

Minutes of the meeting of Claydon with Clattercote Parish Council

Held in the Church Room, Claydon on Tuesday 13 September 2011 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllrs D. Hill (Chairman), A. Hoggins, R. Jones, C. Mutch, County Councillor G. Reynolds, District Councillor K. Atack & 13 members of the parish.

Clerk to Council

Louise Aston

1. Apologies

Councillor M. Simmons

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12 July 2011, have been circulated. Councillor Simmons had suggested some amendments which were agreed by all members. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

The minutes of the Planning meeting held on Tuesday 2 August 2011, have been circulated and all members agreed these were a true and accurate record.

3. Disclosures of Interests

None

4. Matters Arising and Not on Agenda

None

5. Oxfordshire County Council

(a) Blue Brick Path

Councillor Mutch reported that the path had been sprayed, and a large bag of waste was collected. However, growth is back and it will be sprayed again.

(b) Mollington Road

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to the man from the Highways department; he said he would be in the area and would call by and speak to the Chairman – the Highways man never arrived. Protection of Miss Le Fontaines house and the verge and the Claydon House verge is required, was promised for April 2011 but due to lack of County budget still waiting.

(c) Preparing for Winter and Salt Requirements

Councillor Mutch reported good news that the grit bin at Fenny Compton Railway Bridge has been sited and filled. The village grit bin has also been filled, but will not be filled again instead the County will deliver a tonne bag of salt for the parish to use. Kindly Councillor Hoggins has said it can be stored in her barn and access is no problem.

(d) Emergency Response and Winter Preparedness

The Chairman reported that the County had sent a letter to the parish asking them to consider how they would deal with a full scale emergency, or being snowed in during the winter by way of a formal written plan. All members agreed that this was not needed at the current time.

6. Warwickshire County Council

The Chairman was pleased to report that Fenny Compton Railway Bridge was at long last open. At the Far end of the bridge at the parapet there is an 18 inch gap, which a child could fall through some wire is needed to cover the gap.

ACTION - Chairman to visit and then advise clerk if contact with Warwickshire County Council and/or Farnborough Parish Council is required.

7. Planning

(a) Land Adjacent to the Oxford Canal, Boddington Road, Claydon – Alleged Breach of Planning Control

The Chairman and Councillor Mutch went to the hearing at Cherwell District Council, Bodicote House. It was a very interesting hearing which lasted all day, and the Chairman stated the main argument was change of use from agriculture to domestic use. The Chairman had walked the canal that week and it does look better than it previously did but does look very domesticated there. There is a business being run from a canal boat on the Oxford canal, some people here only live on the narrow boats and not on the land.

(b) Planning Applications for Two Marina's in Cropredy

The Chairman went to the meeting being held on this matter in Cropredy Village Hall and the majority of residents in Cropredy do not want these marinas. The Chairman also visited Crick marina out of curiosity and was surprised that it moored 270 boats, all immaculately presented mainly because the fees are expensive.

The Chairman concluded that this was out of Claydon parish and there would be no visual impact on the village, although the controlling of water may become an issue as the canal locks are locked currently so movement is restricted between certain times. There would not be any increase in employment, but it may increase trade to local amenities. However, Councillor Mutch reported that there may be traffic issues with access to and from marinas, and the owners of the boats will probably bring their own food and drink with them.

Councillor Attack was unsure whether both marina applications would be heard together at Bodicote House, but thinks one may be heard sooner rather than later.

Parishioner asked if the parish can stop any festivals being held, as Crick has an annual festival which draws hundreds of people every year. Councillor Attack

replied saying that the owner/event organiser must have an entertainment and alcohol licence exactly the same way as Cropredy Fairport festival. The council agreed not to object to the marinas, but would advise CDC of their main concerns.

ACTION – Chairman had noted the points of concern and would send comments to Cherwell District Council.

(c) Far Close, Crossing Lane

The Chairman reported that this application has been refused by Cherwell District Council Planning department. The report from Cherwell was very good, and he gave thanks to the village for submitting comments. In total 24 objections were made.

(d) 9 and 10 Bignolds Close

The Chairman reported that 10 Bignolds Close was passed without problem, and 9 Bignolds Close is yet to be determined by Cherwell District Council. Both applications were for the decking to be laid.

(e) Community Consultation – Stoneton Wind Farm

The Chairman reported that a presentation would be held on 14 September 2011 at Priors Marston Village Hall between 2pm and 8pm and Wormleighton Village Hall on 15 September 2011 between 2pm and 8pm, all members of the parish were welcome to go along.

