

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 19th SEPTEMBER 2006 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr K R Clarke (chairman)
Cllr D M Hadcroft (vice-chairman)
Cllr R Bashford
Cllr P L Hadcroft
Cllr R E Hicks-Greene (part meeting)
Cllr K Jones
Cllr J Nunn-Price
Cllr F D Parnell

In attendance: PC S Palmer (Area Beat Officer)

Clerk Mr G M Mundy

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs S Cotton, W Evans, A P Lunn and B Williamson.

Cllr R Hicks-Greene arrived

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

The chairman declared a personal interest in item 9.

3 Sign report of committee meeting held 8th August 2006

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

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

It was agreed to bring forward the following items for discussion: 11,9,17.

11 Police Matters (item taken out of order)

PC Palmer reported that the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) meeting would take place on 19th October in the St Johns Hall. She also reported that the recently held Grove (East) Neighbourhood Watch meeting was a great success with 35 Grove residents attending.

Clerk It was generally agreed to move police matters up the agenda to appear after signing the report from the previous meeting.

9 Highway Matters (item taken out of order)

a) Correspondence from Mr Derek Payne – The clerk read out a letter from Mr Payne regarding what he thought was a vehicle parked on the highway in an obstructive way. Pc Palmer said that she and her colleagues are aware of the vehicle in question and in the police’s opinion, the vehicle was not parked in an obstructive manner.

Clerk The clerk was asked to write to Mr Payne informing him of the police opinion. He is also to be informed that the police will be monitoring the vehicle. Mr Payne is also to be given the police call centre number to report if further should he wish to do so. The call centre number is 08458 505505.

17 Acts of Vandalism (item taken out of order)

Clerk The report was noted. It was agreed that the Acts of Vandalism report is to be forwarded to the Area Beat Officer in future.

Clerk It was generally agreed that all items on future agenda’s with a police interest are to be placed under the “police matters” heading.

4 Matters arising from the meeting

- a) Item 9 a) – Highway Matters – The clerk informed the meeting that OCC had stated that it is up to the utility companies to ascertain where and when they dig up tarmac to repair leaks/faults etc.
- b) Dog bins – The clerk reported that both OCC and the Vale have given approval for the siting of additional dog bins on their land.

5 Reports from representatives of outside bodies

- a) Independent Advice Centre - Cllr J Nunn-Price reported that the IAC held a good AGM and that the centre was working well. There is still a need for volunteer drivers.
- b) Wantage, Grove & District Traffic Advisory Committee - The written report from Cllr J Stock was noted. Cllr R Bashford spoke regarding WAGAST. The clerk was asked to write to OCC enquiring what had happened to WAGAST and had it been abandoned.

Clerk

The clerk was also asked to contact the two Grove primary schools and find out who their “Better Way’s to School2 co-ordinators are and ask if they could help with funding the zebra crossing through the scheme.

Clerk

- c) Robert Stiles Almshouses - No report had been received.
- d) Groveland’s Shoppers Service – Cllr P Hadcroft reported that all was well and no problems had been reported. Cllr J Nunn-Price informed the meeting that the ORCC is holding a Community transport meeting on 19th October at Kennington village hall.
- e) Vale & Downland Museum Trust - No report had been received.
- f) School Governors’ Reports – Cllr R Hicks-Greene reported that the acting head of North Drive School is Jill Lipscombe and is in place until after term 4. DDA worked at the school were ongoing throughout the summer and there were 15 new starters for the summer intake.

6 Transport Matters

- a) OCC Local Transport Plan 2001-06 – The report was noted.
- b) Passenger Transport - Minutes of the last Passenger Transport meeting had been received and were noted. The clerk was asked to find out who can attend the rail forum meeting and why Kidlington station was mentioned but not Grove.

Clerk

7 Health matters

- a) Hospital Committee – No meeting had been held.
- b) Briefing notes from Cllr Williamson – The briefing note was noted.

8 Cemetery issues

- a) Sub-Committee – general report – No meeting had taken place
- b) Update regarding damage to the Cemetery Memorial Wall – The clerk informed the meeting that Mary Lambe is still investigating.
- c) NALC Briefing note Memorial Safety in Cemeteries – Following discussion it was agreed that the clerk and the Health and Safety Officer are to carry out a risk assessment at the cemetery.

It was also agreed that the Health and Safety Officer check the website and construct a draft policy on testing etc and record keep a record of future tests.
- d) Policy on the scattering of ashes in Grove Cemetery –

Clerk/
H&S
Officer
H & S
Officer

It was **MOVED** Cllr P Hadcroft **SECONDED** Cllr F Parnell and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“to restrict the area for the scattering of ashes within the Cemetery to the area adjacent to the Denchworth Road along the hedgeline.”

10 JET Matters

The next meeting is on Thursday 21st September 2006.

12 Millbrook Square

Clerk
Clerk

It was reported that cars were constantly being parked in the lorry turning point. The clerk was asked to inform the owners of the square. The clerk also reported that the lorry turning sign had been vandalised and would be replaced in due course.

13 Potential Education Change in Grove – Grove C of E and Millbrook Primary Schools

Clerk

It was generally agreed to pass this over to the Leisure and Recreation committee for discussion. Once discussed at Leisure and Recreation this matter is to be referred to the next Full Council meeting.

14 Invitation form the Vale housing Association to an event at St Johns Court, Grove – 6th October 2006

Clerk

The invitation from Vale Housing Association was discussed and it was generally agreed that the clerk should attend this event.

15 Membership of the ORCC

Clerk

It was **MOVED** Cllr F Parnell **SECONDED** Cllr P Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“to continue membership of the ORCC at a cost of £20.00.”

16 Invitation to the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust AGM on Saturday 14th October 2006

This was noted. Names of those members wishing to attend are to be sent to the clerk by 10th October 2006.

18 Chairman’s urgent communications

Bashford

Cllr R Bashford suggested that the council look into, and investigate the possibility of creating a wild flower meadow in Grove. Various suggestions were received including the grassed areas on the A338 between Oxford Lane and Bellinger’s Garage. Cllr R Bashford suggested and it was agreed that he raise the issue at the next JET meeting.

16 General correspondence

The following general correspondence was noted:

- a) ORCC News - (Summer 2006)
- b) Drangonfly (summer 2006)
- c) Link AGM on 11th October in Mably Way Health Centre
- d) Home 2 School Newsletter
- e) Invitation to Brains Quiz 2006 – Cllr R Hicks-Greens agreed to captain this years team. Names of volunteer to Cllr R Hicks-Greene.

The meeting closed at 8.57 pm

Confirmed 31st October 2006

Chairman