

SHIPTON UNDER WYCHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held at the New Beaconsfield Hall at 7.30pm
On Thursday 19th February 2015

Present: Cllrs: Jagger (in the Chair), Young, Rigby, Mavin, Hogan and Pitman. DCllr Simcox, CCllr Rose, Parish Clerk: Lisa Wilkinson
Members of the Public: Martin Hallam

1. **Apologies for Absence** had been received from Cllr Matthews. There were no **Declarations of Interest**.
2. **Minutes of the Meeting** held on 15th January were approved and signed.
3. **Matters arising from the Minutes:** There were none.
4. **Public Time:** Nothing was raised.
5. **County Councillor's Report:** CCllr Rose explained that the County Council had agreed a 1.99% increase in Council Tax. The County Council, in common with others in the country, proposes to abolish the post of Chief Executive and put appropriate arrangements in place to fill the role. The annual saving would be about £250,000.
6. **District Councillor's Report:** With the budget approaching there will be no increase in Council Tax and free parking will continue. Public consultation of the Local Plan which went out last summer has come back with the result that the end date has been extended to 2031 (previously 2029) to be in line with other Local Plans. 800 new houses have been allocated to the Burford/Charlbury area to be built by 2031. The bi-monthly surgery to be held by CCllr Rose and DCllr Simcox commences on 28th February 11am – 12 noon at the Wychwood Inn. Cllr Rigby will also be present.
7. **Planning:**
 - a. **New:**

15/00197/OUT Land South of High Street, Milton -u- Wychwood. Erection of up to 70 dwellings, landscaping including change of use, formation of footpath and creation of ecological enhancement area, earthworks to facilitate surface water drainage and all other ancillary infrastructure and enabling works.

The PC discussed this extensively. Cllr Rigby presented the main issues of the proposed development from Shipton's point of view. Shipton-under-Wychwood PC is in favour of balanced development in the area but the size, quality and location are important. The PC object to the proposed development on the grounds that the area is an AONB and the development would be on an elevated position and thus intrusive. Infrastructure issues are a major concern with increased traffic especially at the school and the Co-op. It is estimated that there would be an extra 500 vehicle movements a day. Flooding: both Milton and Shipton have flooded in the past and improvements have been made but not with the size of this development in mind. The sewerage is aging and may not be able to take the strain and the PC is unsure if Broadband would be provided as currently the exchange is in Shipton. There are road safety issues at the school which are already currently receiving police attention. The surgery will take extra patients but the PC has concerns that overall quality of care would be put at risk. The PC asks the District Council to turn down this application.

Mr Hallam spoke: Sharba Homes are known as expensive houses, not affordable homes as they are advertising. Flooding is a serious issue with the rainwater

coming down the High Street and into the brook where the development is planned. The school is over Government advised capacity already. Traffic is a major concern – the application to change the Quart Pot into residential units was rejected due to the state of the road and excess traffic. Mr Hallam believes that houses need to be built that are the right price and scale for local people.

This application goes to the Planning Committee on 30th March 2015.

15/00278/CLP Monk's Gate, High St, SUW. Remove garage door, replace with windows and door. Application no longer available as an application for planning permission may not be required.

15/00417/TCA 2 New Barn Cottages, Swinbrook Rd, SUW. Tree works to 1 x cherry tree. No comment.

15/00417/TCA Beaconsfield Hall, Station Road, SUW. T1 – Horse Chestnut Crown reduce canopy over road side by approx. 2 metres – where a growth point of 1/3rd of parent material is available. Crown reduce upper canopy by approx. 1 metre to reduce weight on heavier limbs where required. Remove deadwood wood and rubbing limbs. Permission has been received for this and Treotech are undertaking this work on 20th February 2015.

15/00415/CLASSM Lane House Farm, Milton Road, SUW. Change of Use of agricultural building to yoga studio under Class M, Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning Order (General Permitted Development) 1995. **Prior Approval Not Required.** No comment.

15/00199/LBC Wychwood Inn, High Street, SUW. Erection of single storey extension to North elevation. **No objection.**

15/00290/FUL Hawthornes, Station Road, SUW. Conversion of existing dwelling into 2no. three bedroom dwellings. Sub division of existing driveway including new vehicular entrance and formation of new crossover, sub division of existing garden. Erection of single storey rear extension to existing dwelling. **No objection.**

b. Ongoing:

14/0849/P/FP End of Lane, 2 Fairview Cottages, High Street, SUW. Erection of dwelling with parking space. **Refused. Appeal Lodged.** Objection to Appeal. Cllr Rigby will submit the objection.

c. Decisions:

14/02158/HHD Nutberry House, Mawles Lane, SUW. Installation of wood burning flue through living room roof, dish in gable (part retrospective). No objections.

Approved

14/02421/HHD 10 Tothill, SUW. Erection of single storey extension. No objections.

Approved

14/02088/FUL Land North of Gas Lane, Ascott Road, SUW. Proposed erection of single, detached dwelling with associated garage. **Withdrawn**

14/1372/P/FP Lilac Cottage, Mount Pleasant, Swinbrook Road, SUW. Erection of single and two storey rear extension. No objections. **Approved**

d. Community Assets: deferred until Cllr Matthews is present.

e. Wychwoods Working Together: the PC would like to continue with this. The clerk is to contact Ascott PC to agree to their suggested date of 20th May 2015.

f. SHMA and Village Plan: the Local Plan is going to the Council next week. This is to be revisited when Cllr Matthews is present.

8. Playground and School

a. Update on school parking. Cllr Mavin reported that this is not moving quickly. Cheryl (new PCSO to the village) had planned to take car registration plates, speak to these parents and then if it continued, to issue tickets. However, Kirsten (previous PCSO) has returned for six weeks. Cllr Mavin will find out what Kirsten's plans are with regard to parking. It was felt that parking on the edges of roads has slightly improved after leaflets have gone out from the school.

