

West Ilsley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council on Monday 8th September 2014

Present: Sean Ryan, Dries Hagen(Chair), Rollo Duckworth, Alan Beaumont, Jo Scriven, Anna Sugden and Alison Banks. 13 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Alan Bloor.

2. To receive any changes to Declarations

None received.

3. To receive and if approved confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Monday 14th July 2014.

Signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

The Chairman announced that Cllr John Mountford had resigned from the Parish Council. He and all the Councillors expressed their thanks for all his excellent work on the Parish Council.

5. Correspondence received

To be taken on the minutes

6. Improvements to existing open spaces

To recap from the last meeting, the Clerk had received a Section106 relating to a 2006 Planning Application for 2 new houses in the village. The developer had had to pay West Berks and this money had been redirected to the Parish Council specifically for use towards improvements to existing public open space. The sum of £9106 had been received into the PC account.

It was decided that by the end of the week (12th Sept), all Councillors would offer suggestions and these would be circulated via WIN. It was hoped that this would encourage more ideas from the villagers. These would be collated by 20th and reviewed into a short list by 28th. This list would be sent out to the villagers in the form of a survey for everyone to complete. Survey results available by 4th October.

The Clerk had contacted West Berkshire Council for advice who had listed some examples of how the money could be spent. These were read out.

7. Village Funding

The proposed new procedure for allocating any precept money to village committees was underway and 3 applications had been received: All Saints Church, Village Hall and WI Website. Each was reviewed in turn.

All Saints - up to £6100 to replenish reserves after repairing the church roof plasterwork. This was discussed in more detail and as of now the Church Committee were coping. However the PC felt they would be able to offer support in the future.

Village Hall £5000 to match grant received and to be used for upgrading heating, insulating and lighting. Decoration was complete and self funded.

The Parish Council requested some quotations for lighting, insulation and heating.

WI Website £62 for annual domain name registration and site hosting fee. This will be funded by WIN advertising.

8. Village Hall Update

As described in the funding item, the Hall is undergoing Phase 1 improvement: internal decoration and new curtains were complete and external decoration underway. This has already improved the look and feel of the Hall. This would be funded by the Village Hall reserves. Phase 2 would involve upgraded heating, insulation and lighting. A grant of £5000 had been received from West Berkshire Council and the Hall committee were seeking match funding via a request for funds from the PC. A fund raising community walk was being planned for 19th October (date to be confirmed).

9. Parish Plan/Community Led plan

Tessa Hall from West Berkshire Council has now accepted our Plan data. This means that the Plan can be finished and submitted for approval. Cllr Duckworth was planning to use the Plan as a vehicle for decisions regarding village green space improvements, village funding, flood emergency planning, wellbeing (defibrillator) and others and in addition to use the survey monkey questionnaire to receive feedback and consultation with the villagers.

10. Transport and Safety

The illuminated 30mph sign is broken. In light of Cllr Mountford's resignation, another Councillor would be required to look into the village "Transport and Safety issues" – The Chairman was to follow this up. Tony Elliot offered to contact SID.

11. Environmental

The Clerk has received the West Berkshire Highways Flood Investigation report for West Ilsley. This was circulated around the village for comments and corrections and has now been received back at West Berkshire who will amend their report.

This and other flood related matters will be reviewed at the next Pang Valley Flood Forum meeting to be held in late October.

David Carlisle commented that any flood defences along the verges should not use grills/grates where sheep's feet could get stuck.

12. Cricket Club/Play Area/Tennis Court

The Play Area reported via the Clerk that a small playhouse had been acquired and would shortly be appearing. A fence post had been repaired and the invoice from Kevin Holloway would be forwarded for payment (80 pounds). Juliet Ryder informed the Council that Jessica and Marc-Andre Walesby would now be taking on the day to day running of the Play Area.

13. Accounts for Payment/receipts received

None

14. West Ilsley Trust – applications for funding

100 pounds to Tony Elliot for the village fireworks.

15. Planning Applications

Application from 9 Main St had been received and was on circulation.

16. AOB

Firework night was planned for Wednesday November 5th. Mr Hanbury indicated that unless another venue was available it would take place in his field. Mr Elliott asked for a donation for the fireworks and all Councillors agreed to a donation of 100 pounds from West Ilsley Trust fund. The Clerk would organise payment.

Superfast Broadband

Mr Cobrin updated the village with news that from 31st September the fibre optic cable was available. Each household would need to contact their provider to ask to connect us to the new cable. This may carry a charge. This would bring superfast broadband to them but would be limited by the speed the copper cable could carry the messages to their house and the location of this wire to their router. This would be summarised in WIN.

17. Open forum

Cllr Beaumont confirmed that he would find out more about the potential to have a defibrillator in the village as more and more seemed to be seen in other villages. All agreed that this should be added to the village funding plan although Louise Beaumont was planning a fund raising run to offer some further funds.

The next meeting will be on Monday November 10th at 7.30pm