

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 13th DECEMBER 2005 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr K R Clarke (chairman)
Cllr D M Hadcroft (vice-chairman)
Cllr R Bashford
Cllr S Cotton
Cllr W Evans (part meeting)
Cllr P L Hadcroft
Cllr A Harker
Cllr K Jones
Cllr F D Parnell
Cllr B Williamson

In attendance Cllr A P Lunn

Clerk Mr G M Mundy

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs R Hick-Greene, J Nunn-Price and J Stock.

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

Cllr A Lunn declared an interest in items 5 b) and 9.

3 Sign report of committee meeting held 1st November 2005

The clerk informed the chairman that Cllrs M Mellersh and J Stock appeared in the list of “those present” but both had not been present at the meeting and should be removed off the list. This was agreed. Cllr A Lunn’s name appears twice, once in the list of those present and once in the list of “in attendance”. His name should be removed off “those present”.

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

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

4 Matters arising from meeting held on 20th September 2005

There were no matters arising that did not already appear on the agenda.

5 To receive reports from representatives of outside bodies

- a) Independent Advice Centre - The report from Cllr S Cotton was noted.
- c) Wantage, Grove & District Traffic Advisory Committee - Cllr W Evans informed the committee that the next meeting is to be held on Thursday 15th December 2005.
- d) Robert Stiles Almshouses - The clerk read out the report from Cllr S Cotton and the report was noted.
- e) Grovelands Shoppers Service - Cllr P Hadcroft said that he was still awaiting notification of the grant from OCC. However, the shopper’s service was running well.
- e) Vale & Downland Museum Trust - The report from Cllr K Jones was noted.

- f) School governors' reports - The clerk had distributed the minutes from the Millbrook School Governors meeting. Cllr F Parnell highlighted the point raised in minutes regarding CCTV. Following discussion it was generally agreed to discuss funding option for CCTV at the next Finance and General Purposes meeting.

Clerk

6 Transport Matters

- a) OCC – Fares and ticketing strategy consultation – Following discussion it was generally agreed the chairman and clerk liaise with regard to the parish councils response

Clarke
Clerk

Clerks note: the response is to be with the OCC no later than 6th January 2006.

- b) OCC – Moving forward – Oxfordshire's Local Transport Plan Consultation – Following discussion it was generally agreed that the chairman respond on behalf of the council.

Clarke

Clerks note: the response is to be with the OCC no later than 6th January 2006.

- c) Chairman's report from the meeting with stagecoach and OCC – The chairman gave a verbal report of the meeting that he had attended with county councillor Zoe Patrick. Representatives from Stagecoach and the OCC transport officer had also been in attendance.

7 Health matters

- a) Wantage Hospital Committee – Cllr B Williamson informed the committee that she reported at the last Full Council meeting. Following discussion it was agreed to delete this item from future Full Council agenda. This item will now only be reported on at this committee.

Clerk

- b) Invitation from SE and SW Oxon PCT – Cllrs S Cotton and B Williamson both stated that they would attend on behalf of the council. Cllr B Williamson also stated that she would reply for both Cllr Cotton and herself.

Cotton/
Williamson

8 Cemetery issues

- a) Sub-Committee – general report – The vice-chairman stated that no meeting had taken place recently, however, would meet in the new year. The vice-chairman also reported that the shelter had become dis-coloured over recent times. The clerk was asked to enquire as to what preservative should or could be used to bring the colour back to the shelter

Clerk

- b) Update regarding damage to the Cemetery Memorial Wall – The clerk informed the meeting that he had written to Redlime Ltd and the Vale to try and ascertain the original building specifications for the memorial wall, but to date had received no reply. The clerk also confirmed to the committee that Allianz-Cornhill had advised him of the sum of Indemnity insurance, which is £50,000 should the council wish to take this action further. Allianz Cornhill had also instructed a solicitors firm to act on our behalf.

The clerk was asked to copy all legal documentation to Cllr R Hicks- Greene for her perusal. A copy is also to be made for the vice-chairman and Cllr K Jones.

Clerk
Clerk

9 Highway matters:

Cllr A Lunn declared an interest in this item.

