

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 18th MARCH 2008 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr J E Nunn-Price (Chairman) Cllr K Jones
 Cllr J E Amys Cllr F D Parnell
 Cllr W Evans Cllr C Phillips
 Cllr P L Hadcroft Cllr B A Williamson

Clerk: Mrs C J Parry

The chairman welcomed the two newly co-opted councillors to the meeting.

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs I Caldicott and A Harker and from parish clerk Mr G M Mundy.

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

Cllr Jones declared a personal interest in items 7e and 7f. The chairman declared a personal interest in item 7f. Cllrs Amys and Williamson declared personal interests in item 5b.

3 To elect a committee vice-chairman

It was **MOVED** Cllr Hadcroft, **SECONDED** Cllr Parnell that Cllr Harker be elected committee vice-chairman. There being no other nominations, Cllr Harker was elected committee vice-chairman.

4 Sign report of committee meeting held 5th February 2008

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

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

5 Police Matters

(a) Reported acts of vandalism – The list of acts of vandalism was noted.

It was **MOVED** Cllr Parnell **SECONDED** Cllr Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously **“that a litter bin be purchased to replace the damaged bin at Bosleys Orchard.”**

Clerk’s note: – the cost of a replacement bin will be £220.45 + VAT

(b) Minutes of the NAG meeting held on 13th February 2008 – The minutes were noted. Cllr Evans queried why a recent incident at a house in Grove had not been recorded. The clerk was to ascertain the reason it had been omitted and whether the incident had been classed as a crime or not.

Clerk

(c) Minutes of the NAG meeting held on 10th March 2008 – The minutes were noted. Cllr Williamson stated that boxes for the survey would be placed in specified locations. Cllr Amys was unsure about the confidentiality of the minutes of the NAG meetings and Cllr Williamson agreed to take this to the next meeting for clarification.

Williamson

(d) Correspondence from TVP regarding community policing awards

Clerk

It was **PROPOSED** Cllr Williamson **SECONDED** the chairman and **RESOLVED** unanimously “that PCSO Sue Harris be nominated for an award.”

6 Matters arising from the previous meeting

Clerk

(a) Item 4(b) – Information from TVP regarding police facility requirements – A response had been received and was noted. It was generally agreed that this matter be referred to the Section 106 sub-committee for inclusion in discussions with the Vale of White Horse District Council.

Clerk
Clerk

(b) Item 4(b) – Locality crime figures – As no legend had been included on the chart provided, councillors were unsure of the meaning of the coloured blocks. The clerk was asked to contact the police for a breakdown of day/night incidents and also an explanation of how the figures are broken down. The clerk was to ask the police to e-mail this information in future.

Clerk/
Chairman

(c) Item 5(c) – Letters to local supermarkets regarding bus shelters – The clerk and chairman were to pursue this matter.

7 To receive reports from representatives of outside bodies

Jones

(a) Independent Advice Centre – No report had been received.

(b) Wantage, Grove & District Traffic Advisory Committee – Cllr Stock’s report was noted. It was also noted that the signage at the junction of Cane Lane with Brereton Drive was to be replaced.

(c) Robert Stiles Almshouses - No meeting had taken place.

(d) Grovelands Shoppers Service - Cllr P Hadcroft reported that the shortfall in the account amounted to £28.12, which had been made up by the parish council.

(e) Vale & Downland Museum Trust – Conversion from a Trust to a Company Limited by Guarantee – Cllr Jones explained that the reason for the conversion was to put the museum on a more commercial footing. It was generally agreed to approve the proposed changes and it was noted that Grove Parish Council would continue to have the right to appoint a representative to the Trust.

(f) Schools governors’ reports

(i) Millbrook School – No report had been received.

(ii) Fitzwaryn School – The chairman reported that she had attended a Governor training session at the school.

(iii) Grove C of E School – A meeting was to be held on Thursday. Cllr Jones reported that the new head was settling in well and that he too would be attending a training session the following week. The SEN report had been excellent and a new web site would be up and running after Easter.

8 Transport Matters

There was nothing to report.

9 Highway matters:

Clerk

(a) Correspondence from Oxfordshire Highways regarding Cane Lane – The response was noted. However certain comments made in the letter provoked several questions and the clerk was asked to write back for answers to these. She was also

Clerk asked to request a meeting and to ascertain whether SCOTS had considered the possibility of opening Cane Lane.

Clerk The clerk was to search for any previous documentation on the closure of Cane Lane and also for the report of the meeting with the county council last autumn.

10 Health matters

Cllr Williamson had visited the new nursing home. The official opening was to be held on 11th April by which time there would be two patients. She reported that there would be 20 beds on the ground floor for dementia patients and 30 beds on the second floor. There was to be a public meeting on 8th May at the Butler Centre in Wantage.

11 Cemetery issues

Clerk (a) Installation of a water trough – The clerk explained that several complaints had been received that no water was available at the cemetery during the winter months. The tap had recently been damaged due to a visitor attempting to obtain water and therefore the clerk suggested that a water trough might alleviate the problem. Councillors thought this a good idea in principle and asked the clerk to obtain costs and bring them to the next meeting. Cllr Phillips offered to advise and liaise with the clerk.

Phillips

(b) Correspondence regarding memorial trees – A request had been received for a memorial tree at the cemetery. The clerk explained that the trees initially earmarked for memorials had all been purchased and sought the advice of the committee for an area where future memorial trees could be planted.

It was **MOVED** Cllr Parnell **SECONDED** Cllr Jones and **RESOLVED** unanimously “**to set aside the grassed area between the car park and main road for future planting of memorial trees.**”

Clerk The clerk was to reply to the correspondent.

(c) K&R Memorials – The clerk’s report on the problems with K&R Memorials was noted.

Clerk It was **MOVED** Cllr Hadcroft **SECONDED** Cllr Phillips and **RESOLVED** unanimously “**that the clerk make one final effort to retrieve the debt and if it was not forthcoming within two weeks of the date of the letter then the debt would be written-off and the company blacklisted.**”

Clerk

Clerk The clerk was to inform local undertakers if the company was blacklisted.

12 JET Matters

Clerk Councillors commented on how good the daffodils looked around Grove and in particular on the A338. It was generally agreed that a request be put to JET asking for late summer flowering bulbs.

13 Renewal of membership of the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust

It was **MOVED** Cllr Parnell **SECONDED** Cllr Williamson and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk “**to renew the annual membership of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust at a cost of £25.**”

14 Chairman’s urgent communications

There were no urgent communications.

13 General correspondence

- (a) CAG Newsletter. Noted

The chairman thanked everyone for their help during the past year.

The meeting closed at 8.48 pm

Confirmed 13th May 2008

Chairman