Cllr Mavin had been asked by the school to elicit the PC's views on the proposal to provide a flood lit All Weather Sports Pitch. The planning application has not been

entered yet. The pitch is costing £80,000; with floodlights it would cost £100,000 but there is a greater possibility of obtaining grants if they have floodlights. Wychwood School has received a high level of interest from community groups to use this facility outside of school hours. The All Weather Pitch would also encourage sport and competitions for local children. There was concern from the PC over noise, parking, lack of toilet facilities and light. Cllr Jagger will write to the school advising them of the PC's concerns and inviting them to address the PC at the next meeting.

- b. **Playground Quarterly Review.** All the February checks have been completed. Cllr Mavin will book the date of the annual inspection. Work is needed on the skatepark (red oxide) and the sparse grass next to some of the equipment. The compost bin has been used as a rubbish bin – JM will put up a poster explaining it is a compost bin.

9. **Environment.**

- a. **Allotments.** One tenant has consistently not replied to letters and phone calls. Cllr Mavin to follow procedure in this case and terminate their agreement. Mr. Beale has had the flail mower serviced and will send an invoice. Mr. Keen is continuing to treat any Japanese Knotweed that may be present.
- b. **Wychwood Wild Gardens.** AGM on Wednesday 18th March- Cllrs Young and Mavin will attend and vote on behalf of the PC.
- c. **Update on Horse Chestnut.** Cf. no. 7a Planning.
- d. **Verge on Fiddler's Hill/Upper End.** There have been complaints made about dustbin lorries damaging grass verges. This should be reported directly to WODC. There have also been instances of dustbin lorries damaging cars. Again this should be reported to WODC. There is an ongoing issue of builders in the village using the verges to park on. Property owners should require builders to repair verges once building work is complete. This issue will be mentioned in the next newsletter.

10. **Highways and Transport**

- a. Milton Road road works and closure. Residents will have to park either end of the road works if requiring their cars during the day.
- b. Consultation on the draft of Connecting Oxfordshire. Robin McConnachie will speak at the next meeting regarding this issue. Any inputs to be sent to him by 2nd April.

11. **Communication.**

- a. **Newsletter.** Main items for next newsletter: volunteers, parking, speeding, 101 reporting and date of Annual Village Meeting. To be added: there is still time to apply for postal votes, people can subscribe to 2 alerts - WODC alert system and the Thames Valley Police alert system. Flyers for the Paddocks, Green Lane are to be distributed with the newsletter. Annual Village Meeting is on 23rd April at 7.30pm at New Beaconsfield Hall with a Parish Council meeting immediately preceding it at 6pm.
- b. Estate agents boards on public land. The clerk will write to local estate agents requesting that these boards are removed.
- c. MUWAG has been asked to take the Milton protest boards down when the consultation for comments has been closed.

12. **Civic and Community**

- a. **Request to book New Beaconsfield Hall for karate during PC meetings.** The PC agreed to give this a trial and will monitor the noise level during the public meetings.

13. Financial and Administrative Matters

a. Payments were authorised and cheques signed as follows:-

i.	OALC Clerk training (retrospective)	£78
ii.	Brian Rigby/Turney (retrospective) Purchase of hedge trimmer and maintenance of existing (OCC Grant)	£325
iii.	1 st Wychwood Guides (OCC Grant to purchase camping equipment)	£125
iv.	1 st Wychwood Scouts (OCC Grant to purchase camping equipment)	£125
v.	Day Centre (OCC Grant to purchase chair refurbishment and replacements)	£250
vi.	OALC. SM to attend Village Green Training	£42

b. Donations: none

c. Annual Report from NBH Committee. Cllr Young reported.

d. Update of Emergency Plan. Cllr Young reported that this has been updated.

e. Review of Financial and Standing Orders. These have been reviewed. The financial orders will be reviewed again in six months. The possibility of using internet banking will be examined in September.

f. Review of Risk Assessment. Cllr Young and LW are currently reviewing this.

g. Capital Assets Register Update. Cllr Young reported. The way in which the Capital Assets are recorded has been amended slightly. In addition the adventure trail and new hedge trimmer have been added this financial year.

14. Correspondence Received. Was noted.

15. A.O.B

a. Proposal for Unitary Council for Oxfordshire. CCllr Rose reported. If a Unitary Council is formed, all councillors would have to stand to be re-elected. The current 308 councillors would be reduced to 100. There would also be financial savings by reducing six chief executives down to one. However, there would be no reorganisation unless all the District Councils agree.

b. Grant from OCC Community Budget. The Day Centre would like to convey their thanks to CCllr Rose for the generous donation. Cllr Young passed on thanks from the guides and scouts as well.

c. Tennis club resurfacing. Cllr Young read out the response from Roger Hollingdale, to the concerns raised previously about the work on the tennis courts. There would only be two skips in use at a time so will not affect car parking. RH has asked the planners about the colour of the courts (green or red). The project will not overrun but should be completed within the four weeks quoted and any damage to the grass will be made good.

d. Coldstone Farm building work. Cllr Young has talked to the contractors working at Coldstone Farm. They are keen to keep the PC and the neighbours up to date.

e. St Mary's Church 900th Anniversary. This is being celebrated with a rolling programme this year. There was a discussion on whether the PC can do anything to support this.

f. Portfolios. There was a discussion about the possible redistribution of portfolios amongst the councillors. This is to be revisited in May.

16. Dates of the next Meetings. 19 March, 23 April (PC and Annual Village Meeting), May date (1st meeting of year for Parish Council) still to be agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

