

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 8th JANUARY 2004
AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE CHURCH ROOM, WEST WYCOMBE

ATTENDANCE: Cllrs Mrs J. Smith in the Chair, Mr R. Seymour,
Mrs C. Dakin, Mr D. Callaghan, Mr M. Gerrard, Mr F. Downes, Mrs A. Wood
Non-Voting members: Mr C. Pugh (The National Trust), Mrs A. Harris,
Mrs S. Henson, Clerk Cllr Mrs Teesdale Cllr Mrs Snelling

TO DECLARE ANY PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY, PERSONAL OR PRIVATE
INTERESTS: None declared

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF THE DECEMBER PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING:

These were agreed by those Councillors present and signed by the Chairman.

REPORT ON PROGRESS ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Mr Michael Dods of St Lawrence PCC had made contact with the Clerk to state that in principle they would like to accept our offer of a donation on the terms stated i.e. 3 years rent free. He is investigating the VAT position as they think there is a reduced level of VAT for listed buildings.

We might need to look at creating a 'turning circle' in the burial ground. Cllr Seymour has looked at the original plans and we will have start looking at the year 2005/2006 along with a possible extension for car parking.

St Lawrence Parish Church has been awarded the National Civic Pride Silver Apple.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS
MEETING REOPENED

91.1 DISCUSSION WITH DR DAVE FURZE AND MARTHA EDWARDS OF WDC
AND PC MCDONNELL ON POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO YOUTH ISSUES
WITHIN THE PARISH

Dr Dave Furze and Martha Edwards gave a resume of the type of help they could assist with but felt that the most important thing to do was to try and get a picture of what was happening on a regular basis and from that start a dialogue to find out their needs. From this we could possibly have help from special project workers who were trained to build up a rapport with the youngsters and act as facilitators.

PC McDonnell said that he had only had 4 reported incidents over the last year, which clearly showed a state of non-reporting. The Clerk raised concern over lack of incident reports to police, as she was aware of many more phone calls to the police on certain issues. We do not consider them 999 type calls unless of course we witness a crime actually occurring.

Some funding might be possible via WDC. It was felt that problems would be a recurring problem in each generation; facilities within the parish are not going to greatly change and whatever is done there must be a sustainability.

The 'community' need to start visiting the primary school to talk to yr 5/6 about good citizenship and their role in the parish.. Sometimes need to look at crime reduction as part of the whole project. Local people need to provide time and commitment. Ultimately hope they have something that is theirs and hope they will look after. PC McDonnell feels that it is a minority of West Wycombe youth, with youth from other areas. Wycombe District Council have a mobile skate board rink – Ranger Service Manager - Mike Ambrose has further information.

Letter to accompany anti social behaviour incident report sheets.

Clerk and Cllr Mrs Smith will work on this.

91.2 CORRESPONDENCE Received from 11th December 2003 – 8th January 04

1. BCC launch of Rider on Call bus service on 12th January at 10.15 at Saunderton Station. Cllrs Mrs Smith and Mr Seymour will attend.
2. Letters from West Wycombe School Head and Junior Road Safety Officers
3. BCC Speed Limit Review for Area 5
4. BCC – letter from Mike Knight, BCC Highways
5. Copy letter from BCC to The Pedestal Garage
6. WDC Local Plan to 2011 – Intention to adopt the Plan
7. WDC Wycombe Town Centre Parking and Access Strategy
8. Letter from CPRE asking for active volunteers
9. BCC Community Contact Card
10. Application Transfer of Justices on-Licence – The George and Dragon
11. Acknowledging our letter to the Milton Keynes & South Midlands Spatial document
12. BALC letter with a training date of 22nd January for AQA Clerks at a cost of £8.50 to be invoiced. The Clerk will attend.

