

**Minutes of the Meeting of Fringford Parish Council, held on
Monday 21 September 2015, in Fringford Primary School at 7.45pm**

Present: Mick Cowland, John Fargin (Chairman), Les Harris, Jan Maciejewski,
David McCullagh, John Reader, Adrian Thwaites
In attendance: 2 members of the public (1 arrived at 9.10), Jane Olds (Parish Clerk)
Apologies: None

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Public Participation

One member of the public attended the meeting to hear about the outcome of CDC's Planning Committee decision on Rosemary.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 August 2015 and the Planning Meeting held on 1 September 2015

It was **RESOLVED** that both sets of minutes be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

5. Update on progress from the Minutes

a. Mr Westerman

Mr Westerman has agreed to attend the October meeting.

b. OALC Courses

The Clerk has registered for the Minutes and Meetings Course and has registered Mr Maciejewski for the Planning Course.

c. Pump housing supports

The issue has not yet been raised with the contractor.

d. Speeding / white gates

The Clerk had not yet had an opportunity to look into this further.

6. Report from District and County Councillors

No Councillors attended the meeting.

7. Finance

a. To receive the monthly financial report

As at 15 September the Accounts stood at:

Co-op Current Account	£16,158.53
Co-op Savings Account	£23,781.39

There were no outstanding cheques.

The Current Account has received £6,935.00 from Grantscape / Opes (see 7.d. below) and £75 in donations to the Village Voice.

The Savings Account has received the second tranche of the Precept – £5,507.

The Standing Order of £110.25 to pay the Clerk for the period of 1 to 31 August cleared on 1 September.

The Clerk had been chasing the VAT Refund payment and had received a letter two days previously requesting further information about the bank account. Once the refund has been received, the Clerk will be following up why it had taken almost two months to ask for this information.

b. To consider invoices for payment

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the following invoices for payment:

Cheque no:	Payee and reason	Budget	Amount
400093	Green Scythe for grass cutting (invoice number 5899)	Grass cutting	£268.06
400094	Cherwell District Council for summer dog bin emptying	Dog bin emptying	£384.38
400095	OALC for Planning Course for Jan Maciejewski	Training	£42.00
400096	Royal British Legion for Poppy Wreath	S137 Grants	£100.00

a. To agree to a transfer of £15,000 from the Savings Account to the Current Account to cover the VAT payments for the Village Hall Project

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to a transfer of £15,000 from the Savings Account to the current Account to cover the VAT on the Village Hall expenditure; the Clerk would arrange the transfer by telephone, but will give 14 days' notice in order not to be penalised on the interest. Once the hall project has been completed, the VAT refund will be repaid back into the Savings Account.

c. To note the Village Hall Extension Project payments and receipts

The Parish Council made the claim to Opes/Grantscape on 1 September for the supply and installation of the ceiling insulation for the main hall and supply and installation of the underfloor heating (total excl VAT of £6,935) which excludes the 5% retention.

The Invoice below was agreed to be paid by email circulation and paid by BACS

Payee and reason	Budget	Amount
Link Development and Groundworks Bicester Ltd for Invoice 1623 funded by the Grantscape claim	Village Hall Extension	£8,322.00

8. Parish Matters

a. War Memorial

The Clerk had asked the contractors for a commencement date and it has been put back again until mid October. The Clerk has asked for a guarantee that the work is completed by Remembrance Sunday.

b. Play area inspection

The Clerk had circulated the report which the Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept. The report raised the issue of the gate closure, but Mr Reader explained that it had a 'sharp action' in order to deter dogs from entering the playground.

The Councillors gave the Clerk the name of an alternative contractor to look at the decaying woodwork.

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the purchase of the 65 bags of bark which was postponed from June.

c. Poppy wreath

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the donation to the Royal British Legion under the S137 arrangement and agreed that Mr Fargin would represent the Parish Council at the Remembrance Service.

d. Waste bin outside the telephone box

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the removal of the old damaged wooden litter bin. Mr Maciejewski and Mr Thwaites agreed to look at removing it. The Clerk would adjust the asset register.

e. New dog bin

Cllr Cowland requested that a dog waste bin be placed at the end of Rectory Lane. Several possible locations for the placement of a further dog waste bin were discussed including sites at either end of Rectory Lane and one close to the stile near to Fringford Bridge.

The Clerk provided the meeting with the figures that it would cost the Parish £150 per year to empty a further bin and the cost of the bin would be in the region of £200 excluding installation which the Parish Council would have to arrange.

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the purchase of a new bin using funding from the Village Upkeep budget and to siting it at the Fringford Bridge at the end of the footpath across the Bancroft Field.

The Clerk would discuss the siting of the bin with Highways and would investigate the cost options together with the cost of installation.

In terms of policy it was agreed that the amenity of both dog walkers and residents would always be considered and that dog waste bins would always be located as far as possible from residential property boundaries.

9. OCC consultation on household waste recycling centres strategy for Oxfordshire

The Councillors requested that the Clerk respond to the consultation. They had concerns about the removal of the centre at Ardley and the likely flytipping which would result from this.

