

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 26th JUNE 2007 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr D M Hadcroft (chairman)
Cllr J Nunn-Price (vice-chairman)
Cllr W Evans
Cllr P L Hadcroft
Cllr K Jones
Cllr F D Parnell
Cllr C Phillips

In attendance: County councillor Z Patrick

Clerk Mr G M Mundy

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Harker.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Sign report of committee meeting held 15th May 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 report was noted.
- b) Presentation by Thames Valley Police – A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was distributed by the clerk. Cllr Evans said that the findings of the consultation would be distributed once collated together.
- c) NAG Meeting – The minutes of the meeting held on 31st May 2007 were noted.

5 Matters arising from the previous meeting

Clerk a) Item 7 a) – Footpath No 4 (Westfield Park Homes Estate) – The clerk was asked to copy this letter to county councillor Patrick.

Clerk b) Item 7 b) – Kissing Gate at the rear of Westfield Park Homes Estate – The clerk was asked to copy this letter to county councillor Patrick.

Clerk c) Item 7 c) – Mably Way Health Centre – Bus Shelter – The clerk was asked to copy all recent correspondence to county councillor Patrick.

Clerk d) Item 10 d) – Grovelands Shopper Service – The clerk was asked to send a copy of the response to the vice chairman and county councillor Patrick.

Clerk e) Item 12 a) – Hospital Committee – The clerk was asked to send a reminder to the clerk at Wantage Town Council regarding the PTC file.

f) Item 14 – Highway Matters – The clerk informed the committee that the cost of the lighting replacement scheme at Brereton Drive was £13,643.05. The clerk also informed the committee that OCC had no intention of conducting a similar scheme on Newlands Drive.

Clerk g) Item 18 – Dog Bins – The clerk was asked to chase the information requested.

h) Item 22 b) – Minerals & Waste Publication – The clerk informed the committee that he had notified OCC of the amendments required.

6 To receive reports from representatives of outside bodies

- a) Independent Advice Centre - The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 28th June.
- b) Wantage, Grove & District Traffic Advisory Committee - The briefing notes provided by Cllr Stock were distributed to councillors.
- c) Robert Stiles Almshouses - No meeting had taken place.
- d) Grovelands Shoppers Service - Cllr P Hadcroft informed the committee that the response from the parish council had gone to OCC. It is hoped that continued funding would be announced in December 2007.

Cllr P Hadcroft further added that the service continues to be running well and figures indicate that although number of passengers from Grove were dropping slightly, the numbers from Wantage were increasing.

- e) Vale & Downland Museum Trust - Cllr Jones informed the committee that the museum recently came runners up in the small business awards for Oxfordshire. He also reported that the museum would be closed for a short duration due to maintenance work at a cost of £80,000. Lains Barn is being well used however £250,000 is required for refurbishments work.

f) Schools governors' reports

i) – Grove C of E School – Cllr Jones reported that the next meeting would be held in the next couple of weeks.

ii) – Millbrook Primary School – The clerk read out a letter from Millbrook School stating that because of recent legislations, Millbrook School would not be inviting the parish council to nominate a council representative

It was agreed that the clerk write to the governors' and inform them that the council was disappointed that the council is not involved and asked for copies of minutes of the governors' meeting to be forwarded to the clerk of the council.

Clerk

iii) – Fitzwaryn School – The vice-chairman reported that no meeting had recently been held.

7 Transport Matters

- a) OCC Review of Subsidised Bus Services – The chairman informed the committee that she had attended the meeting. Cllr P Hadcroft and county councillor Patrick had also been in attendance. She further added that the review takes place every 4 years. The 32 service is running well, as is the yellow bus, both are well used. Yellow bus drivers have been instructed to stop at the Health Centre. The chairman further reiterated the need for the council to make their case for increasing bus travel and services, especially to the employment sites at Harwell, Milton Park etc. The clerk was asked to respond to the review and inform OCC that the results of the survey would be forwarded to them in August.

Clerk

- b) Parish Council Bus Survey – The survey questionnaire was discussed and amended accordingly. The clerk was asked to distribute the survey to the Wantage and Grove libraries, Health Centre, doctors and dentists surgeries. The deadline for responses was set as the end of July

Clerk

8 Health matters

- a) Hospital Committee – No meeting had taken place.

9 Cemetery issues

- a) Photographs on Memorials – The clerk distributed an example. It was generally agreed to allow photographs on memorials, but each application would be judged on its own merit. The photograph is to be no more than 10% in size of the whole headstone/memorial.

Clerk

10 Highway matters:

- a) It was reported that surface dressing was taking place on the A338 between Grove and Haney.
- b) Weeds – It was generally agreed that the clerk take digital photographs of the affected areas and send them to the highways department.

Clerk

11 JET Matters

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 28th June 2007.

12 Millbrook Square

Cllr Jones reported that Tesco may install extra cameras at its shop in Millbrook Square. The chairman informed the committee that CCTV maybe installed and the benches in front of the square may be removed.

13 PCSO funding

The clerk informed the meeting that the up to date figures for PCSO funding had still not been received.

Clerk

Cllr Parnell informed the meeting that he had received a presentation regarding PCSO's whilst attending the OALC AGM. The clerk was asked to contact the OALC and obtain a copy.

14 Committee Reserves

It was generally agreed to reduce the number of committee reserves as follows:

Cemetery Reserves
Waste/Refuse Collection Reserves
General Reserves

The chairman then said that she would like the committee to consider purchasing bus shelters for the village as part of the committee's objectives for the year. The clerk was asked to source prices of shelters (including installation).

Clerk

15 Statement of income and Expenditure to date

The statement was noted.

16 Chairman's urgent communications

- a) Cllr Ackers had sent an e-mail to the clerk which the clerk read out. The clerk explained that Cllr Ackers had received several complaints regarding the positioning of the dog waste bin on Brereton Drive. The clerk was asked to write to the Vale and inform them that the council wished for the bin to be moved 10 metres further along the footpath and away from the notice board. The clerk was also asked to inform the Vale that unless a response was received by the end of July the council would take it upon itself to move the bin.

Clerk

17 General correspondence

No general correspondences were received.

The meeting closed at 8.36 pm

Confirmed 7th August 2007

 Chairman