

**GROVE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
ON 19<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2007 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr F D Parnell (Chairman) Cllr W Evans (Vice-Chairman) Cllr W R Ackers Cllr S Dexter Cllr D M Hadcroft Cllr P L Hadcroft Cllr A Harker Cllr K Jones Cllr J Nunn-Price Cllr C Philips Cllr J M Stock Cllr I Woodbridge
<b>In attendance:</b>	County councillors J Moley and Z Patrick District councillor S Marchant (part meeting) 5 members of public
<b>Clerk:</b>	Mr G M Mundy

**16     Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from councillors M Mellersh and I Sewell. Belated apologies were received from Cllr I Caldicott.

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

There were no declarations of interest. The chairman suggested that any declarations may be given as the meeting proceeds.

**18     Sign minutes of the annual council meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> May 2007**

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

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

**19     Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting**

Item 14 – The clerk informed the council that he had passed copies of all documents relating to the Public Works Loan Board to Cllr Dexter for his perusal.

**District councillor S Marchant arrived.**

**20     Questions from the public**

Mr Chown informed the council that he was placing a notice of intent to hold a parish meeting (in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, schedule 12, part 3). The meeting would be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July in Old Mill Hall at 7pm.

Mr Chown further informed the council that he had obtained the signatures of 6 electors (requirement of the Act). The meeting is to propose a motion to request the district council hold a referendum and ask the following question “Should the Grove Parish Council oppose all housing development on the former Grove Airfield before agreement is obtained from a majority of Grove households”.

The chairman replied that the notice of intent to hold a meeting should be withheld until such time as the council could seek advice. This was agreed by Mr Chown.

## 21 County and district councillors' reports

County councillor Z Patrick gave a verbal report. A written copy is attached as an appendix.

District councillor S Marchant gave a verbal report. A written copy is attached as an appendix.

## 22 Local Plan

a) Current issues – The following were briefly discussed

- 1) Impending schools decision
- 2) Highway modelling
- 3) Surveys

*Clerks note: OCC have announced that they have voted for option B. A smaller 600 place school will be developed as part of the Grove Airfield Development.*

b) Correspondence from Mr Stanaway – The clerk was asked to respond to Mr Stanaway as to the current situation.

## 23 Council Chairman's Communications

a) Correspondence from IAC – The letter had previously been distributed to councillors.

It was **MOVED** Cllr Dexter **SECONDED** Cllr P Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

**“to grant the sum of £500 to the IAC as a contribution to their disabled access project.”**

S137  
Refers

b) Acknowledgement for grants – Acknowledgements for grants paid have been received from: Root & Branch, The Junior Citizen Trust and Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire.

*Clerks Note: It should be noted that Grove Horticultural Society had already thanked the council for its grant.*

c) Interwove Event – The chairman read an e-mail from Cllr Mellersh regarding the above event. The e-mail explained that a group of people from various churches in Grove and Wantage are organising a community outreach event on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2007. The organisers are looking for suitable tasks such as litter picking, weeding, small re-painting tasks etc. It was generally agreed that the clerk send out the information to all parish councillors for their suggestions. All councillors were asked to respond to the clerk with their suggestions by 29<sup>th</sup> June.

All  
Clerk

d) Request from Challengers regarding Hot Air Balloon rides – The chairman explained that Challengers have requested permission to use a hot air balloon at their 6's tournament and offer "rides" for a small fee. The balloon will be tethered, so will only go up and down. The vice-chairman objected on the grounds that the event was a six-a-side football tournament only. However it was agreed that subject to a full risk assessment taking place and proof of insurance that permission be granted.

e) Correspondence from Cllr Julie Mayhew-Archer – The chairman explained that Cllr Julie Mayhew-Archer is the chairman of the District Council. Cllr Mayhew-Archer is currently in her second year of office and would like to visit each parish personally and visit projects etc. It was generally agreed to invite to Cllr Mayhew-Archer to Grove on a non-council evening and take a tour of Grove. All councillors are welcome to attend. The clerk is to copy the letter to all district councillors.

Clerk  
Clerk

f) The chairman informed the council that he had received a copy of a local newspaper from Puerto Lumbreras (Mably's' twin town in Spain). The paper is held in the office should anyone

wish to see it.

Nunn-  
Price/  
Hadcroft

Cllr Nunn-Price informed the council that an ORCC event will be taking place on 19<sup>th</sup> July between 4pm and 6.30pm. Cllr P Hadcroft is to liaise with Cllr Nunn-Price regarding attendance.

**24 Recommendations from the Finance and General Purposes Committee**

- a) On the proposition by the chairman..... “to recommend to Full Council that the number of members elected to the Finance and General Purposes Committee be increased from two to three thereby amending Standing Orders 39 (b)”.....

It was **MOVED** the chairman **SECONDED** Cllr Ackers and **RESOLVED** unanimously

**“to accept the recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee.”**

- b) On the proposition by the chairman..... “that subject to confirmation of phrasing, the parish council adopt the agenda setting criteria in accordance with the CiLCA accreditation panel”.....

