

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held in the Function Room, Village Hall, Woodcote
Wednesday 20th September 2017 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Chairman	Mr. R. Peirce
Vice Chair	Dr. G. Botting
	Mr. A. Crockett
	Mr. M. Smith
	Mr. B. Williams
	Mrs. D. Hadaway
	Mrs. S. McGurk
	Dr. P. Sudbury
	Mr. D. Booth
Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham

1. To receive apologies for absence.

None.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest.

None.

3. **Public Forum**: Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council, the public may also speak about specific items of business as they arise, with the permission of the Chairman.

Present: Tom Booker re planning application P17/S3106/FUL to answer any question the PC may have. Mr. John Woolley re Tidmore Pool.

Mr. Woolley asked if the Parish Council's solicitor Blandy & Blandy had commented on the possible "land grab" from the owners of the site beside the pool when they erected new fencing outside their original boundary line. Blandy & Blandy had not referred to this in writing.

Mr Woolley is concerned that the owners may try to claim the land and the pool as they had been taking silt from the pool earlier in the year. The Clerk advised that the legal ownership of the land was not established, it is believed it could possibly still be owned by Christchurch College and their land agent Savills have not responded to several requests to check this. The detail will be in old archives and Savills have said it is not a priority.

The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council proceed to approach Land Registry to register and claim ownership of the land. The PC agreed to this. The Clerk to follow this up with Blandy & Blandy to check if the PC can go directly to Land registry.

4. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th September 2017.

Then approved as true record.

5. Matters arising from those Minutes not on the agenda elsewhere.

None.

6. Planning Applications

P17/S3106/FUL (Full Application) Minor Proposal: Erection of Car preparation building

Address: Church Farm Village Workshop Reading Road Woodcote RG8 0QX.

The PC recommend Approval.

P17/S3164/FUL (Full Application) Proposal: Proposal to build a double bay garage with annex above.
Address: Eastfield House Pot Kiln Lane Goring Heath RG8 7SR.

The PC have no objection in principle, the response should state that the plans do not show the link from the annex to the main dwelling as per the design statement.

The PC also request that a condition be added stating that the annex should be used as ancillary accommodation and not as separate accommodation/residence.

6.1 Applications Granted by SODC:

Appeal Ref: APP/Q3115/W/17/3175868

New Dormer Bungalow, The Conifers, Beech Lane, Woodcote, Reading RG8 0PY.

For New Garage. Appeal Granted.

6.2 Applications Refused by SODC

None.

6.3 Other Planning Matters

The Chairman and Vice Chairman had attended a meeting with SODC Scrutiny Committee to discuss the housing numbers and methodology of the allocations for the Core Strategy. There are some anomalies that conflict with SODC's own policies and the figures are over estimated.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr. Smith also attended a meeting with Planning and met with Holly Jones, she has agreed to re write some of the wording before the details go out to consultation which is estimated early 2018.

The meetings where to establish with SODC that Woodcote Parish Council will be raising objections to the SODC policies (in their current form) as they are not credible and that their numbers are over provisioned, their allocations conflict with their own policies.

7. Finance

Payments Approved

Woodcote Parish Council payments 7 Sept to 30 Sept.

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Detail
20/09/2017	K. Smallbone	691	£30.00	Sept War Memorial Garden
20/09/2017	Berinsfield Community Business	692	£1,276.56	August Grass cutting
20/09/2017	BDO LLP	693	£396.00	External audit Fee
28/09/2017	L.Crockett	SO	£200.00	Sept Litter picking
28/09/2017	J. Welham	SO	£813.14	Sept Salary
29/09/2017	British Telecom	DD	£80.73	Monthly BB & Line
15/08/2017	Playsafety Ltd	681	£193.20	Annual Play area inspection
		Total	£2,989.63	

Noted no receipts.

7.1 Quotations/Grants received for review/approval.

None.

8. Other Committee Reports

Village Hall MC – The grant application has been submitted to SODC for some refurbishments to the hall for additional storage. The VHMC will begin work now for the April 2018 application to SODC for major capital grant towards alterations to the Village Hall.

The Chairman of the VPMC (G. Botting) confirmed that the Correspondent magazine had pledged £2000.00 toward the cost of the storage alterations as the SODC grant will only grant a maximum of 50% of the total cost.

Village Green Committee – Meeting on Monday 18/9/2017. The VGC are approaching dog owners on the green about control of their dogs as some residents have concerns about loose dogs running up to children and other users of the green.

The proposed boundary for Folly Field is going ahead, the grass cutting contractor will be given a key to raise the barrier. The Clerk requested a key for the Tree Surgeon who also cuts the hedges.

Traffic Advisory Group – The Clerk had heard from OCC Highways due to a “re structure” they cannot give a timescale for the costings. This is unacceptable the Clerk with the Secretary of the Traffic Advisory Group have put together an email response and escalated to OCC Yvonne Constance Cabinet Member for Environment, Ian Hudspeth Head of OCC and our County Council Kevin Bulmer.

Neighbourhood Planning Group – The Chairman of the Group has obtained an extension for the spend of the Locality Grant until 31st March 2018. There is currently no indication of what funding may be available for FY 2018.

Police – PCSO Mark Bell is currently dealing with two incidents of possible drug supply. He is also investigating the use of a small motor bike that is being ridden on the grass verge areas and causing damage to them.

Mark Harling is due to retire soon, no replacement has been named.

Youth Club – Cllr Hadaway attend the last meeting, the club is still achieving good numbers and Heather is doing a good job. Their annual accounts have been requested.

9. Other Matters for Chairman

The Clerk raised the issue of the Co-op stores possibly housing a Post Office.

The Chairman reported that the Woodcote Post Office has confirmed that they will no longer open. Their attempts to get concession from the Post Office management have failed and they are not prepared to accept the new terms.

Cllr. Smith has been in email contact with Co-op stores regarding this matter and a response is awaited.

The Clerk advised that HMRC had sent a penalty notice for two late submissions totalling £200. One is for the end of May submission and the Clerk has appealed it due to the Bank holiday on 29th May. The July Submission was late.

The Clerk advised that the resident at 50 Wayside Green has again asked if the PC will look at the large sycamore tree directly outside his house with a view to it being removed. He is worried about the proximity to his property as is his neighbour. The Clerk requested that councillors visit the area to look and report back with their views regarding this matter.

Cllr. Hadaway requested that the signage of the triangle at the cross roads of South Stoke Rd, Goring Road, Reading Road, be cleaned and repainted. The PC agreed that the Clerk should get some quotes for this work.

Cllr McGurk had circulated a draft Communications Guidelines document for the Parish Council to improve the communication to the village, using all possible media available. The PC thanked Cllr. McGurk for this excellent document and agreed to “welcome” the use of these guidelines for a trial period to gain some operational experience.

10. Correspondence

Email from Oratory School Sports Centre requesting use of the Notice Boards around the village to promote the Sports Centre.

In return they offered to promote the Parish Council on their social media accounts within the sports centre.

The PC agreed and requested the Clerk to reply.

11. To Note Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 4th October 2017.

Meeting closed 9.25 pm.

Signed.....Date.....