

**Minutes of the Meeting of Fringford Parish Council, held on
Monday 15 December 2014, in the Chinnery Room of Fringford Village Hall at 7.45pm**

- Present:** Mick Cowland, John Fargin (Chairman), Les Harris, John Reader,
Adrian Thwaites
- In attendance:** Three members of the public (one left 8.15, two left before Confidential
matter at 9pm), Jane Olds (Parish Clerk)
- Apologies:** Jan Macijewski, David McCullagh

1. Apologies

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept Jan Macijewski and David McCullagh's apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Participation

Three members of the public attended the meeting, two observed the meeting but made no comments and one presented his planning application.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 November 2014

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

5. Update on progress from the Minutes

a. Speedwatch

The Clerk had not received any response from the article in the *Village Voice* asking for volunteers. The Clerk had suggested to the two villagers who had volunteered that they might like to recruit others. The Clerk would also put a further article in the *Village Voice* in the spring.

b. Snow Clearance

The Clerk has written to Richard Wise.

c. Village Voice

The Clerk has written to the editors and printer of the *Village Voice* to thank them for all their work and contributions.

6. Report from District and County Councillors

There were no reports.

7. Finance

a. To receive the financial report

As at 10 December the Accounts stood at:

Co-op Current Account	£3,982.51
Co-op Savings Account	£18,841.09

There were no outstanding cheques.

The Current Account had received £1,000 from the Doris Field Charitable Trust for the new front door for the Village Hall, £15 in donations for the Village Voice / Community Led Plan, and £0.37 in interest. The £2,000 transfer from the Savings account to the Current account has cleared.

b. To consider the draft budget for 2015/16

The Clerk provided the Councillors with a draft budget and notes for consideration.

The Clerk had worked with the Chairman on reducing the expenditure wherever possible. The Councillors made further suggestions and **RESOLVED** to agree the budget provided that there should be no more than a 5% increase in Precept.

c. To consider the Precept for 2015/16

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to request a Precept of £11,014, excluding the unconfirmed Council Tax Reduction Grant of approximately £617, from Cherwell District Council. At the current rates, this will cost a Band D property approximately £43.36 for the year, an increase of £2.06

d. To consider invoices for payment

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

Payment to	Budget	Cheque Number	Amount
Andrew Marsden for further VAT advice	Village Hall Extension	400068	£25.00
Green Scythe for leaf clearance	Leaf Clearance	400069	£238.20
Bower & Bailey LLP for Land Registry registration of lease between Village Hall Committee and the PC	Village Hall Extension	400070	£40.00

The standing order to pay the Clerk £107.88 was debited from the current account on 1 December.

e. Confidential – to note the revised salary scales for the Clerk jointly published by NALC / SLCC

This was deferred to the end of the meeting and discussed in closed session.

8. Parish Matters

a. Road across the Green

The Clerk had contacted Highways about sign suppliers and is awaiting information. The Councillors noted that a great many weeds were growing in the new verge. They **RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to contact the Contractor to ask him to apply weed killer to the verge, roll the soil to compact it, add a little more topsoil and re-seed.

b. War Memorial

The application to the National Heritage Lottery Fund for the straightening of the Memorial has been submitted. John Fargin suggested that the cleaning of the Memorial be postponed until the NHLF had responded about the straightening funding so that, if successful, the work can be completed together.

c. Village Pump

The Clerk had contacted a further two contractors and was awaiting their quotations.

9. Community Led Plans

John Fargin reported that the questionnaire had been held up slightly. The Councillors recommended that it be distributed after Christmas.

10. Village Hall Extension

a. To receive a progress report

John Fargin reported that progress on fundraising had been made with provisional offers from two 'Environmental Bodies' (landfill operator's funding charities) and two other funding bodies. The queries regarding the reclaim of VAT have been resolved and further funding has been provisionally offered to cover the cost of the VAT on the elements of the project being developed by the Village Hall Committee. A third landfill operator has been approached and initial discussions have been positive, a formal application will be finalised in January.

The project will now need to be registered with and approved by Entrust, the Government body responsible for the regulation of the Landfill Community Fund. This is in progress. Details of the proposed funding will be provided when formal agreements are made.

Should the funding offers be confirmed and negotiations with contractors concluded, the plan is to undertake the work during the summer of 2015 ensuring minimal disruption to hall users.

b. To consider paying £40 to the Land Registry for the registration of the lease between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to paying the Land Registry fee.

11. OALC Training Courses

The Clerk presented the meeting with a list of OALC training courses for the next year. She had asked Mr Maciejewski if he would like to attend the March Roles and Responsibilities course. No other courses were of interest to the Councillors.

12. Planning Applications

It was **RESOLVED** that this item be moved to the beginning of the meeting to coincide with Public Participation.

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

- i. 14/01926/F, Mr Stevens, 24 St Michael's Close, OX27 8DW for 'Erect two conservatories to the rear of the property'

The Councillors considered the application and had no comments or objections.

- ii. 14/01953/F, Glebe Lakes Caravan Park, Erection of a 'permanent Warden's dwelling – Resubmission of 14/00698/F'

The Councillors considered the application. The Parish Council's concerns from the previous application have been largely addressed. The property is a one bedroom house with two specified parking bays; it will be tied to the caravan park business. The siting of the house was on the recommendation of CDC Planning Officers

which will give a good view of the caravan park, but not be visible from the road. The mobile home will be removed if planning permission is granted.

The Parish Council had reservations about the siting of the house but **RESOLVED** that provided the location could be agreed with CDC, and that the conditions included the house being tied to the caravan park business and that the mobile home would be removed once the house was built, that there were no further objections to the plans.

b. To note Notices of Decision

- i. 14/01580/F, Mr and Mrs Richard Bowden, The Old Rectory, Rectory Lane, refurbishment and improvements including relocation of oil tank, installation of satellite dish, reduction of chimney, installation of new SVP and replacement windows. Permission for development subject to conditions.

13. Correspondence Received

The Councillors noted the correspondence received and discussed where necessary.

- a. **High Sheriff** – regarding the High Sheriff of Oxfordshire’s annual awards.
- b. **CDC** – re information from the Parishes Liaison Meeting.
- c. **OCC** – re Oxfordshire’s Learning Disability Strategy ‘Big Plan’ consultation (circulated by email)
- d. **Lendrums Amusements** – re having the fair on the Green next August.
- e. **OALC** – re NALC / SLCC joint announcement on Clerk Pay (circulated by email)
- f. **CDC** – re update of Electoral Register
- g. **NFU** – Research project on rural flooding, land use change and climate in the upper Thames x 2 (circulated by email)
- h. **Villager** – re progress on the Speedwatch volunteers
- i. **Boundary Commission** – re the electoral review of Cherwell. The consultation closes on 16 February so there will still be time to discuss this at the January meeting (circulated by email and further letter)
- j. **Sir Tony Baldry MP** – re Broadband (letter circulated)

14. Reports from meetings

a. SLCC Branch Meeting – 25 November

The Clerk attended the meeting which was primarily about how to recruit and support new Councillors. She also reported that she had been appointed as Support Officer for new Clerks to the Cherwell District.

15. 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 9 January

16. Date of next meeting

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree the date of Monday 19 January 2015 at 7.45pm.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed Dated