

GROVE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON 5th DECEMBER 2006 AT OLD MILL HALL, GROVE**

Present: Cllr F D Parnell (Chairman)
Cllr W Evans (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr W R Ackers
Cllr R Bashford
Cllr D M Hadcroft
Cllr P L Hadcroft
Cllr A Harker
Cllr K Jones
Cllr A P Lunn
Cllr J Nunn-Price
Cllr J M Stock

In attendance: County councillor J Moley
18 members of public

Clerk: Mr G M Mundy

93 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from parish councillors K Clarke, S Cotton, R Hicks-Greene, M Mellersh and B Williamson. Apologies were received from county councillor Z Patrick and district councillors D Phillips and G Stock.

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

Cllr A Harker declared an interest in item 102 (grant applications).

95 Sign minutes of the council meeting held 24th October 2006

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

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

96 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting

a) Item 83 – Correspondence from King Alfred’s School re foundation status – The correspondence was noted.

97 Questions from the public

a) Mr Brown asked the council why prior to the six-a-side tournament taking place, did the request for Challengers to run its own bar get refused. The chairman replied that as far as he was aware, Challengers did not request to run a bar, however the clerk was asked to check all correspondence and reply to Mr Brown.

Clerk

b) Mr Brown asked the council why the Challengers had received a letter from the clerk limiting them to a certain number of teams. The chairman replied that the clubs should limit the number of teams they field because of the limited facilities in Grove, and that over use of the Recreation Ground and Wasbrough Field would render the surfaces unusable. However, no letter had been sent by the clerk in this regard. The clerk was asked to check correspondence

Clerk and reply.

- c) Mr Brown asked the council to consider allowing Challengers to move changing facilities to the area of the old rugby club location. The chairman replied that because of the new development taking place, changing facilities will be provided for in addition to what is there at present. The chairman also informed Mr Brown that the parish council have now taken on a planning consultant to work on the council's behalf in this regard.
- d) Mr Brown reminded the council that a lease was signed in September 1990 by GRFC and Grove Parish Council. The lease made allowances for the Recreation Ground users to use the facilities of the Rugby Club at all times. Mr Brown suggested that the facilities were being denied by GRFC and that GRFC were charging for their use. The chairman replied that this matter was ongoing and would be deferred and passed to the next Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting.

Clerk

98 County and district councillors' reports

- a) County councillor J Moley gave a verbal report on the ongoing consultation with regard to Secondary Education in the Grove and Wantage locations.

County councillor J Moley left the meeting

99 Local Plan

- a) Traffic survey from the "Keep Newlands Drive" Campaign

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

"that Standing Orders were suspended in order for Mr John Firth to make a statement on behalf on the "Keep Newlands Drive" campaign."

Following the statement by Mr John Firth the chairman informed the meeting that upon receipt of the amended draft master plan there would need to be a debate on how to integrate the new development with existing Grove.

The chairman thanked Mr Firth for his comments and informed him that the views had been noted.

The chairman then re-instated Standing Orders and the meeting continued.

- b) Receipt of the adopted Vale Local Plan 2011 – This was noted.
- c) Report from Neil Boddington – The report was noted. The chairman said that the next steps would be discussed in the near future.

100 Council Chairman's Communications

- a) Correspondence from the Vale re Thames Water's proposed reservoir – The correspondence was noted.
- b) Correspondence from the Vale re an invitation to a meeting re the proposed reservoir – The correspondence was noted. The chairman informed the meeting that two places are available for the meeting, which is on Thursday 1st March 2007 at 6.30pm at the Guildhall, Abingdon. Councillors wishing to attend need to inform the clerk as soon as possible.
- c) Invitation by Thames Water to attend a preview of the UTMRD presentation – The clerk informed the meeting that Thames Water have invited all councillors to attend a preview of the Upper Thames Major Resources Development presentation on Friday 5th January 2007.

All

All
Clerk

The presentation will take place in the Guildhall, Abingdon at 9.30 am. The clerk was asked to send the invitation to all councillors who are in turn to inform the clerk of their attendance. The clerk is to respond to Thames Water by 19th December 2006.

