

Minutes of the meeting of Claydon with Clattercote Parish Council

Held in the Church Room, Claydon on Tuesday 10 July 2012 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllrs D. Hill (Chairman), A. Hoggins, R. Jones, C. Mutch, M. Simmons
County Councillor G. Reynolds, District Councillor K. Atack arrived at 7.55pm
14 members of the parish

Clerk to Council

Louise Aston

1. Apologies

There were none.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26 June 2012, had been circulated and were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3. Disclosures of Interests

There were none.

4. Matters Arising and Not on Agenda

Councillor Jones raised an issue regarding Thames Water and Appletree Lane, the Chairman reported that this would be covered later in the meeting.

Councillor Jones also raised the issue of dangerous dogs, and asked if anything had been done by the Parish Council. The Chairman reported that Cherwell District Council had been contacted by the Clerk, and a response had been received. Clerk will invite Cherwell Dog Warden to next meeting on 11 September 2012.

5. Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

(a) Roads and Verges

Home Farm verge – was being inspected on Friday 13 July 2012 by an OCC Officer.

Manor Park to Crossing Lane Footpath – has a fence in need of attention, and overgrown vegetation on the footpath.

Main Street – there are one or two places where residents hedges are protruding into the footpath.

Appletree Lane – The ditch outside the sewerage works is overgrown, Thames Water state it is not theirs and it is the landowners responsibility. The Chairman will contact OCC to try and find who is responsible.

(b) General Appearance & Upkeep of Village

The Chairman reported that Councillors do regularly walk around the village considering the appearance and upkeep of the village as a whole, and where maintenance might be required. This includes roads, verges and trees.

The Parish Council would like to remind all residents to check the boundaries of their gardens and ensure that any overhanging trees, shrubs & hedges are cut back and not causing hazards to other villagers.

(c) Blue Brick Path

A Works Officer was due to meet the Chairman and Councillor Mutch on Friday 13 July 2012. Emma Gallagher had raised the issue by email on the state of the path outside The Leys and Bank Cottages as it is now slippery to walk on due to the rain and moss.

6. Cherwell District Council (CDC)

(a) Point to Point Farm, Mollington Road

The Chairman reported that this application had been refused by CDC the Local Planning Authority.

(b) Far Close, Crossing Lane

The Chairman reported that CDC and Claydon Parish Council had been called "Nimbies" by Mr Gardner's agent in regard to objections to this application. The appeal to the Planning Inspectorate is still in progress, a site meeting due between representatives of CDC and Mr Gardner was scheduled for 3 July 2012 had been cancelled due to a request for postponement. A new date will be arranged.

(c) Hanwell/Shotteswell Wind Masts

A planning appeal had been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.

(d) Oxford Canal Conservation

A plan is due out soon for final consultation which is scheduled for a decision on 3 September 2012.

(e) Oxford Canal Enforcement

The Chairman reported that overall the appearance of the plots of land by the Oxford Canal was satisfactory. It was difficult to know whether they are all now compliant with the enforcement orders, without actually visiting individual plots. Councillor Atack reported that an Enforcement Officer was due to visit two of the plots.

The Chairman commented what was of concern were the materials being used to construct the agricultural storage building on the land close to the Oxford Canal owned by Mr Klas.

7. Daventry District Council (DDC)

The wind mast on land north of Boddington Reservoir had been approved.

8. Stratford on Avon District Council (SDC)

Stoneton Wind Mast - The Chairman reported that the Planning Appeal for a wind mast near to Stoneton Moat Farm and the Oxford Canal at Stoneton was still in progress. SDC had reported that an actual application for wind turbines at Stoneton was imminent.

Other Wind Turbines – there are also planning applications for wind turbines at Burton Dasset and on land between Bishops Itchington, Gaydon and Knightcote.

9. Bus Shelter

Councillor Jones reported that OCC have agreed to move the bus stop to the end of Manor Park as soon as buses start running again through the village. An appropriate bus shelter will be considered by the Parish Council once it is known if Claydon is to retain a bus service. The Banbury area is next to be reviewed.

10. Broadband

Councillor Simmons raised the local issue of the poor quality of the broadband service within the village and other local rural areas. The Parish Council agreed to support

initiatives to improve the broadband service and Councillor Simmons agreed to monitor the situation.

11. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

12. Finance

a) Annual Audit

The annual audit (BDO) return had been submitted and they seem happy – thank you to Louise Aston the Clerk for submitting it so quickly.

b) Income & Expenditure

A statement of income and expenditure was distributed by the Chairman who drew Councillors attention to the fact that the Council would only have a current balance of £242 after this month's payments had been made. The next allocation of the precept was due to be paid in September. The poor balance was largely accounted for by the major invoices submitted on behalf of the PFMC. Their entire current financial years grant would be utilised and they would exceed their grant by £168.35. It was resolved that the Council would offer two options to the PFMC.

- (1) PFMC to refund £168.35 thereby using all their 2012/13 grant
- (2) PFMC to refund £676 (Cherwell Fencing) which would leave £507.65 in their available grant funds.

c) Payments

It was agreed that the following payments be made:

Cherwell Fencing (PFMC) - £811.20
Eoscapes Landscaping (PFMC) - £450.00
Louise Aston (Parish Clerk) - £204.00
HMRC (Clerks tax) - £51.00
John Hicks (Internal Auditor) - £40.00
Claydon Jubilee Group (Jubilee grant) - £151.00

Retrospective payments:

Phoebe Shaft (Jubilee grant) - £150 & £62.24

d) Claydon Parish Council – Grant Application Form 2012/13

The Parish Clerk had proposed that any organisation requesting a grant from the Parish Council should submit a completed application form prior to the setting of the budget in January 2013.

Councillors accepted the proposed in principle but it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should modify the form prior to the Council meeting in September. Councillor Simmons suggested that the PFMC should be excluded from this procedure as he believed that the Council had an responsibility to support and maintain the playing field as it was the main asset of the Parish. It was agreed that this would be taken into account when the budget was determined, but it was generally accepted that the PFMC should not be exempted from the new procedure.

13. Any Other Business

The Chairman congratulated Claydon Jubilee group, and also to Phoebe Shaft on their jubilee celebrations and all the hard work that went into them.

The Chairman presented Michael O'Donovan of the Church Room Committee with a cheque for £641 from the sale of raffle tickets organised by Claydon Trust. Michael thanked everyone for their donations and fund raising for the project.

Councillor Mutch reported that there had been a spate of thefts and vandalism in the village.

- BT man had his high-vis vest, laptop and mobile phone stolen
- Thames Water people had a drill stolen
- Allotments have been broken into, and items stolen
- Phoebe Shaft had her van windows smashed by the canal.
- Chickens had been stolen from the allotments on 9 July 2012 sometime during the evening

Concern had been expressed to the Clerk by Emma Gallagher that the footpath on the Railway Bridge on the Fenny Compton Road was overgrown. The Chairman and Clerk agreed to take the matter up with both Stratford on Avon DC and Farnborough Parish Council.

The Chairman reported that the water was due to be turned off in the Mollington Road on 11 July. Pete Keaney confirmed it also applied to Manor Park.

The Chairman reported that the nuisance from vehicles at Greenacre, Fenny Compton Road had been investigated by CDC's Nuisance Investigations Officer from the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and there is nothing that could be done under the Road Traffic Act or any other Legislation to secure their removal.

Concern was expressed by Mrs Ingram as not all trains were sounding their horn as approaching Claydon Crossing. The Chairman and Clerk will contact Network Rail.

Next Meeting: 11 September 2012 at 7.30pm in the Church Room, Claydon

Chairman Signature:

Date: