

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Fringford Parish Council, held on Monday 18 February 2013, in the Chinnery Room of Fringford Village Hall

- Present:** Mick Cowland, John Fargin (Chairman of meeting), Les Harris, John Reader, Adrian Thwaites, Roger Williams
- In attendance:** Jane Olds (Parish Clerk)
- Apologies:** David McCullagh, Cllr Catherine Fulljames

Welcome

John Fargin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies

David McCullagh's apologies were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Public Participation

No members of public attended the meeting.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 January 2013

It was **RESOLVED** that these be accepted as a true copy and signed by the Chairman of the Meeting.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- a. **Road across the Green.** Due to the inclement weather the Clerk had had to cancel appointments to discuss the work, but will be meeting with a representative of Grasscrete shortly.
- b. **Banking Arrangements.** The Clerk has sent off the application form to the Co-op Bank and recommends that the accounts are run in parallel for a while.
- c. **Precept.** The Clerk has notified CDC of the change.
- d. **Snow Plan.** The Clerk has contacted Highways and no further salt will be available until the autumn. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to leave the ordering of further salt until the autumn.
- e. **Rosemary Development – Planning Meeting**
CDC Planning Committee met on 31 January to discuss the report made to the Committee by Development Control Team Leader, Bob Duxbury. The report outlined the history of the development taking into account the recommendations of an independent Surveyor, the views of parishioners and the Parish Council, and recommended that an enforcement notice be served on the development.

However, the application for Variation of Condition 2 (reference 13/00097/F see point 10a) is going through the standard application process and its target date is 23rd March 2013. If the application is refused, then CDC will look to serve an enforcement notice.

6. Report from District and County Councillors

There was no report from either the District or County Councillor

7. Finance

a. To Receive the Financial Report

The current balances, as of 31 December 2012 are

Community Account £2,902.60

There are no unrepresented Cheques

The £3,000 has been transferred in from the Saver Account

Business Saver Account £12,155.08

b. To consider invoices for payment

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

Payment to	Cheque Number	Amount
Richard Wise for snow ploughing and salting village	100629	£144.00
ORCC Subscription	100630	£50.00
OALC for VAT course for Clerk	100631	£42.00

8. Report of the Parish Remuneration Panel on the Review of Parish Members' Allowances for 2013/14 Financial Year

The Councillors discussed the report and **RESOLVED** to agree to adopt the Travel Expenses section of the report, but not to claim further allowances.

9. Parish Matters

a. Guttering on Prentice's Yard

Following the receipt of complaints about water flooding in to Ghost Alley from new Guttering on Prentice's Yard, John Reader has alerted the owners to the problem and has been assured that it will be remedied. The Council will review at the next meeting.

b. Draft Press Release / Statement regarding CDC Planning Meeting and Rosemary

Following discussion, the Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to ask Cllr Barry Wood, as the village's District Councillor, to represent the Council should the need arise with enquiries from the Press. The Councillors asked the Clerk to write to Mr Wood with the request.

c. Village Hall Break-in

John Reader reported that the Village Hall had been broken into on 6 February. The thieves had caused a great deal of damage including to the oil tank, three windows, the locked cupboard in the kitchen and themselves; however nothing appears to have been taken. The Councillors were pleased to hear that the oil tank and leak had been fixed, but concerned that the windows had not been made secure and asked the Clerk to contact the Caretaker for a progress report.

d. Neighbourhood Plans

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to ask a representative of Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC) to make a presentation to the Councillors so that they could make an informed decision about whether to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan.

e. State of Village Roads

The roads around the village have been greatly affected by the recent severe weather. The Clerk reported that the best course of action was for Councillors and members of the public to report pot holes to OCC Highways individually via the website at <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/potholes> or by telephoning 0845 3101111, but the Clerk is more than willing to chase up delays.

However, the Clerk will contact Highways and ask that urgent action is taken to resolve the many pot holes which pose an extra risk to pedestrians and have damaged vehicles.

f. Proposal to Purchase a Defibrillator for the Village

After discussion the Councillors **RESOLVED** not to purchase a defibrillator as the siting of it would be difficult.

10. Planning Applications

a. Application No. 13/00097/F Mr and Mrs R Ward, Former Rosemary, Main Street; Variation of Condition 2 of 11/01160/F

The Councillors considered the application and **RESOLVED** to object on the same grounds as previously; because of the visual impact on the street scene being further forward in relation to the neighbouring houses, the impairment of the view down through the village, the impact on the Grade II listed building opposite and the concern about the car parking at the front of the development.

11. Correspondence Received

a. Fringford Cricket Club

The Honorary Secretary of the Cricket Club had contacted the Clerk about the ownership of the verge at the edge of the Cricket Ground. Part of this is currently owned by OCC Highways and the other part, which was previously a pond, has no title. The Councillors agreed that the Cricket Club has maintained the entire verge for over 12 years and **RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to write a letter for the Cricket Club to confirm this.

b. ORCC

With the subscription mailing was information about the village which can be included in a Local Plan. ORCC can also help with the production of the plan. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to pay the subscription for the forthcoming year.

c. OALC VAT Course

The Clerk had received information about a course on VAT at a cost of £42 including VAT which she hoped would be helpful. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to pay for the Clerk to attend the course.

d. Register of Members' Interests

CDC has informed the Clerk that the Councillors Register of Members' Interests forms are now available on the CDC website and can be found here: <http://modgov.cherwell.gov.uk/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx?ID=158&LS=3> . The Clerk will ensure that the link is included on the Parish Council section of the Website.

e. Oxfordshire Playbus

The Councillors **RESOLVED** not to award a grant at this time.

12. Reports from meetings

There were no meetings to report.

13. Any Other Business

Verges around the village

Concern was raised over the state of the verges around the village. Many of which have been churned up with the bad weather. The Clerk will contact Highways to find out what can be done to improve the situation.

14. Date of next meeting

Monday 18 March 2013 at 7.45pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm and was followed by a talk by Cynth Napper about the NERC Act.

Signed Dated