

GROVE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON 29th JULY 2008 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present:

Cllr F D Parnell (Chairman)	Cllr A P Harker
Cllr W Evans (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr K Jones
Cllr J Amys	Cllr J E Nunn-Price
Cllr S K Dexter	Cllr C Phillips
Cllr P L Hadcroft	Cllr H A Webb

In attendance: County councillors J Hannaby and Z Patrick
District councillor S Marchant
5 members of public
Emily Allen from the Herald

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

37 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors W R Ackers, I M J Caldicott, M Mellersh, J M Stock, B Williamson and I Woodbridge.

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

Cllr Nunn-Price declared an interest in item 53

39 Sign minutes of the Annual Council meeting held 17th June 2008

Item 25(a) last line should read "...ask the Assistant Clerk if she wanted to attend."

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

"that the minutes as amended be signed as a true record of the meeting."

40 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting (See appendix 1)

Item 24 (b) – Correspondence regarding Faber Maunsell - Cllr Dexter suggested and it was agreed that the Clerk write to Persimmon Homes, Environment Agency and the district council with copies to Faber Maunsell to express this council's displeasure with the arrangement of Faber Maunsell acting on behalf of the developer (Persimmon Homes) and the Environment Agency regarding the airfield development.

Clerk/
Dexter Cllr Dexter agreed to assist the Clerk in citing a law test case involving KPMG.

All other matters arising were agreed as detailed in the provided appendices.

41 Questions from the public

(a) Nathalie Allen asked when the motion to work towards banning dogs from the recreation ground would be rescinded as suggested at a previous Leisure and Recreation meeting by Cllr Evans. She asked what the time frame would be bearing in mind that the dog working party had now been established.

Clerk The Chairman said that Mr Legge from the Vale had been invited to attend a meeting with the dog working party and would hopefully be able to advise the meeting on current schemes in Faringdon and Harwell. He also stated that as it was under six months since the resolution was made at Full Council it would require 10 councillors to agree to a motion to rescind the previous to enable it to be debated at the next council meeting. Also the dog working party was working towards producing an alternative workable solution.

- (b) Joy Gregory commented that the main hall was looking a bit shabby and asked if there were any plans to refurbish it - two of the four ceiling fans were not working.

Clerk The Chairman replied and said that this would be passed to the Old Mill Hall Management Committee for discussion.

42 **County and district councillors' reports**

- (a) County Councillor Patrick gave a verbal report. A written report is attached an appendix.
- (b) County Councillor Hannaby gave a verbal report. A written report is attached an appendix.
- (c) District Councillor Marchant gave a verbal report. A written report is attached an appendix.

Hadcroft It was agreed that an item regarding detritus on the footpaths be included in the next issue of the parish newsletter.

43 **Local Plan**

The Chairman informed the meeting that no response had been received from Persimmon Homes regarding an update on the development. The Chairman added that from information received from the Vale, the Grove Airfield site was still on the list for development by Persimmon Homes but it would be unlikely that the outline planning application would be received this year. It was also mentioned that it was thought that Persimmon were still waiting for the report from Thames Water regarding surface water drainage.

Clerk's note: Apart from a recent email, the parish council has not yet received an official response from Persimmon Homes despite them making official statements to the press regarding the development.

44 **Thames Water draft Water Resources plan (TWdWRP)**

- (a) Report on the Vale's presentation of the plan – The Chairman informed the meeting that he and Cllr Nunn-Price attended the presentation on 13th August in Abingdon. The Chairman said that the plan was work in progress, and then stated the Vale's concerns. The Chairman informed the meeting that a PowerPoint version of the presentation was available in the office should anyone wished to read it.

Cllr Nunn-Price added that she thought the district council had provided a very good presentation and that Thames Water had not made the justification for the reservoir.

The Chairman said the council's initial response regarding the reservoir was favourable because it could be a way of getting the railway station opened and because of the leisure facilities the reservoir could provide.

