

Minutes of the meeting of Claydon with Clattercote Parish Council

Held in the Church Room, Claydon on Tuesday 11 September 2012 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllrs D. Hill (Chairman), A. Hoggins, R. Jones, C. Mutch.
District Councillor K. Attack
5 members of the parish

Clerk to Council

Louise Aston

1. Apologies

Councillor Simmons sent his apologies.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 July 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

The Chairman reported that the Cherwell Dog Warden would not be attending the Council meeting. It had been agreed at the July meeting that the Dog Warden be invited to the next Council meeting, but the Clerk had been informed that members of his department do not attend Parish Council meetings.

5. Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

The Chairman had arranged to meet Tracey Morton and Katie Walther from OCC Highways on 19 September to review the outstanding issues from July. Cllrs Mutch and Jones are to join this meeting in the village. This is in response to the Parish Councils request for a meeting as Katie Walther's predecessor; Nick Watson had left OCC on 31 August.

(a) Blue Brick Path

County Councillor Reynolds will consider using some of his Area Stewardship fund subject to the quote for spraying and clearing the path.

(b) Appletree Lane

OCC confirmed the wide verge on the left hand side is theirs, and they will contact Thames Water about the ditch as this is Thames Waters responsibility.

(c) Pot Holes

Councillor Mutch agreed to check the remaining potholes, and it was reported the holes which were fixed 12-18 months ago on the Cropredy road have re-appeared.

(d) Trees

No progress has been made on this to date.

(e) Traffic

The Chairman now has a contact to enquire whether restriction signs can be obtained to prevent lorries coming through the village.

(f) Home Farm Verge

OCC own the verge outside Home Farm, Councillor Reynolds has offered to help with the purchase of bollards through the Area Stewardship fund again subject to cost.

(g) Road Works, Claydon

The Chairman reported that two contractors had been carrying out the recent work in the village – Thames Water (Optimise) the new mains and OCC the drainage.

6. Cherwell District Council (CDC)

The Chairman reported that the planning appeal for Far Close, Crossing Lane had been held by the Planning Inspectorate and the appeal was dismissed.

CDC's Local Plan has just been released for consultation and can be viewed on CDC's website www.cherwell.gov.uk . For Claydon it means only infill or conversions, and has no development plans. Claydon is now classed as a 'satellite' village of Cropredy in the Local Plan. A hard copy is available for inspection from the Chairman.

7. Stratford on Avon District Council (SDC)

The Chairman reported that Stoneton wind mast was still on going with the original appeal.

8. Warwickshire County Council (WCC)

The Clerk reported she had contacted WCC regarding the footpath but not had a response, however this would be chased up.

9. Claydon Bus Stop/Shelter

The Chairman gave thanks to Rob and Jenny Jones for the notices they have been displaying regarding the changes during the road closures. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Les Bodily and the Claydon Fox for their assistance during the road works.

Councillor Jones reported that the shelter is on hold until it is known if Claydon will keep its bus service. Councillor Jones asked the Chairman and Clerk to write a letter of complaint from the Parish Council to Stagecoach regarding the 'no show' and lateness of buses.

10. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

11. Allotments

The Chairman reported that he had visited the allotments, and they are in a disgraceful state. Three tenants have made an effort and a fourth is in the process of clearing their plot. It was agreed the weather during the summer had not been great, but this was not an excuse to neglect the plots and it was also agreed that plot holders would be written to and reminded of their obligations under the terms of their tenancy by the Chairman and Clerk.

12. Code of Conduct

The Clerk reported that these will be published on CDC's website shortly, and a link to it will be sent to the Parish Council to add the Parish Councillors declarations of interest to our village website. Councillors' signatures have been redacted for security.

13. Finance

The Chairman reported that the external auditors (BDO) were satisfied with the Parish Councils accounts for 2011/12 and the audit form had been returned. Thanks were given to the Clerk for the work to ensure the Parish Council accounts were passed.

a) Financial Statement

The Chairman reported that as of 14 September 2012 there was £1,439.71 in the account with £456.35 in reserve. Detailed income and expenditure statements were circulated.

b) Payments

It was agreed that the following payments be made:

Mr P. Kearney (PCC grass cutting) £500.00
Playsafety (RoSPA report) £79.20
BDO Annual Audit £144.00
Louise Aston (Parish Clerk) £204.00
HMRC (PAYE re Parish Clerk) £51.00

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

The Chairman reported that the grant application form had been amended after the last meeting, and all Councillors had viewed it prior to the meeting. There had been no suggested amendments. It was agreed by all Councillors present that the application be used by all groups wishing to apply for a grant. The Chairman reminded those present that the deadline for applications was 31 October, and the Clerk will send application forms to all those organisations in the village who received a grant this financial year.

d) Church Room Project

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Mr O'Donovan regarding the current position of the accounts for the Church Room project, but Mr O'Donovan was unable to give an update as monies to be received from Jubilee events had not yet been recieved.

14. Any Other Business

It was reported that the Vicar is leaving at the end of October, it is intended that she will be replaced but it may be a while before this happens.

Concern had been expressed by Mrs Ingram, at the previous meeting, that not all trains were sounding their horn as they approached Claydon Crossing. Councillor Jones reported back that Network Rail confirmed the trains do have to "toot" when approaching the crossing. If this doesn't happen please note down the time, date, which way the train was travelling and if possible the train company.

Councillor Mutch reported that the street cleaning machine from CDC had visited the village, and did a very poor job. Councillor Mutch contacted CDC and asked them to come back and do it properly. The cleaning machine came back the following day.

It was reported from the floor that it is difficult to drive down Crossing Lane now as the verges are very overgrown and the brambles touch the car. This is to be raised with OCC.

Next Meeting: 13 November 2012 at 7.30pm in the Church Room, Claydon

Chairman Signature:

Date:

DRAFT