

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting Wednesday 15th June 2022 at 7.30pm●

PC MEMBERS

Chairman	Mr. R. Peirce
Vice Chair	Mr. K. Davies
	Mr. M. Smith
	Mr. S. Lawson
	Mr. G. Botting
	Miss H. Booker
	Mrs. L. Bilbe
	Ms. A. Mack

Parish Clerk	Ms J. Welham
--------------	--------------

1. To receive apologies for absence.
Mr. R. Fletcher.

Cllr. Smith raised a Point of Order. That the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman at the PC Annual meeting 4th May 2022 had not followed the correct voting process by having a secret ballot. The Chairman Robin Peirce who was elected Chairman at the meeting 4th May 2022. Cllr. Smith insisted a re-vote using show of hands was taken, the vote was 4 in favour of Robin Peirce and 4 in favour of Malcolm Smith. AS there was equality of votes and Cllr. Smith considered he was still the Chairman for 2022/23 so had the casting vote (as Chairman) he voted for himself as Chairman. A recorded vote had been requested (although not specified as named) however; Cllrs. Peirce, Booker, Bilbe, Mack voted for Robin Peirce. Cllrs. Smith, Botting, Lawson, Davies voted for Malcolm Smith.

The newly re-elected Chairman M. Smith then asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Cllr. Peirce declined to accept nomination and stated that he wished to nominate Cllr. Davies as he had previously nominated for this position at the meeting 4th May 2022. No other nominations forward Cllr. Davies was duly elected as Vice Chairman by show of hands, reconfirming his election as Vice Chairman at the Annual Parish Meeting 4th May 2022.

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.
None present.

4. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 1st June 2022
Corrections to Item 6.3 Other Planning Matter item regarding the paragraph ONPA, re the letter said from resident it was from SODC Planning Officer. Some details on paragraphs, development at Church Farm corrected.
Corrections to Item 11. Other Matters for Chairman, matter raised by Cllr. Booker re VGC articles into the Correspondent.

Clerk to make corrections, pass corrected hard copy to Chairman for signature following this meeting.
Resolved – Following corrections Approved as a true record .

5. Matters Arising from those Minutes not on the Agenda elsewhere.
None.

6. Planning Applications to consider all applications received from SODC and any other applications submitted and published by SODC between the circulation of this agenda and the meeting.

P22/S2032/HH (Householder) Application Type (see definition over): Other Proposal: Single storey store outbuilding Address: 4 Wayside Green Woodcote RG8 0QJ.

Parish Council object to this application.

They wish to resist the principle of development in front gardens/forecourts and that this application does not wish to establish precedent.

They recognise that there is a previous application for this property that has been approved and this new application is smaller in design than the previous approved application.

District Councillor Jo Robb joined the meeting and gave her report;

New Chair and Vice-Chair at SODC

At Full Council on 19 May, Cllr David Turner was appointed Chair of the District Council for the 2022/23 municipal year. Cllr Turner has more than 40 years of experience as a councillor at parish, district and county level and has been a tireless campaigner for Chalgrove. His chosen charities are the River Thames Conservation Trust and Chalgrove and Watlington Children's Centres. Cllr Kellie Hinton (Henley) was appointed Vice-Chair of the Council. Cllr Hinton has previously served as Chair of Licensing at SODC and was a Mayor of Henley. With experience and youth, they will be a great team.

Motions to Council

Two motions were agreed at Full Council. One, brought by Cllr Ken Arlett asks the Constitutional Review Group to explore allowing members and Parish Councils to call-in to Planning Committee amendments to planning applications.

The second, brought by Cllr Sue Roberts, asked Council to write to government again to press the urgency of a national retrofit scheme led by local authorities to tackle both the climate emergency and the cost of living crisis ahead of what is likely to be a difficult winter for many.

EV Charging

EV charging events took place in Henley and Wallingford on Friday 10 June to officially open the new chargers in the Greys Road carpark.

The event was the culmination of a joint District and County Council scheme to install EV chargers across ten council-owned carparks in South and Vale. The next step is to roll out EV charging in rural areas and the team are keen to hear from parishes interested in installing EV chargers in their own carparks.

Cllr. Lawson asked if the car park in Wallingford where EV chargers have been installed could be used when they are not in use as it they have taken up many spaces. He requested that a report is given showing uptake of usage of these chargers.

Cllr. Peirce also reported that they were often not being used, this applies to the ones in Henley also, he suggested when not in use could a cover be placed over the charger indicating that the space can be parked in by vehicles whether charging or not. Jo will feed this information back.

Vice Chairman has been doing research into chargers for VH car park, her gave Jo some information, they can liaise via email for more detail.

The **Councillor Community Grants Scheme** is open again with Lorraine and Jo each having £5000 to spend. In previous rounds, we funded a defibrillator box, the upgrade of toilet facilities in a parish hall and new fingerpost signage. Do let us know if you would like any help with your application or have any questions.

Bathing Water Status for Wallingford Beach

The council is partnering with Thames 21 to conduct the surveying and analysis to put together an application to DEFRA for Bathing Water Status for Wallingford this year. If you would like to get involved through volunteering as a citizen scientist, collecting water samples in Wallingford or surveying river users for a couple of hours over the summer, please get in touch with Jo Robb. Jo encouraged the PC to actively promote this and if residents wish to be involved they need to contact her.

Questions for Jo Robb, Cllr. Lawson asked if following changes to the Highway Code could it be made mandatory for cyclists to wear high viz clothing?

Jo then left the meeting.

P22/S0429/FUL (Full Application) Application Type (see definition over) : Minor Amendment : No. 1 - dated 30th May 2022 Proposal : Proposed new dwelling. (Amended plans received 30th May 2022, reducing depth of front projection, relocating dormer windows to front roof slope and increasing off-street parking provision) Address : Land at 69 West Chiltern Woodcote RG8 0SG.

