

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 8th January 2015, at 7.30pm at Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, Whaddon.

Present: Cllrs Sir B Stanier Bt (Chairman), Pat Haig, Hazel Hedges, Helen Hickman, Peter Lemagnen, Derek White.
Members of the Public: 3

Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

PUBLIC SESSION

Mike Adamson, Paul Davies, Sarah Hayter of Metro Bank attended, and answered questions and provided application forms in connection with opening a new bank account with Metro Bank. Cllrs were all in favour of opening three new accounts – current, deposit and charity/deposit accounts.

Metro Bank was instructed that all payments would be made by cheque, any two Cllrs' signatures were required on cheques to authorise payments. (Cllrs being Sir Beville Stanier (Chairman) Pat Haig, Hazel Hedges, Helen Hickman, Peter Lemagnen, Graham Stewart and Derek White). It was agreed that the Clerk should have access to view information on line, and the ability to transfer money between accounts, but no authority to make payments without two signatories from the list of councillors above.

APOLOGIES

Cllr Graham Stewart

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 advised that the MVAS sign had been relocated and data had been circulated and was available on OneDrive.
2. The Clerk reported that the final payment of £624 inc. VAT had been sent to Dan Tuckwell in respect of the final account for mowing.
3. Cllrs considered the quotation from Mr Reg Porter for mowing for 2015, which compared favourably with the quotes received last season from other suppliers. Cllrs were in favour of accepting Mr Porter's quotation and instructed the Clerk to write to Mr Porter.
4. The Clerk reported that BT is unable to remove the village phone box due to the minimum requirements for emergency phone coverage. BT had undertaken to check the phone was working and tidy up the appearance.
5. The Clerk reported that the overgrown state of the footpath adjacent to the Lowndes Arms car park had been notified to Transport for Bucks and the adjacent landowner, with a request to trim back the Leylandii hedging.
6. The Clerk reported that repair of the drains blocked by a concrete spill from an overturned concrete mixer were scheduled for repair shortly. Also, TfB had noted the surface water around the traffic calming on Stratford Rd, and a repair was pending.

Street Lighting

1. The clerk advised three street lights had been reported for repair.

Recreation Ground

No items.

Police and PCSO

No items.

Communications

1. WPC Community Email Update list membership now stood at 46. Emails sent this period – 1 – refuse collection information and dates for Christmas collections.

Finance and Administration

1. The Clerk presented a revised budget for consideration for 2015/16. Councillors approved the budget.

Allotments

1. The Clerk and Cllr White reported that the new tenancy agreement had been distributed with an invoice for £15 annual rent per plot. The Clerk reported that queries had been received from Mr Robin Starr regarding the new agreement, which had been answered satisfactorily.

2. Cllr White reported that all the allotments were taken. The shed abandoned by Mr Munden had been accessed and rubbish disposed of at the end of his tenancy on 31st December 2014.

Planning

1. The Clerk reported that AVDC's new planning database had been launched and logins obtained for Clerk and Cllr Stewart.
2. The Clerk advised that concerns about the Klargester being installed at OS 4464, Stratford Rd under planning application 12/02179/APP had been reported to planning enforcement.

Other

1. The Clerk reported that Solicitor Rachael Brockwell had not made any progress on the Land Registry of three pieces of land owned by the Council, and this would be chased. Rachael advised that she was investigating some changes in legislation regarding common land that had occurred during the summer.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The following payments have been received:

29/12/14	D Taylor – Constable's Plot	£145.00
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The following invoices have been received for approval:

626	D Tuckwell - mowing	£624.00
627	BALC – housing report	£1.50
628	R Porter - mowing	£720.00
629	MVAS Maintenance Agreement	£108.11
630	S J Lindsey Pay and Expenses	£1076.52
631	Winslow Bus - donation	£100.00

Bank Balances as at 8th January 2015

Current Account	£2,734.14
Deposit Account	£6,416.70
Charity Account	£5,990.01

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following applications/approvals have been received:

14/03774ATP	Rear of Fresh Fields	Tree Works	Application
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REPORTS

1. Cllrs discussed and were in support of planning application 14/03774/ATP for the reduction of the walnut tree located to the rear of Fresh Fields. Cllr Hedges expressed concern that the bough overhanging the village hall would cause serious damage if it fell, and as the ownership of the tree was uncertain obtaining recompense would be difficult/impossible.
2. Cllrs discussed the 2015/16 budget, and agreed a precept of £15,000. This would increase council tax for village residents by approximately £65 per household for the year. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) stated he would notify parishioners via the Whaddon Quarterly.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ALREADY DEALT WITH

There were no additional matters.

AOB

1. Cllr Haig advised that there was a problem with the floor in the Village Hall.
2. Cllrs express concern about surface water flow, probably from a spring near the entrance to Whaddon Hall, freezing and making the area around the traffic calming build-outs hazardous. The Clerk was requested to remind TfB this needed addressing.
3. Cllr White reported that the last Christmas Distribution of money from Elmer's Charity had taken place. Recipients had received £62 per person, which cleared the account. The distribution would no longer take place as the land had been sold and the proceeds would be distributed in a different format in the future.
4. Cllr Hedges reported an incident of fly tipping in the Whaddon Roundabout layby, and requested clearance.
5. Cllr Hickman advised that Mr Hickman had repositioned the salt bin adjacent to Bump Start.

6. Cllr Hedges advised that tack had been stolen from her livery stables, and was probably connected to an earlier visit by persons unknown requesting directions.
7. The Clerk advised that Swarco had reduced the price of the Maintenance Agreement, and the new payment would be sent on receipt of the old cheque back.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will take place in 2015 on 26th March, 21st May, 30th July, 24th September, 26th November.