- The clerk read out a reply from OCC with regard to an enquiry he had made to OCC regarding potholes along School Lane footpath. The reply stated that the potholes were not the responsibility of OCC highways. There then followed a discussion about different departments at OCC and their respective responsibilities. Cllr W Evans suggested and it was agreed that the clerk write to Cllr Dave Robertson at OCC to highlight the problems to him.
- Clerk
- Cllr R Bashford suggested that a sign be procured by the council directing delivery vehicles to the turning point at the rear of the shops. The clerk agreed to seek quotes for this.
- Clerk
- Cllr A Lunn agreed to raise the issues above at the next Wantage, Grove and District Traffic Advisory Committee.
- Lunn
- 10 JET Matters**
- a) Letcombe Brook Project Officer report – The report was noted.
- 11 Report on progress to date with regard further highway maintenance**
- Following discussion it was agreed that this matter be discussed at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.
- Clerk
- 12 Quotations for signs at Willow Green**
- It was **MOVED** Cllr W Evans **SECONDED** the chairman and **RESOLVED** unanimously
- “to accept the quote from Falcon Signs for £35 plus VAT for the supply of the sign for Willow Green.”**
- Clerk
- Clerks note: The new sign will be fixed into position by council staff.*
- 13 Report from the Children in need litter blitz**
- The clerk reported that the sponsored litter blitz of grove by Delia Dews and John Stead raised £337 for Children in Need. They managed to fill over 20 black bin liner during the day which started at 7 am and only finished because it became too dark.
- 14 Acts of Vandalism**
- This was noted.
- 15 Waste service charges from Biffa Waste and Grundon Limited**
- The clerk informed the committee that since writing to Biffa Waste to give notice for the bin emptying service, Biffa had replied with a revised quote for services which matched the quote from Grundon Ltd. The clerk asked the committee or direction. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed to inform Biffa Waste that the contract will cease with effect 10th February 2006.
- Clerk
- The clerk is to liaise with Grundon Limited in initiating the new contract with them
- Clerks note: Clerk will liaise with Old Mill Halls Hall Manager with regard to their contract with Biffa.*
- 16 Correspondence from Inspector Hinchley of Thames Valley Police**
- Following discussion it was agreed to invite Inspector Hinchley to an Environmental Services Committee meeting in the new year.
- Clerk

17 Report on matters relating to the Millbrook Litter Survey

Cllr A Harker spoke regarding the recent meeting with Vale officers over the Millbrook Square litter survey. He informed the committee that the Vale officers were very supportive, however funding would be an ongoing issue. The parish council together with the Vale now need to approach traders with options laid out for the cleaning of the area.

Clerk

The clerk is to write to the agents of Bluehouse Properties to seek clarification on how often he would contribute to the cleaning of the square.

Clerks note: The clerk has tried to contact Aron Freedman but to date no reply had been received.

Clerk

The clerk is also to contact local companies with regard to contract cleaning for Millbrook Square.

18 Final consideration of the budget for 2006/07

Following discussion it was agreed to add £500 to the dog bins/waste collection budget for 2006/07 making the total budget for Environmental services Committee £5,100.

It was **MOVED** Cllr W Evans **SECONDED** the vice-chairman and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“to recommend to Full Council that the budget for the Environmental services Committee for 2006/07 be set at £5,100.

Cllr W Evans left the meeting

19 Chairman’s urgent communications

Clarke

a) Correspondence from Mrs Delia Dews – The clerk read out the letter from Delia Dews. Mrs Dews and Mr John Stead wish to volunteer their services in picking up litter in Grove on a monthly basis. It was generally agreed to accept the offer from them and the clerk should write back informing her so. The clerk is also after “litter packs” from the Vale and how they can be distributed. The chairman agreed to place an advertisement in the Parish Newsletter asking for more volunteers.

Clerk

b) Request by OCC for council comments on a proposed modification to a routing Agreement made by David E McDowell Limited (Asvogel) – The clerk read out the terms of the request made. Following discussion it was agreed that the clerk respond to OCC stating that whilst the council is not against any modification proposals the vehicular movement will have to be monitored very closely in the future with regard to tonnage moved by road and speed of vehicles though the “A” roads of the village.

20 General correspondence

CPRE Fieldwork magazine – This was noted.

CAG (Community Action Groups) Oxfordshire – This was noted

Health Scrutiny News – This was passed to Cllr B Williamson.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Confirmed 31st January 2006

Chairman