

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 31st OCTOBER 2006 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr K R Clarke (chairman)
Cllr D M Hadcroft (vice-chairman)
Cllr R Bashford
Cllr W Evans
Cllr P L Hadcroft
Cllr A Harker (part meeting)
Cllr A Lunn
Cllr J Nunn-Price
Cllr B Williamson

Clerk Mr G M Mundy

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs K Jones and F Parnell.

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 19th September 2006

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

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

4 Police Matters

Cllr A Harker arrived

- a) Notes from the meeting with Thames Valley Police regarding NAG – This was noted.
- b) The chairman informed the meeting that there were no reported acts of vandalism.

5 Matters arising from the meeting

- a) Item 5 b) – WAGAST – The clerk informed the meeting that this was covered at the last Full Council meeting.
- b) Item 5 b) (2nd paragraph) - Better Ways to School – The clerk informed the meeting that he had written to both primary schools in Grove, and had had a response from Millbrook School Better Ways to School co-ordinator who had informed him that they were looking into funding for a crossing point on the Denchworth Road.
- c) Item 5 d) – ORCC Community Transport meeting – Cllr J Nunn-Price informed the meeting that she had attended the ORCC meeting on 19th October. She reported that the meeting was well attended by community representatives and had been very informative. Cllr J Nunn-Price passed various documents to the clerk for retention in the office and for councillors to come in and view if they so wished. The originals are to be given back to Cllr J Nunn-Price.
- e) Item 6 c) – Passenger Transport – The clerk informed the meeting that the briefing notes circulated at the last Environmental Services meeting were incomplete and had obtained a complete set which were circulated to councillors. The briefing notes referred to a rail user forum meeting to be held sometime in November/December, which the clerk agreed to attend.

All
Clerk

Clerk

- f) Item 14 – Vale Housing Association event at St Johns Court – The clerk informed the meeting that he had attended the event at St Johns Court, which was fairly well attended by other service providers.

6 Reports from representatives of outside bodies

- a) Independent Advice Centre - No report had been received, although it was noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 2nd November.
- Clerk b) Wantage, Grove & District Traffic Advisory Committee - The minutes of the meeting held on 14th September were received and noted.
- c) Robert Stiles Almshouses - No report had been received.
- Clerk d) Groveland’s Shoppers Service – Cllr P Hadcroft suggested to the meeting that because the numbers of passengers using the service the week between Christmas and New Year and the first week of January were very low the committee should consider temporarily cancelling the service for these two weeks. This was agreed by the committee and Cllr J Nunn-Price suggested that we inform the residents of the homes and the taxi operator as soon as possible. The service will not operate week commencing 27th December 2006 and week commencing 3rd January 2007. Cllr P Hadcroft also informed the committee that it might be necessary to raise the fares for the service. It was agreed that any fares increase be deferred until such time that there was an indication from the operator if his prices are to rise.
- Clerk e) Vale & Downland Museum Trust - No report had been received.
- f) School Governors’ Reports – No report had been received.

7 Transport Matters

The changes to Stagecoach services in South Oxfordshire were noted.

8 Health matters

- a) Hospital Committee – Cllr B Williamson reported that there had not been a recent meeting.
- b) Cllr B Williamson reported that there will be an AGM of the Patient Involvement Group (PIG) on 14th November at the health centre commencing at 7.30 pm.

9 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 he was still awaiting an update from Mary Lambe.
- c) The clerk informed the meeting that a further £100 worth of rose bushes have been ordered for the memorial garden. The money will be recovered through JET.
- d) The chairman informed the committee that the Amenity Tree Planting Scheme has been discontinued.

10 Highway Matters

OCC 2005 Casualty Report 2006/2007 Road Safety Plan – The casualty report and road safety plan were noted. The clerk was asked to write to Mr Geoff Barrell (Principle Road Safety Engineer at OCC) regarding page 7 of the report (last paragraph), which states “The provision of pedestrian crossings and footways specifically improve safety for pedestrians when there are local concentrations of accidents”. This statement is in addition to two surveys, which strongly support a pedestrian crossing on the Denchworth Road. The parish council were recently told through the Wantage, Grove and District Traffic Advisory Committee that there was no funding

Clerk for this crossing.

Clerk The clerk was also asked to write to OCC regarding the Brereton Drive crossing and ask when it would be finished.

11 JET Matters

Clerk Cllr R Bashford asked the committee if Cow Lane could be passed to JET as a project for the future. Discussion then followed regarding the northern Link road, which would have to cross Cow Lane at some point. It was agreed that our clerk would ask the clerk to JET to add this item onto the agenda for the next JET for Grove meeting. The clerk was also asked to check the definitive map of footpaths.
Clerk

12 Millbrook Square

Clerk Cllr R Bashford asked the committee if the gift tree from Seesen could be saved from being taken out. Discussion followed in which the clerk was asked to write to John Twaites and asked him if he would transplant the tree to another location in the village.

13 Report of income/expenditure to date and committee budget for 2007/08

The income/expenditure date was noted.

Following discussion

It was **MOVED** the chairman **SECONDED** Cllr P Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“to recommend to Full Council that the budget for 2007/08 be set at £5,060.00.”

A copy of the recommended budget for 2007/08 is attached as an appendix.

14 Chairman’s urgent communications

a) The clerk informed the committee that he had received from OCC notification of the Public Order notice for reducing the speed limit on the A338 from Grove Bridge to Autotype to 30 mph. The closing date for objections is 1st December 2006. There were no objections.

Clerk b) The clerk informed the committee that he had received an e-mail from county councillor Z Patrick requesting the council look into the provision of bus shelters for the village. The clerk was asked to write to the local bus companies and request passenger numbers from Grove. The clerk was also requested to investigate the provision of bus shelters paid for by either grants or advertising.
Clerk

Clarke The chairman agreed to add an item in the next parish newsletter.

15 General correspondence

The following general correspondence was noted:

- a) Dragonfly (Autumn 2006)
- b) CAG Oxfordshire (October 2006)
- c) Oxford Inspires (Autumn 2006)
- d) Countryside Voice (Autumn edition)

The meeting closed at 8.41 pm

Confirmed 12th December 2006

Chairman