All/
Clerk

- d) OCC Second round of public consultations regarding Secondary Education in Grove, Wantage and surrounding villages. – The chairman informed the meeting that the next round of public consultations had commenced. OCC were holding various meetings at local schools. The meeting at King Alfred’s school will take place on Wednesday 13th December commencing at 7 pm and will be held at West Site. The chairman also informed the meeting that a special Full Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th January commencing at 7 pm.
- e) Community Carol Service – The chairman informed the meeting that there will be a Community Carol Service hosted by the joint churches in Old Mill Hall on Thursday 14th December starting at 7 pm. Part of the service will be broadcast live on BBC Radio Oxford.

101 Conclusion of audit for year ended 31st March 2006

The notice of the conclusion of audit was noted.

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

“to accept the external audit for the year ended 31st March 2006.”

102 Grant Applications

It was generally agreed to allocate the remaining balance of £775 of grant aid.

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

“that Grove Parish Council give grant aid as follows:

Grove Scouts - £25

Thames Valley and Chilton Air Ambulance - £100

Cllr A Harker left the room and took no further part in this item.

It was **MOVED** Cllr Evans **SECONDED** Cllr Ackers

“that Grove Parish Council give grant aid as follows:

Grove Rangers - £400

Fitzwaryn School - £250

An amendment was **MOVED** Cllr Stock **SECONDED** Cllr R Bashford

“that Grove Parish Council give grant aid as follows:

Grove Rangers - £300

Fitzwaryn School - £350

Following a vote of 3 in favour 7 against the amendment was lost.

It was **RESOLVED** 6 in favour, 2 against and 2 abstentions

“that the original proposal stand.”

103 Community Reception – February 2007

Clerk The clerk informed the meeting that there had been a nil response from members of the public. It was therefore agreed that a nil response should be sent to the Vale.

104 Recommendations from Committees

- a) Environmental Services Committee
“To recommend to Full Council that the committee budget for 2007/08 be set at £5,060.”

It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation from the Environmental Services Committee.

- b) Leisure and Recreation Committee
“To recommend to Full Council that the committee budget for 2007/08 be set at £29,462.”

It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation from the Leisure and Recreation Committee.

“To recommend to full Council, subject to legal advice that Grove Rugby Football Club be allowed to enter in to a mortgage/charge as security for new training lights”.

It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation from the Leisure and Recreation Committee.

- c) Finance and General Purposes Committee
“To recommend to Full Council that the Finance and General Purposes Committee budget for 2007/08 be set at £175,034.”

The chairman informed members that because this budget included staff salaries, the budget could not be set until after confidential items had been discussed and considered. It was therefore agreed that this item be deferred until the end of the meeting.

105 Council precept for 2007/08

Clerk The chairman informed members that because the Vale had not informed the council of the Tax Base for next year, the precept could not be set. It was generally agreed to defer this item to the 9th January at the proposed special council meeting.

106 Request from the IAC for their annual grant

It was **MOVED** Cllr J Nunn-Price **SECONDED** Cllr R Ackers and **RESOLVED** unanimously

Clerk **“to grant the IAC their annual grant of £1,500.”**

107 Report on matters relating to the following:

- a) Joint Environmental Trust for Grove – There had been no meeting.
- b) Wantage Joint Economic Forum – The next meeting is to be held on Monday 11th December. Both the chairman and Cllr P Hadcroft stated they could not attend and the clerk was asked to give their apologies.
- c) Vale Strategic Partnership – There was nothing to report. It was generally agreed not to include this item on future agendas.

Clerk

- d) Fair Trade Village update – Cllr J Nunn-Price spoke about the Fair Trade event which precedes the Fair Trade fortnight on 10th March 2007.

108 Committee reports:

- a) Report of Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 31st October 2006 - The report was presented by Cllr D Hadcroft.
- b) Report of Planning Committee meetings held on 7th and 11th November 2006 - The reports were presented by Cllr J Stock.
- c) Report of Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting held on 14th November 2006 - The report was presented by Cllr R Ackers.
- d) Report of Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 21st November 2006 - The report was presented by the chairman.

109 Accounts for payment as per Appendix

Following clarification of some items on the accounts for payment...

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

“that the accounts for the sum of £37,461.53 be adopted.”

110 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.”

104 Committee Recommendations

Finance and General Purposes Committee

“To recommend to Full Council that the Finance and General Purposes Committee budget for 2007/08 be set at £175,034.”

It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes committee.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Confirmed 30th January 2007

Chairman