Clerk He also stated that this was a response on the Thames Water draft plan and the need for a reservoir not about the reservoir itself. It was generally agreed to take this to the Environmental Services Committee for further discussion and appropriate response.

Clerk (b) Information from GARD (Group Against reservoir Development) – It was agreed that this document would form part of the discussion at the next Environmental Services Committee meeting.

45 Council Chairman's Communications

(a) The Chairman informed the meeting that due to a billing error both the website and the Clerk's e-mails were temporarily out of service.

Clerk's note: The website and the Clerks e-mail facility came back on line on Wednesday 30th July, the billing issue has now been resolved.

Parnell/
Evans (b) Correspondence from the Leader of Oxfordshire County Council – The Chairman plus one other councillor were invited to attend a liaison event on 5th November 2008 at Wantage Civic Hall from 6 – 9 pm. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman said they would attend.

46 Matters relating to the following

Clerk (a) Joint Environmental Trust for Grove – A discussion took place regarding the land adjacent to McColl's supermarket. The Clerk informed the meeting that he had written to the owners asking them to clear the land. Councillors commented that the land had not been re-instated to its former condition when the storage facility was removed. The Clerk was asked to write to the enforcement officer and report that the land had not been re-instated satisfactorily and that the tree, which had been removed to make way for the storage facility, had not been replaced.

Clerk It was also agreed that as this item is on Environmental Services and that it should be removed from future Full Council agendas.

(b) Wantage Joint Economic Forum – Cllr Nunn-Price reported that the next meeting would be held on 7th August and that the main emphasis would be the Healthcheck consultation and a French market update.

(c) Fair Trade Village update – Cllr Mellersh said that there was nothing new to report.

District Councillor Marchant left the meeting

47 Approval of committee suggestions for invitees to the annual council reception

It was **MOVED** the Chairman **SECONDED** Cllr Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

“to accept the list of committee suggestions and invite them to the annual council reception.”

48 Parish Land

Clerk The Clerk was asked to pass on the appreciation of the council to the Assistant Clerk who had carried out the audit of parish owned land.

Clerk This matter was passed back to the sub-committee for discussion. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting in the near future.

49 Lease for Millbridge Allotments

It was **MOVED** Cllr Dexter **SECONDED** Cllr Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously
“to accept and sign the new lease for Millbridge Allotments site.”

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllr Harker and the Clerk signed the lease.

50 Council and committee objectives

Hadcroft
Clerk

It was agreed to publish a summary of the council and committee objectives in the November issue of the parish newsletter. The Clerk was asked to bring forward an update of the objectives to the Full Council meeting in September.

51 Oxfordshire 2030 consultation document

Parnell
Clerk

The Chairman agreed to take the document and summarise its content. The Clerk was asked to place this item on the agenda for the next Full Council meeting.

52 Interim report from Sally Wallington regarding flooding issues and balancing ponds in Grove

Parnell/
Harker

The interim report was noted. Cllr Harker said that the council would need to balance the costs of any improvements to the balancing ponds with any perceived improvements. The council would await the full report. The Chairman said that both he and Cllr Harker were to meet with Sally Wallington and Chris Booth to discuss the report.

53 Grant request from the IAC

Cllr Nunn-Price took no part in the discussion or voting.

It was **MOVED** the Chairman **SECONDED** Cllr Hadcroft and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk

“to grant the IAC their annual budgeted grant of £800 for 2008/09.”

54 Committee reports:

- (a) Report of Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 24th June 2008 – The report was presented by Cllr Nunn-Price.
- (b) Report of Planning Committee meetings held on 1st and 22nd July 2008 - The reports were presented by Cllr Webb.
- (c) Report of Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting held on 8th July 2008 - The report was presented by Cllr Jones.
- (d) Report of Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 15th July 2008 - The report was presented by the Chairman.

55 Accounts for payment as per Appendix

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

“that the accounts for the sum of £13,616.17 be adopted.”

56 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.”

Section 106 agreement meeting with the Vale - The Chairman briefed the meeting on the recent meeting held with Vale officers regarding the Section 106 agreement.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Confirmed 9th September 2008

Chairman