The Clerk suggested that it would be good if as many people as possible could complete the survey.

The consultation is available on OCC's website - <https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/HWRCstrategy/consultationHome> and OCC asks for as many people as possible to participate.

The deadline for responses is 5 October.

10. Rural Policing Team meeting

The Clerk had received an invitation, which went to all the rural parishes, to attend a meeting on 24 March 2016 instead of the Police attending all the Annual Parish Meetings in the area. However, PC Caroline Brown has indicated that they will still be willing to attend Parish Council meetings when requested.

11. CDC Parish Liaison Meeting

The date for the next meeting is 11 November. No Councillors were available to attend.

12. CDC: Development Management Workshop

The Clerk informed the Councillors of the proposed meeting at the Garth on 24 September at 7pm to hear CDC's introduction to the Development Management Team for Planning and hear of their plans for the department. Two spaces had been booked.

13. Community Led Plan

The group was meeting shortly and there would be more to report at the next Parish Council meeting.

14. Village Hall Extension Project

a. To receive a progress report

The Status Report was circulated and considered.

The project is progressing well, however the service of the site inspections from the architect is not taking place as agreed. However, it will be for the Village Hall Committee to follow up the issues but with support from the Parish Council.

The project team are very grateful, however, for the positive relationship with the building contractors.

The Official Opening of the hall will be on 7 November and this has been advertised in the Village Voice. Invitations will be sent out shortly.

15. Planning Applications

a. To consider all recent Applications received from Cherwell District Council detailed below or on the District Council website up to the date of the meeting

No applications had been received.

b. To note Notices of Decision

- i. 15/01393/F - Mr Tony Everett, 9 Church Close, OX27 8DR for Single storey front, rear and side extensions. Permission for development subject to conditions.

c. Rosemary

The CDC Planning Committee met on 3 September and discussed the application (15/01190/F) at the meeting. The Councillors rejected the application at the meeting.

The Clerk had received (21 September), three appeals against refusal for application numbers 15/00485/F, 15/00486/F and 15/01190/F. The appeals will be decided on the basis of an exchange of written statements and by a site visit by an Inspector. All comments must be submitted by 19 October.

The Councillors wished to know whether the Planning Department had issued the enforcement action notices following the rejection of the latest application at the Planning Committee or whether the appeal takes precedence over this enforcement action. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to write to ask CDC why no progress had been made on the enforcement of the previous Inspector's findings.

It was agreed that the letter from JPPC regarding the appeal would be considered carefully in order that a response could be made to the Planning Inspector.

d. Procedure

The Councillors considered a further amendment to the circulation procedure for planning applications. The suggestion was made that the Clerk would assess which Councillor lived closest to the applicant and would deliver the documents to that Councillor so that they could discuss the proposals with the neighbours and note the comments before the other Councillors had seen it. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to this proposal.

The Clerk would update the Planning Procedure document.

16. Correspondence Received

The Councillors noted the correspondence received and discussed where necessary.

- a. **OALC** – change of address to (Town Hall, Market Place, Wallingford OX10 0EG)
- b. **ORCC** – re AGM on 1 October at Kirtlington Village Hall at 11.30 for 12noon.
- c. **Clerks and Councils Direct**
- d. **Victoria Prentis MP** – enclosing laminated contact details for the noticeboard
- e. **Bicester Garden Town Villages Group** – confirmation of next meeting as 15 October at 6.45pm at Wendlebury Village Hall
- f. **Buckingham and River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board** – Further maintenance has been identified for the River Ouzel round the village.
- g. **OCC** – (received 15 September) re Local Services meeting change of location to Kassam Stadium. The date of the meeting is 21 September so the Clerk requested an additional meeting.

17. Reports from meetings

a. SLCC Meeting – 7 September

The Clerk attended the SLCC meeting. Two subjects were covered, firstly the Transparency Code which confirmed the Clerk’s view that the PC was compliant and then David Tole, the Traffic, Safety and Area Steward Manager from OCC came to talk about the Devolution of OCC services.

The first thing which came up was that a large number of parishes (including Fringford) had been omitted from the invitation to a meeting on 21 September at County Hall for the launch of their consultation process. (Following this, an invitation was sent out with a change of venue).

A discussion took place on the sorts of services which the parishes might be able to take over; some services with funding such as grass cutting, some without. The services included weed control, cut back hedges and ‘hedge letters’, salt bin management, public rights of way inspections and minor maintenance, footway siding, and epicormic tree growth removal. A number of parishes were very concerned that taking over any of these services would add more pressure to the Clerks’ workload without any further financial benefit so it remains to be seen whether the suggestions are embraced.

18. Items for information or next Agenda only

- a. Agenda Items** – the Clerk requested that all items for the next agenda should be submitted by Thursday 8 October

16. Date of next meeting

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree the date of Monday 19 October 2015 at 7.45pm which will it is hoped will be in the Chinnery Room of the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed Dated