

GROVE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON 25th OCTOBER 2005 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present:

Cllr F D Parnell (Chairman)
Cllr W Evans (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr R Bashford
Cllr S Cotton
Cllr P L Hadcroft
Cllr K Jones
Cllr A P Lunn
Cllr J Nunn-Price
Cllr M Mellersh
Cllr J M Stock
Cllr B Williamson

In attendance:

County Cllr Z Patrick (part meeting)
District Cllr P Westwood (part meeting)

Clerk:

Mr G M Mundy

76 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from councillors W R Ackers, K R Clarke, D M Hadcroft, A Harker and R E Hicks-Greene.

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

The chairman declared an interest in items 82 (a) and 84 (b),

78 Sign minutes of council meeting held 13th September 2005

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

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

79 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2005

- a) Item 62 – Overgrown pathway at Caudwell Close – Harlington Avenue – The clerk informed the meeting that this had been reported to OCC highways department.

District Councillor P Westwood arrived

- b) Item 69 – Local Government and Rating Act 1997 – Parish Review – The clerk informed the meeting that the parish review group consisted of Vale councillors from around the area and that this review was about physical boundary changes, and will also have voting consequences

County Councillor Z Patrick arrived

- c) Item 70 (b) upper Thames Major Resources Development – The clerk informed the council that Thames Water will give their update presentation on Tuesday 6th December prior to the Full Council meeting commencing at 7 pm.

80 Questions from the public

There were no members of the public present.

81 County and district councillors' reports

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

District councillor P Westwood gave a verbal report. A written report is attached as an appendix.

82 Council Chairman's Communications.

- a) The clerk informed the council that he had received a letter of thanks from the chairman of MAGIC regarding two grants recently awarded to MAGIC. The letter was noted.
- b) The clerk informed the council that he had received a request from the Cornerstone to use the council's telephone line during their Fair-trade promotion at Old Mill Hall on Friday 11th November 2005. The purpose of this was to enable the Cornerstone to use their credit card machine for automatic credit transactions. The Cornerstone offered to log calls made and reimburse the council for the calls made. Following general discussion it was generally agreed to allow the Cornerstone to use of the council telephone line for the reasons mentioned. The clerk agreed to inform the Cornerstone and arrange timings to open the office etc.

Clerk

83 Council's Remembrance Service – Sunday 13th November 2005

The chairman agreed to speak to Reverend John Robertson with regard to the Remembrance Day Service at the cemetery. The chairman also reminded the council that the Village War Memorial was in the Parish Church and that the service there would start at 10 am.

84 Grant Applications and Correspondence

It was generally agreed that the following item be taken out of order

- c) Correspondence from Grove Parish Newsletter – The chairman read out a letter from the Parish Newsletter stating that because they were still in the black. They did not require the annual grant this year. The clerk was asked to write to the newsletter thanking them for their honesty in not asking for money when they did not need it. The outstanding money is to be transferred to the reserves for future use.

Clerk

Because of the personal interest declared by the chairman in the next item the vice-chairman took the chair.

- a) Applications for a grant from the Cornerstone Christian Coffee and Bookshop – Following discussion...

It was **MOVED** The vice-chairman **SECONDED** Cllr P Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“to grant the Cornerstone Christian Coffee and Bookshop the sum of £300 from the general grant fund.”

Clerk

The chairman resumed as chairman for the rest of the meeting.

- b) Application for grant from Root and Branch Westmill Farm Watchfield – Following discussion....

It was **MOVED** Cllr J Nunn-Price **SECONDED** Cllr P Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** 9 in favour and 2 against

Clerk **“to grant Root and Branch the sum of £50 from the general reserves fund.”**

- d) Correspondence from Wantage, Grove and District Twinning Association – The letter of thanks was noted.

85 Minutes from Wantage Town Council

The minutes were noted.

86 Correspondence regarding the Dickensian Evening – 2nd December 2005

Clerk Following discussion it was generally agreed not to hold a council stall at the Dickensian Evening. However, the clerk was asked to write to the organisers to see if there was anything else the council could do to help.

87 Correspondence from CPRE regarding the proposed air traffic corridor

This was noted.

88 Councils Christmas Tree service to be held at Millbrook Square

Assistant clerk It was agreed that this years Christmas Tree Service would be held on Thursday 22nd December at Millbrook Square starting at 7 pm. The clerk was asked to advertise the event in the Parish Newsletter and local press. It was also generally agreed that this year’s collection would be donated to the Wantage Nursing Home Charitable Trust. The assistant clerk is to liaise with the Wantage Silver Band with regard to the Carols for the service.

It was **MOVED** Cllr J Stock **SECONDED** Cllr S Cotton and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk **“to donate £50 to the Wantage Silver Band for their performance for the service.”**

89 To report on matters relating to the following:

Clerk a) Joint Environmental Trust for Grove – Cllr S Cotton explained that JET for Grove has requested that it be allowed to install an information/History board on the village green. Following discussion it was agreed the board be installed between the two seats facing the brook. The clerk is to inform JET for Grove.

The clerk informed the council that the new maps of Grove had been received from the printers and would be installed shortly.

Clerk The vice-chairman asked when the fencing along the brook at the village green would be taken down. The clerk said that he would check with the Letcombe Brook Project Officer.

b) Wantage Joint Economic Forum - The minutes of the meeting held on 4th August were noted. The next meeting is scheduled for 10th November

c) Vale Strategic Partnership - County councillor Z Patrick spoke regarding issues involving the Vale Strategic Partnership.

d) Fair Trade Village update – Cllr M Mellersh said that there was nothing new regarding the Fair-trade update, but did say that there will be a Fair-trade exhibition in Old Mill Hall on 11th November, from 6 – 9 pm, there will be wine and food tasting.

Clerk Cllr J Nunn-Price then spoke regarding a Fair-trade fortnight taking place 6th-19th March 2006. Following discussion it was generally agreed to write to the Grove Fair-trade Group expressing the council’s support.

- e) Wantage Hospital Committee - Cllr B Williamson stated that no meeting had taken place. She also reported the Wantage Nursing Home Charitable Trust hope to sign contracts for the build of the new Nursing Home within the next two weeks with work commencing in April 2006.

Cllr J Nunn-Price gave a general overview of the changes currently ongoing regarding PCT's.

90 To consider committee reports:

- a) Report of Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 20th September 2005 - The report was presented by the chairman.
- b) Report of Planning Committee meetings held on 27th September and 18th October 2005 - The reports were presented by Cllr Stock
- c) Report of Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting held on 4th October 2005 - The report was presented by the chairman.
- d) Report of Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 11th October 2005 - The report was presented by the chairman.

91 To consider accounts for payment as per Appendix

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

“that the accounts for the sum of £18,608.00 be adopted.”

County councillor Z Patrick and District Councillor P Westwood left the meeting

92 Confidential items

It was **MOVED** 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

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

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Confirmed 6th December 2005

Chairman