

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 11th DECEMBER 2007 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr D M Hadcroft (chairman) Cllr A Harker
Cllr I M J Caldicott Cllr K Jones
Cllr W Evans Cllr F D Parnell
Cllr P L Hadcroft Cllr C Phillips (part meeting)

In attendance: Inspector M Bullivant (Thames Valley Police) (Item 4 (a) and (b) only)
Sergeant C Storry (Thames Valley Police) (Item 4 (a) and (b) only)

Clerk Mr G M Mundy

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chairman welcomed Inspector Bullivant and Sergeant Storry to the meeting.

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from councillor J E Nunn-Price.

2 Declaration of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting

Cllr K Jones declared a personal interest in item 6 (e).

3 Sign report of committee meeting held 30th October 2007

It was **MOVED** the chairman and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“that the report be signed as a true record of the meeting.”

4 Police Matters

(a) Reported acts of vandalism – The clerk reported that there had been no reported acts of vandalism. Inspector Bullivant said that the council should be pleased that no reports had been received, despite Halloween and Bonfire Night occurring during the period. He further added that local police had taken part in Operation Metal 3, a dedicated rolling policing operation.

(b) Specific questions to Inspector Bullivant – Inspector Bullivant introduced himself to the meeting thanked the committee for inviting him. Inspector Bullivant gave a brief insight into his role as the local area commander for Grove, Wantage, Faringdon and surrounding villages.

(i) Policing the alcohol free areas. Inspector Bullivant said that despite best efforts by his officers and PCSOs alike, the areas concerned could not be policed 24 hours a day. Inspector Bullivant further added that he would ensure that the alcohol free areas in Grove, especially the Mary Green Play Area are added to the tasking sheets for his officers. When asked about figures regarding confiscated items such as alcohol etc, Inspector Bullivant agreed to ask Sergeant Storry to collate the information and inform the council accordingly.

Cllr C Phillips arrived

(ii) Police station in Grove. Inspector Bullivant said that with more housing and more people moving in to the area as a result of the proposed housing development, the police and the council would have to talk to the developers regarding a police station and possibly funding an additional PCSO. Cllr Parnell said that part of a new community centre within the proposed development could accommodate a police post, but would more than likely be shared with an ambulance station.

Inspector Bullivant said that the council needed to decide what it required and to talk to the developer. Inspector Bullivant said that he would also speak to PC Lovegrove from Abingdon who is the Neighbourhood Policing Implementation Manager and try and find out if a Police Post is likely to be provided.

(iii) Bicycles without lights. Cllr Evans said that an increasing number of people, not just children are riding their bicycles on the footpaths and roads without lights on them and that if a prosecution was made against 1 or 2 individuals and this was publicised then perhaps this would encourage people to get lights on their bicycles. Inspector Bullivant said that he would task his officers accordingly, but also said that, although this was not a chargeable offence, was an offence that could be dealt with by way of fixed penalty notice.

Inspector Bullivant was then asked by the committee for the names of the officers that patrol Grove. The Inspector then named the following officers and PCSOs: PS Claire Storry, PC Darren James, PC Natasha Park, PC Sarah Palmer, PCSO Howard Pack, PCSO Sue Harris and PCSO David Nivet (new PCSO who starts on Wednesday 19th December 2007).

There being no further questions for Inspector Bullivant, the chairman thanked him and PS Storry for attending the meeting.

- (c) Minutes of the NAG meeting held 26th September 2007 – The minutes were noted.

5 Matters arising from the previous meeting

- (a) Item 8 – Highway matters – The clerk informed the committee that he had visited the site of the footpath repairs and had ascertained that this was routine maintenance.

6 To receive reports from representatives of outside bodies

- (a) Independent Advice Centre - No report was received.
- (b) Wantage, Grove & District Traffic Advisory Committee - The next meeting will be held on 13th December 2007 in the Civic Hall.
- (c) Robert Stiles Almshouses - No meeting had taken place.
- (d) Grovelands Shoppers Service - Cllr P Hadcroft informed the committee that OCC would continue to subsidise the shoppers bus with a sum of £1,003.10 a year for the next four years (including annual adjustments for inflation). He added that this will be paid in two parts. Cllr Hadcroft also suggested and it was agreed that the Grovelands Shopper Service account borrow 1 months revenue from the Council accounts until the subsidy was received from OCC.
- (e) Vale & Downland Museum Trust – Cllr Jones said that there had not been a meeting since the last committee meeting.
- (f) Schools governors' reports

(i) – Millbrook School – The minutes for the meeting held on 19th November 2007 have been received by the office. They are available to councillors to read should they wish to do so during normal office hours. Cllr Evans reported that the Millbrook School under 11s football team won the Vale of White Horse indoor competition. The Clerk was asked to write to the head teacher and congratulate the school.

(ii) – Grove C of E School – Cllr Jones said that the new head teacher would start in January 2008. He also added that the school Christmas Fare is to be held on Friday 14th December 2007.

7 Transport Matters

There was nothing to report.

8 Highway matters:

There was nothing to report.

9 Health matters

Clerk Hospital Committee – There was nothing to report. The Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Hannaby at Wantage Town Council and ask if this committee was still meeting and if so, where and when.

10 Cemetery issues

There was nothing to report.

11 JET Matters

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 17th January 2008 at 6.30 pm in Old Mill Hall.

12 Bus Shelters

Clerk The Clerk informed the committee that he had received the quotation for bus shelters as per the specification given at the last committee meeting. Following discussion it was generally agreed not to purchase a bus shelter at this time due to budgetary constraints. However the clerk was asked to write to Tesco, Sainsbury's and the Co-Op and make enquiries regarding funding for future bus shelters.

Clerk The clerk also informed the committee that he had received a reply from OCC regarding the Section 106 agreement concerning the Mably Way Health Centre. Following a short discussion it was generally agreed that the clerk write to OCC and ask that the money set aside for bus shelters for the A338 is transferred to supply a bus shelter for the Health Centre. The clerk is also to inform OCC that any bus shelter provided, would be maintained by Grove Parish Council after its installation and that according to the Boundary Commission, the Health Centre will remain in Grove following any reviews currently taking place.

13 Budget Estimate from 2008/09

Following discussion

It was **PROPOSED** Cllr A Harker **SECONDED** Cllr P Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“to recommend to Full Council that the budget estimate for 2008/09 from the Environmental Services Committee be set at £5, 020.”

A copy of the estimate is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

14 Chairman's urgent communications

There were no Chairman's urgent communications.

15 General correspondence

There was no general correspondence.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Confirmed 5th February 2008

Chairman

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