91.3 PLANNING REPORT; DECISIONS, APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS

03/Fern Cottage, Church Lane – loft conversion incorporating 2 rear conservation velux windows with increased ridge height and external alterations –permit and grant consent. Planning had carried out a site visit and were aware of the ‘parking’ issue. They cannot insist that a garage is used for parking even though they have to assume it is and then they allow for a ‘parking space’ in front of the garage as it would be very unlikely that a neighbour would park in front of a garage, therefore the 3 bedroom property has the 2 spaces required.

AD/03/08094/FUL – 31 Portway Drive –construction of single storey rear extension. The neighbours do have concerns about reducing light to their extremely small garden. The Parish Council feels that it is too large for the site and will detrimentally affect the neighbour’s garden.

03/07390/FUL – Barrymore, Park Farm, Road – construction of first floor side/rear extension and roof alteration – permit with conditions.

91.4 REPORT ON THE BCC TRANSPORTATION SYMPOSIUM HELD IN DECEMBER

The Clerk and Cllr Downes had attended a day long seminar where all aspects of traffic flow and movements through the East West Corridor. A great deal of time and effort has gone into speed reviews, traffic flow and other methods of travel into High Wycombe. BCC are well aware of the problems which would be caused by expansion to the North of the county and admit that we really need another corridor linking this area to the M40. At the moment all problems are caused by the bottleneck at The Pedestal.

91.5 REPORT ON HIGHWAYS ISSUES TO INCLUDE THE SPEED LIMIT REVIEW FOR AREA 5 and TO DISCUSS A REQUEST FROM WEST WYCOMBE SCHOOL FOR A DROP OFF POINT ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE VILLAGE

The Clerk will clarify which area we are in for the speed limit review – 5 and or 8, and also ascertain time scales. Areas are still selected on a priority created by accident rates. It will still take another one to two years before we will see the results of this project.

We had received a letter from the Head and another from the pupils at West Wycombe School asking for the Parish Council to assist them with a drop off area to the east of the village using either the Village Hall Car Park or the Burial Ground Car Park. Councillors were unanimous in the decision not to allow this as it was felt that the Garden Centre was completely adequate, we paid for the Crossing Patrol and The National Trust help with the path across the hill. The difference in distance is so minimal it would not justify putting parents and toddlers using the playgroup at risk of injury nor is it an appropriate place i.e. by the zebra crossing, to create a greater amount of parked and emerging traffic. Cllr Mrs Smith will be attending the school on the 9th and will pass this decision on. We did think that we could perhaps think of a way to encourage walking to school which the parish council would sponsor/support.

Cllr Mrs Smith will report to them that we have made a local area bid for work to be carried out to improve and make safe the footpath from Piddington. The Clerk reported that there has been an ongoing dialogue supported by photos with JC Decaux over the state of the billboards along the west Wycombe Road.

- 91.6 TO APPROVE THE JANUARY ACCOUNTS AND SIGNING OF CHEQUES
Mrs S Henson s/o, BCC Crossing patrol s/o, Mrs S. Henson expenses, Southern Electric Contracting – Repairs and Maintenance, Post Office.
Mrs J.P. Smith (Cllr Mrs Wood leaving gift), Southern Electric.

91.7 MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

All Councillors had a discussion about the need for creating a Parish Plan. This was felt to be necessary as a result of the Rural Housing Survey results, the Youth issues and the parking/traffic problems. The Clerk will circulate a Parish Plan pack for all Councillors to go through. We would need to involve all the active groups within the parish as well as traders and all the companies along the West Wycombe Road. We would need to carry out house-to-house surveys and analyse the results and produce a set of conclusions and future actions based upon the information supplied. This would probably be at least an 18-month project but would give us a plan for the next 10 –20 years. Mr Charles Pugh reported that he will be changing roles within The National Trust and that February would be his last meeting.

Cllr Mrs Smith reported that Cllr Mrs Wood has had to resign from the Parish Council after 12 years service due to current family commitments and she was presented with a framed antique photo of West Wycombe. The Clerk will advise the Electoral Roll Officer at Wycombe District Council that we will be advertising a vacancy.

- 91.8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Thursday 12th February at 8pm in The Church Room

There being no other business; the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.30pm