8. Red Telephone Box

The Chairman spoke about the idea of having a traditional red telephone box installed in the village, the idea was passed to him from a parishioner. BT is not keen on re-instating them (known as K6 telephone boxes) and they cost from £1,700 you have separate installation costs which are in the region of £1,200. Chairman asked the villagers present what they thought, and if anyone thought it was worthwhile. Most present agreed with the council not to proceed with this matter any further.

9. Thames Water Adoption of Sewers in Claydon

As of the 1st October 2011 the main sewer pipe to the boundary of your house is the responsibility of Thames Water, however if you have a problem and the main pipe is in your garden then you could be liable. The Parish council has an on-going dispute with Thames Water regarding the ownership of sewers in the village. According to the Parish councils records Thames Water have been responsible since 2002. The Parish council has evidence of papers showing adoption of sewers from Cherwell District Council.

ACTION –Clerk will arrange to meet someone from Thames Water on site to resolve this issue.

10. Finance

- a) Chairman circulated a financial statement detailing the Councils income and expenditure to date. The Playing Field Committee have spent £750 of their £1,000 on grass cutting of the playing field.
- b) Councillor Mutch reported that the Clerk is liable for PAYE and he will process the Clerks 1st payment in November with the necessary deductions.
- c) The Council approved a payment of £180 to Eoscapes Landscaping Limited for grass cutting for the months of July and August as agreed with the PFMC.

A payment of £325 was approved for fireworks for the PFMC Bonfire night on 12 November. This is less the VAT will be reimbursed to the council by PFMC

11. Maintenance in the Village

a) Horse Chestnut Tree on the Village Green

The Chairman reported that the tree has grown considerably and it is now stopped light from reaching the grass on the village green. The Council agreed to contact Rob Adams for his advice.

b) Litter

Councillor Hoggins reported that litter had again been found on the Appletree Road, this time it was Hotel literature. Councillor Hoggins asked if anything had been heard from Tesco after delivery notes were found also along Appletree Road. Councillor Atack said he handed them into Banbury Tesco after speaking to a member of staff there – but heard nothing since.

12. Parish Councillor Training

OALC have a course for new Councillors being held at Didcot on 8 November 2011, Councillor Simmons may be interested in attending.

ACTION –Clerk check with Councillor Simmons and complete form and book if necessary

13. Correspondence

a) ORCC membership – The Chairman feels this is a very worthwhile organisation which represents all rural parishes fairly and equally. He therefore proposed that Claydon parish council joins them from April 2012 at a cost of £48 per year.

ACTION –Clerk to contact ORCC and advise would like to join at beginning of the new financial year.

b) Electric Blanket Testing

Taking place on 4 October 2011, Dorothy volunteered to take some blankets for testing – she has 5 spaces booked.

c) Thames Valley Police

A parishioner reported a “salesman” for selling items door to door as he was acting suspiciously. It has since come to light that the man was “casing” properties – he was arrested and is now in Police hands.

Claydon village is a member of neighbourhood watch. Councillor Mutch reported that for information purposes all scrap metal dealers have to be licenced by law, if you give scrap to an unlicensed dealer you are also committing an offence.

d) Liners for Food Caddies

These are available from various points in the area. They are a “vending” style machine situated in Cherwell Offices throughout the district.

14. Diamond Jubilee

It will be held on 2-5 June 2012, the Chairman asked if anyone had any ideas or plans on how this could be celebrated. Dorothy Beckett reported that the Church

Room Committee would be involving all village groups in organising a weekend of fun, and would be re-naming themselves the Diamond Group.

15. AOB

Dial-a-Ride The Chairman asked if anyone in the village uses this service as a request has come through to seek the viability of it for Claydon. The village does use the service and is eager to keep it going.

Chestnut Tree, The Green Mrs Miliband asked that the tree was pruned and not chopped down.

ACTION –Councillor Jones to respond to question by 30 September 2011

Speeding Traffic Concerns were raised over the speed of traffic at various points in the village. Councillor Atack asked the Parish council to email him their concerns and he would raise it at the next NAG meeting

ACTION –Councillor Atack to raise speeding issues at next NAG and report back.

ACTION –Chairman agreed to follow up when the vehicle activated sign is due in Claydon.

Next Meeting: TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2011 at 7:30 in the Church Room, Claydon

Chairman Signature:

Date: