

West Ilsley Parish Council

Monday 14th January 2002 at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllrs. R.Gore (Chairman) P.Bartaby, P.Carlisle, A.Morris, C.Sheppard, Dist Cllr. J.Morgan, L.Gibson(Clerk) and 2 members of the Public.

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 12th November 2001, having been circulated to members were signed as a true record.

3. Parish Councillor Vacancy

Following the display of The Notice of Vacancy, there had been no requests for an election, the vacancy may therefore be filled by way of co-option. The Chairman has been approached by two interested parties. It was agreed that the Council should discuss the matter further at the end of the meeting and in private.

4. Matters Arising

Audit Fee The District Auditors have agreed verbally to reduce the invoice by four hours. It was agreed that the charges were still too high. The Clerk to contact other small Parish Councils to compare charges.

Village Post Office Prior to the Parish Council meeting, the Chairman presented Audrey Tizzard with gifts from the village in recognition of her 30 years as postmistress. Cllr Gore is soon to meet a representative from The Post Office to discuss options for the future. The Post Office remains closed. Cllr Sheppard suggested that in future the Post Office premises and adjoining house should be let as one unit due to the lack of space and facilities in the Post Office area. Clerk to write to H.W.Dean and Son, agents for the Privy Purse, with the suggestion. Copy to H.R.H. The Queen.

Flooding West Berkshire Council have confirmed that they have reached agreement with the Environment Agency to actuate the pump at the bottom of Windmill Hill should the need arise in the future.

Management of the Village Hall and The Recreation Field The draft contracts have been sent to Lockinge Estate but no reply has been received to date. The Cricket Club has expressed concern regarding insurance for users of the Recreation Field. It was agreed that the Cricket Club should investigate and if necessary extend the cover.

Rural Housing Trust Three potential development areas have been highlighted. The Clerk to send a map showing the highlighted areas to The Rural Housing Trust to allow them to progress further.

5. Correspondence

Strategic Partnership and Support Services West Berkshire Council and Amey Plc have entered into a 10 year contract worth £104m. The Clerk to write to West Berks asking that

they ensure that standards will not be reduced and expressing concern regarding the extent of salting and gritting in rural areas.

West Berkshire Playscheme In future Village Playscheme's and Day Care will be under the care of OFSTED.

6. Village Parking

As there had still been no reply from Greene King it was agreed that The Chairman should approach the new landlord of The Harrow for a further contact name. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should write to The Queen asking whether she would consider donating a small piece of land to the village to be used as a car park and to mark her Golden Jubilee

7. Golden Jubilee Celebrations

It was agreed that the Clerk should ask for ideas and suggestions via the West Ilsley News.

8. Parish Precept 2002/03

The Parish Council set a precept of £1660. The motion proposed by Cllr Bartaby and seconded by Cllr. Sheppard was carried unanimously.

9. Planning Applications

01/02285 Folly Farm Support

10. Open Forum

Cllr Sheppard reported that the school bus had skidded and left the road in a recent icy spell. The suitability of Catmore road as a bus route was discussed. The Clerk to write to Weaveaway Travel asking if the Catmore Road route is used as the result of an Education Authority directive.

Cllr Bartaby expressed concern regarding the 'grubby' state of the orientation table and the general area around the Gazebo, much of which is created by the increasing number of ducks in the area. It was agreed that the subject should be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting in March. In the meantime, Cllr Morris agreed to clean the orientation table.

To fill the Vacancy for a Parish Councillor. Mr Jan Wiejak and Mrs Joanna Scrivens had both expressed an interest to the Chairman. Following a secret ballot, Mrs Jo Scrivens was selected to fill the vacancy. Clerk to write to both candidates.

Date of next meeting, Monday 11th March 2002.

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