Parish Council object to this application.

Most of the neighbouring properties in this small cul de sac also had objections not all of whom feel they can comment SODC to voice these objections for fear of intimidation.

- Still over development of site
- Dwelling would still be close to existing neighbours boundaries on all sides – looks cramped and not in keeping with village feel
- Moving dormers to front of building reduces privacy issues with original plan but has not eliminated them due the proposed property being so close to boundaries with adjacent properties
- Parking and access to adjacent properties on that part of the road is still a concern given that there are 5 existing driveways in close proximity and accidents have already happened
- No mention of altering building materials to alternatives that are more in keeping with surrounding properties (part of our previous objection).

The size of property is cramped for the size of the plot leading to the house itself being very close to the boundaries of the plot.

Many still feel that the building will be imposing for them and will either interfere with light to adjacent properties and/or will lead to loss of privacy just through the new building itself being so close to existing homes.

The applicant has now provided three parking spaces but they are all in a line running along the side of the property so how useable they realistically are and therefore how much the occupiers would park on the street instead is debatable. Access is already a significant issue due to there being 5 existing driveways in very close proximity and there has already been at least one collision and several near misses as a result.

Should the Officer be minded to approved this plan Woodcote PC request restricted building hours as two separate neighbours have mentioned concerns about disturbance due to how close the building site will be to the adjacent properties as a result of the small plot size relative to the size of the proposed building

Old Reservoir Site Greenmore

The surface water drainage plan has been submitted a copy was displayed to the meeting. There are some matters on the plan that the PC have issues with. Chairman to write letter to the Planning Officer dealing with this application, he read out the draft of the letter to the meeting. Chairman will forward to Clerk to be sent.

6.1 Applications Granted by SOD

None.

6.2 Applications Refused by SODC

None.

6.3 Other Planning Matters

WNHP2 has been returned from the Inspector, there are a few areas that need a response.

The policy on one parking space per bedroom for all new properties has been lost, the Inspector has removed this. The PC accepted this.

Local Joint Plan

Vice Chair had sent an Excel file to all members to review, some inputs had been returned and small changes will be made.

For the allocations, the floor space of the Coop store has been included. Further responses need to be made to the questions in the consultation. Cllr. Peirce stated that the CPRE letter of response needs to be strongly endorsed, this was agreed.

Vice Chair will collate the final response and circulate. The deadline to respond is 23rd June and the next PC meeting is 6th July 2022.

Resolved – delegated decision to Clerk and Vice Chairman to send response by 23rd after final copy is circulated to all members before deadline for any further inputs, or small changes.

7. Finance review and
approve payments and to
note receipts.

Woodcote Parish Council
List of Payments between
03/06/2022 & 28/06/2022

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amnt Paid	Transaction Detail
06/06/2022	HMRC	SO	£572.92	monthly contributions
16/06/2022	RES Systems Ltd	TRANSFE R	£100.25	Hook backs Fire Doors VH

	J. Roxborough	TRANSFE R	£2,937.51	VH extr doors repaint, repair mortar, renew door bottom repair areas rodent entry
22/06/2022	Advanced Pest Control	TRANSFE R	£72.00	Visit and bait for mice
28/06/2022	J. Welham	SO TRANSFE R	£1,494.4	June salary
28/06/2022	L. Crockett	R	£224.22	June litter picking
28/06/2022	T. Smallbone	TRANSFE R	£35.00	June war memorial garden
Total £5436.31				

Payments Approved

Receipts Noted CCLA Deposit account £125.45

7.1 Quotations & Grants – received for review/approval.
None.

The Clerk had circulated an email advising that there was an amount of CIL Funds that needed to be spent by End October 2022.

It was agreed to allocate these funds to offset some of the expense on the new Bus Shelter.

8. Other Matters For Chairman - to consider any matters arising after agenda published.

Clerk gave an update regarding the two allotment plots on Gap Way, the resident in question had agreed to the valuation and legal costs.

Surveyor to process a quotation, Clerk will present to Council when received.

Clerk gave update on Play Area, some items needed repair following the last Playground inspection by Rospa certified Company Play Safety. This will include the edges of the wet pour. Inspection next week, quotation to follow.

Discussion regarding looking at a new surface for the entire area to replace the wet pour as repairs are expensive. The previous rubber mulch to be investigated again, Clerk to obtain up to date quote when details are forwarded of the company details.

Watering of the new Trees was discussed, Clerk is obtaining a quote for Stand Pipe inside the allotments close to the top end to enable hose to be passed through the hedge to use.

Also obtaining costs for long hose pipe and Hose pipe Trolley.

Need to engage the Conservation Group and other volunteers who may wish to assist in the tree watering. Communication on PC Social Media and all other sources.

Cllr. Booker advised that our PCSO will visit to look at the parking of vehicles on the Green on the corner of Whitehouse Road.

She thanked the Clerk for recently circulating photos of the kitchen area in the Village Hall.

Project Consultation posters, many had been removed from around the village, unknown by whom. Cllr. Booker requested extension to closing date being 3rd July 2022, Council agreed.

Vice Chairman suggested that a working group needs to start to look at the next steps for the village hall refurbishment. Residents of Woodcote to be invited to join the group.

9. Correspondence

Email from a resident regarding the play equipment on Folly Field, a child had got her knee trapped between the handle bars on the Rope Walk. Fire brigade called to release her. Fortunately did not need hospital visit. Resident stated they feel the equipment is outdated and unsafe, requested removal and could new equipment be installed.

Council sympathetic, however the Play equipment inspection report did not indicate any faulty equipment or unsafe equipment. Clerk to reply and also send her copy of the Inspection report.

Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 6th July 2022

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