners of 2/2a High Street concerning the condition of the front gardens and a letter received back saying the gardens would be dealt with. Cllr Stewart advised that the track at the rear had been mown. TFB had advised that it was their responsibility to spray the weeds along kerbs and footpaths, but often this was not effective and left the dead weeds in situ. It was agreed that an article requesting help from property owners should be put in Whaddon Quarterly.
2. Cllrs agreed that the verge mowing did not appear to have been done, and requested the Clerk to chase BCC.
3. Cllr Stewart advised that the damaged bridge on Stratford Rd had been repaired.

#### Police and PCSO

No items.

#### Communications

1. The Clerk reported that advertising invoices for WQ had been issued and arrears chased.

#### Finance and Administration

1. The Clerk advised that annual accounts had been submitted and audited by the internal auditor and sent for external audit.
2. The Clerk advised that a letter had been sent to D Taylor advising that Constable's Plot would not be for sale in the foreseeable future.

#### Allotments

1. Cllr White reported that P Bailey had not maintained his allotment in good order and was not planning to continue.
2. Cllrs agreed that photographic evidence of the condition of the allotments at the start of any tenancy should be useful.

#### Planning

1. Cllrs discussed the refusal of retrospective planning permission for a parking area located on former agricultural land at The Old Kennels, Kennel Lane. While no objection had been made by WPC, AVDC planners had refused permission and the matter was in the hands of Planning Enforcement.

#### Other

1. Cllrs reviewed and approved application forms provided by Rachael Brockwell, solicitor, for registration of land for the Recreation Ground, Allotments and Constables Plot. Documents were agreed and signed.

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The following payments have been received:

25/6/15	D Taylor – Rent Constable's Plot	145.00
Various	WQ advertising income	540.00

The following invoices have been received for approval:

008	Whaddon Jubilee Hall – grant	800.00
009	Eon Street Lighting – electric	159.88
010	Eon Street Lighting – maintenance/replacement photocell	125.10
011	Clear Pest – moles on recreation ground	110.00
013	Clerk salary	922.11
014	Clerk expenses	66.89
015	Land Registry	90.00

Bank Balances as at 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015

Metro Bank Account – current	£3,058.03
Metro Bank Account – deposit	£10,800.00

## REPORTS

1. Cllrs Haig and Hickman advised that the contract had been received from Wren for the funding for the recreation ground. Cash flow concerns had been resolved with the supplier who was agreeable to await payment until completion of the work. It was agreed that clearance of the existing equipment should take place last weekend in August and second weekend in September. Cllr Stewart agreed to assist with the site meeting with the contractor to identify site clearance requirements. Clerk to contact Reg Porter to arrange hedge trimming to be done towards the end of August, to facilitate installation of new railings along the hedge line.
2. Cllr Stewart presented his planning report. He advised that the result of the A421 traffic count were not yet available. Regarding the planning applications for a Thrift Farm gas tank and Chase Farm extensions, no objections were agreed. Cllr Stewart advised that a planning application was expected for a vacant lot in Vicarage Rd. Cllr Stewart advised that regarding Kingsmead South development the planners had removed the traffic calming humps from their plans and replaced them with traffic calming. Cllr Stewart advised that the recent incident of a construction lorry breaching regulations had been taken very seriously by the developers, and action taken to prevent a recurrence. Cllr Stewart advised that he had requested that the pedestrian gates associated with the bridleway at Kingsmead South be upgraded to be suitable for horse riders and cyclists.

## MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ALREADY DEALT WITH

There were no additional matters.

## AOB

1. Cllrs discussed concerns from Parishioners about the future of the Lowndes Arms, and the option to register the business as a Community Asset. Cllr Hickman expressed concern. Cllr Stewart was keen to see the pub retained as a focal point of the village. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.
2. Following concerns from Cllr Hedges about late receipt of emails from the Clerk while she was on holiday, it was agreed that automatic forwarding of emails to an alternative person was not feasible, and the cost of a smartphone to enable constant monitoring of emails not justified. Cllr Stewart pointed out that planning issues were often time sensitive, but this was adequately covered between himself and the Clerk.
3. Cllr Stewart reviewed a communication from Paul Hodson regarding LAF funding and application requirements. Cllrs agreed that Cllr Stewart would discuss applications for LAF funding with P Hodson for provision of parking in Vicarage Rd, kerbs in Stock Lane and pavement improvements in the High St.
4. Cllr White expressed concern about the poor condition of areas of the new tarmac on Stratford Rd. The Clerk was requested to chase TfB to ensure the contractor made repairs.
5. Cllrs agreed that no donation should be made to AVALC.
6. The Clerk advised that a request for repair of shattered glass on the phone box would be submitted. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) advised that the phone still did not work.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> September and 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.