

GROVE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON 17th JUNE 2008 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present:

Cllr F D Parnell (Chairman)	Cllr K Jones
Cllr W Evans (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr M Mellersh
Cllr W R Ackers	Cllr J Nunn-Price
Cllr J Amys	Cllr C Philips
Cllr S Dexter	Cllr J M Stock
Cllr P L Hadcroft	Cllr B Williamson
Cllr A Harker	Cllr I Woodbridge

In attendance: County councillor Z Patrick
3 members of public

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

18 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors I Caldicott and H Webb. Apologies were also received from District Councillors S Marchant and J Hannaby.

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

Cllr Dexter declared an interest in item 24 d).

20 Sign minutes of the annual council meeting held 6th May 2009

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

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

21 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting

Item 11 d) – Response from Allianz Insurance regarding the increase to the council’s excess – The Clerk informed the council that the increase was due to the large claim for Mary Green flood damage from the previous year but also informed the council that this excess charge would only apply if the council claimed due to flood damage.

Item 13 c) – Report from the Thames Water presentation held on Monday 12th May 2008 – The Chairman explained that both he and Cllr Stock attended the presentation and said that the presentation was an overview of the Thames Water Exhibition. He also informed the council that the presentation was available in the form of a CD which would be sent to the council office.

Item 14 – Grove Parish Newsletter – The Clerk informed the council that he had written to the parish newsletter suggesting that they ask the county and district councillors as well as the local MP for a financial contribution when they submit articles for press. The Clerk also asked the newsletter for a fuller set of accounts before awarding them the grant for 2008/2009.

22 Questions from the public

No questions were offered by those members of the public attending.

1199

23 County and district councillors' reports

County Councillor Patrick gave a verbal report on both county and district matters. A written copy is attached as an appendix.

Clerk The Clerk was asked to write to Thames Water regarding North Drive drainage of foul water. A copy letter is to be sent to the Water Regulator and OFWAT.

24 Local Plan

a) Current issues – The Chairman informed the council that due to holidays Paul Davies of Persimmon Homes was not able to offer an update regarding the development. However, the Chairman explained that Persimmon Homes was still committed to the airfield development and was still awaiting the drainage report from Thames Water.

Clerk b) Correspondence from the Environment Agency re Faber Maunsell – The Clerk was asked to write to the Standards Board with regard to the current position of Faber Maunsell, the Environment Agency and the developers. Copy letters are to be sent to Mr Ed Vaizey MP, county and district councillors and to Ms Le Cointe at the Vale.

Clerk c) Correspondence from Mr Summers regarding newts – The correspondence was noted. It was agreed the Clerk write a letter to Mr Summers thanking him for his contribution so far regarding this issue.

It was **MOVED** Cllr Nunn-Price **SECONDED** Cllr Dexter and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk **“that the Clerk bring the contents of the letter from Mr Summers to the attention of the district council to ensure that the concerns addressed are raised at the outline planning application stage.”**

d) Report from the Chairman regarding the meeting with GRFC and Persimmon Homes – The Chairman said that the official minutes were still awaited but GRFC did find the meeting useful.

25 Council Chairman's Communications

Clerk a) Correspondence from the IAC regarding the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service – The Chairman said that he was unable to attend and asked if any other councillor could attend. No other councillor could attend this function. The Clerk said that he could attend on the council's behalf but it was suggested and agreed that the Clerk ask the Assistant Clerk if she wanted to attend.

b) Invitation from the district council regarding the Thames Water Draft Water Recourses Plan – The Chairman explained that the invitation was for 3 parish councillors to attend the presentation on Monday 21st July at 6.30 pm. The following councillors agreed to attend the Chairman, Cllrs Stock and Cllr Nunn-Price.

Clerk c) Correspondence from the Chair of the District Council – Cllr A Rooke – Following a short discussion it was agreed that the Clerk furnish the Chair of the District Council with a list of local events that she may wish to attend.

Clerk d) Correspondence from the Grove Resident's Group – The correspondence was noted. The Clerk was asked to copy this correspondence to the county and district councillors for Grove.

- e) Dog walking petition – The Chairman informed the council that he had received a 400 strong signature petition from the dog walkers opposed to any ban on dogs in the recreation ground/Wasbrough Field.

26 Matters relating to the following

- a) Joint Environmental Trust for Grove – The next meeting was to be held on Thursday 19th June at 6.30 pm in Old Mill Hall.
- b) Wantage Joint Economics Forum – Cllr Nunn-Price said that the public consultation on the Wantage and Grove Healthcheck would take place on Thursday 17th July in the church rooms.
- c) Fair Trade Village update – Cllr Mellersh said that there were no new updates

27 Correspondence from the IAC regarding funding

Clerk The Clerk explained that he had not received the original letter requesting their annual funding. The Clerk was asked to write to the IAC informing them that they need to send an official request before they received their annual grant.

28 Minutes from Wantage Town Council

The minutes were noted.

29 Emergency Disaster Plan

Harker/
Clerk Cllr Harker stated that there was now a need to reconstitute a group to take this matter forward. It was suggested and agreed that Cllr Harker and the Clerk take this matter forward.

Clerk The Clerk was asked to forward the draft plan to Cllr Harker.

30 Council grants

The Clerk informed the council that he had received letters/notes of thanks from the following recipients of council grants:

Root and Branch	Grove CE Primary School
Fitzwaryn Summer Play Scheme	Home Start Southern Oxon
Ryder Cheshire Volunteers	

31 Election of members to the Finance and General Purposes Committee

It was **MOVED** the Vice-Chairman **SECONDED** the Chairman and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“that Councillors Dexter, Hadcroft and Mellersh be elected onto the Finance and General Purposes Committee for 2008/2009 year.”

32 Council’s internally audited accounts and annual return for external audit

- a) Balance sheet as at 31st March 2008 – It was **MOVED** Cllr Dexter **SECONDED** Cllr Stock and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“that the balance sheet for the accounts dated 31st March 2008 be signed.”

The Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer duly signed the balance sheet.

- b) Annual return for external audit - It was **MOVED** the Chairman **SECONDED** Cllr Nunn-Price and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“that the annual return presented by the Clerk for accounts dated 31st March 2008 and the annual statement be signed.”

The Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer duly signed the annual return at section 1 and section 2.

- c) Statement of small accounts – The statement of small accounts was noted.

33 Financial risk assessment for 2008/2009

It was **MOVED** Cllr Dexter **SECONDED** Cllr Ackers and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“that the financial risk assessment presented by the Clerk for 2008/2009 be signed.”

The Chairman duly signed the financial risk assessment.

34 Committee reports:

- a) Report of Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 13th May 2008 – The report was presented by Cllr Nunn-Price.
- b) Report of Planning Committee meetings held on 20th May and 10th June 2008 - The reports were presented by Cllr Stock.
- c) Report of Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting held on 27th May 2008 - The report was presented by Cllr Ackers.
- d) Report of Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 3rd June 2008 - The report was presented by the Chairman.

35 Accounts for payment as per Appendix

It was **MOVED** Cllr Stock **SECONDED** Cllr Dexter and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“that the accounts for the sum of £35,734.14 be adopted.”

36 Confidential items

It was **PROPOSED** the chairman and **AGREED** in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972 ...

“that the press and public be excluded from the meeting to permit the committee to consider the confidential items.”

- a) Sign confidential minutes of the Annual Council Meeting on 6th May 2007

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

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

- b) Matters arising – There were no matters arising.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm
Confirmed 31st July 2008

Chairman

1202