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

**“to accept the recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee.”**

- c) On the proposition by the chairman..... “to recommend to Full Council that Mr K R Clarke, Mrs S Cotton and Mr A Wolage be removed from the signatory list and that the following members become authorised signatories: Cllrs R Ackers, W Evans, D Hadcroft, P Hadcroft, F Parnell and J Stock.

It was **MOVED** the chairman **SECONDED** Cllr Stock and **RESOLVED** unanimously

**“to accept the recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee.”**

- d) On the proposition from Cllr Stock..... “to recommend to Full Council that the council employs a weekend litter warden.

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

**“to accept the recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee.”**

Cllr Dexter asked the clerk and it was generally agreed that the figures for employing a litter warden be published in the council minutes when known.

Clerk

**25 Election of members to the Finance and General Purposes Committee**

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

**“that councillors S Dexter, P Hadcroft and J Nunn-Price be elected onto the Finance and General Purposes Committee for 2007/2008 year.”**

**26 Guest list for parish council reception**

The guest list as amended was accepted.

It was **MOVED** Cllr Stock **SECONDED** Cllr P Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

**“to engage the services of the Cornerstone Café for catering for the parish council reception to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007.”**

**27 Grove Show**

The council discussed the prospect of re-forming the Grove Show. It was generally agreed to advertise

Clerk to parishioners/organisations and volunteers to help organise a Grove Show. The clerk is to advertise in the Newsletter a meeting in September and request interested parties attend.

**28 Code of Conduct**

The council considered the new Code of Conduct.

It was **MOVED** the chairman **SECONDED** Cllr Evans and **RESOLVED** unanimously

- a) **“that the mandatory provisions in the Model Code of Conduct set out in the Statutory Instrument of 2007/1159 be adopted as the Grove Parish Council Code of Conduct to be effective from 19<sup>th</sup> June 2007 subject to:**

**(i) – the inclusion of the general principle as an Annex to the Code, with a footnote to explain that it is not part of the code but it is included as an annex because of the requirements in paragraph 1 (2) of the Code for members to have regard to the principles**

**(ii) – the addition of paragraph 12 (2) of the Model code but exclude the words in brackets;**

**Each as recommended by the Standards Board for England and the Vale of White Horse District Council and**

- b) **The clerk be requested to notify the Monitoring Officer of the Vale of White Horse District Council of the passing of the above resolution.”**

**29 Minutes from Wantage Town Council**

The minutes were noted.

**30 Council reserves/Performance targets/Objectives**

- a) Reserves – Cllr Dexter explained that he thought that the council should have a policy regarding its reserves. A discussion ensued in which the chairman explained that the committees are already reducing the number of reserve heading’s in order for them to be more specific and more manageable. It was generally agreed that this item be referred to Finance and General Purposes Committee for further discussion. Cllr Dexter agreed to draw up a draft copy for discussion at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.

Clerk  
Dexter

- b) Performance targets/Objectives – Cllr Dexter explained that experience showed that in most walks of life including business, trying to identify what we are achieving is difficult unless it is set out in a mission statement with targets and/or objectives and further asked... “How can we tell if we as a council have done well.” He further explained that we need to be able to identify where we have achieved and where we need improve.

The chairman explained that the council had always had objectives and highlighted the proposed housing development, schools issues and roads issues as examples.

**County Councillor Z Patrick left the meeting.**

The vice-chairman disagreed and said that we are all laymen and form a parish council. The majority of what we do is a reaction to issues from a higher level of local authority. Cllr Stock stated that we do what we do because we enjoy it.

Cllr Ackers said that all that was required was a short one page document highlighting the councils targets – and could even be a living rolling document in line with issues as and when they arise.

The chairman wound up this discussion by asking the longer standing councillors to draw up a list of what they think we are working towards.

**31 Reports from the following**

- a) Joint Environmental Trust for Grove – The next meeting is scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> June 2007.
- b) Wantage Joint Economics Forum – No minutes had been received.
- c) Fair Trade Village update – The next meeting is to be held in July.

**32 Committee reports:**

- a) Report of Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2007 – The report was presented by Cllr D Hadcroft..
- b) Report of Planning Committee meetings held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and 12<sup>th</sup> June 2007 - The reports were presented by Cllr J Stock.
- c) Report of Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2007 - The report was presented by Cllr R Ackers.
- d) Report of Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007 - The report was presented by the vice-chairman..

**0 33 Accounts for payment as per Appendix**

It was **MOVED** Cllr P Hadcroft **SECONDED** Cllr Ackers and **RESOLVED** unanimously

**“that the accounts for the sum of £30,681.42 be adopted.”**

**34 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 – The chairman explained that the summary distributed previously had been prepared by the clerk and himself. The summary was noted.

The meeting closed at 9.36 pm

Confirmed 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007

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Chairman