

## MINUTES

1. **Present:** - Sue Tulloch (ST) -Chair, Deana Carpenter (DC), Jonathan Rabbitts (JR), Annabelle Eyre (AE)  
Peter Smith (PS), Liam Robson (LR)  
Clive Hooker District Councillor  
Clerk: Sonia Coyle (SC).  
Gillian Woodward – Clerk applicant

Meeting started at 7:00pm

ST introduced GW to Councillors and explained she would be attending the meeting for the first half an hour to see how things are done as she has applied for the role of Parish Clerk.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None

3. **Minutes** Councillors then RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to confirm and adopt the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

4. **Questions/comments from members of the public.**

Pat Glover asked if EGED could use the Millennium Field and Jubilee Meadow for car parking at the next Green Weekend on the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October. The Jubilee Meadow would be used for disabled car parking, however EGED are promoting use of the bus where possible. Councillors AGREED this would be acceptable.

PG then asked if the PC are OK with EGED's suggested "no-mow" strip next the wildlife hedge of 1 to 2/3 meters. It was suggested that councillors walk the route with Pat before agreeing the area. JR also asked if the hedge will be protected and looked after, there is concern that there needs to be more than 1 person involved in looking after. PG is confident that this would not be an issue and has also confirmed that Veolia have given a grant of £1k to help. The possibility of a fence was also discussed but it was agreed that this would not be necessary.

PG then talked about how people could reduce their carbon footprint and informed the PC that anyone can check their carbon footprint by going to [www.footprintcalculator.org](http://www.footprintcalculator.org) along with a poster which will go up on the village notice boards. CH suggested contacting Adrian Abbs who is the Executive Portfolio Holder: Climate Action, Recycling and Biodiversity at WBC to attend the next Green Weekend – Clerk to contact.

5. **Planning matters**

**23/01765/HOUSE Southview, Rogers Lane**

Proposed two-storey extensions to both sides of property and demolition of existing garage

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**23/01963/HOUSE Parsons Close Stables, School Lane**

Addition of first floor and two storey extension to accommodate office and tack/boot room

**NO OBJECTIONS**

ST & SC are currently reviewing WBC consultation on validation checklists and local requirements for planning applications.

6. **Receive Reports**

**Representatives from Outside Bodies – District Cllr Hooker.**

A copy of Clive's newsletter can be found by clicking [here](#)

### **Chairman's Report**

ST confirmed that Lee Michigan has sent out his first EGN newsletter and there is one person who has shown a possible interest in website administrator.

EGA have agreed to donate £500 towards the rubber chippings for the play area. The total for the rubber chippings is £3675.60 after deducting the EGA donation and the Tesco Grant this leaves £2675.60 which is to be paid out from CIL money as this is an improvement of a children's play area.

### **Clerk's Report**

A member of the public has contacted WBC regarding speeding on a section of Newbury Road and Hillside which is regularly exceeded. CH suggested SC contact Cheryl Evans and ask for a speed survey to be carried out. Email has been received offering South Central Probation unpaid work – nothing available currently.

Email received requesting a sign be put up asking people stop feeding the ducks in the village as this has resulted in a number of rats eating of the uneaten food. ST to ask Richie Beeson to make up a sign.  
Following the changes of admin on the Website/EGN Alan has suggested the Privacy Notice be reviewed. To be done at the November meeting.

## 7. Finance and Compliance

Paid since last meeting

Name	Goods or Service	Amount inc VAT	Approved
Scofell	July & August	£593.28	ST/DC
S Coyle	Jul & Aug salary	£394.22	ST/DC
S Coyle	Expenses – Lebara Topup	£5	ST/DC
Datacenta	Email Storage	£60	ST/DC

To be paid by next meeting

Name	Goods or Service	Amount Inc VAT
Wantage Bus	20/21 & 22/23 donation	£100
S Coyle	Expenses – A4 paper	£5.62
<b>WBC (awaiting credit note)</b>	Dog bins Apr 23 – Mar 24 1/4)	£327.55
E-Mango T/A Kimcell	Annual Service Charge	£460.80
Unity Bank	Bank charges	£18
Autela	Payroll Services	£54.58
Scofell	Sep & Oct	£593.28
S Coyle	Sep & Oct Salary	£394.22

Paid in since last meeting

Groundworks	Tesco Grant	£500
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Following the recent advertisement for the clerk's role and an application from an experienced clerk, there had been a request to review the salary. Councillors agreed to increase the rate to SCP 23, with no increase until November 2024 when it would be reviewed again.

The Code of Conduct was reviewed and no changes were made.

The Financial Regulations were due to be reviewed but the clerk has since received confirmation that NALC are currently reviewing. As a result the regulations will be reviewed at the November meeting.

## 8. Jubilee Meadow

Clerk had contacted Caloo to have the resistance tightened on both the seated rower and cross rider. Caloo have offered the following services; operational inspection £250, Operational Inspection & Maintenance £445 or for an engineer to attend and remedy £245. Councillors AGREED to go with the final option and for this to be paid for out of CIL funds as this would be providing an improvement to the sports equipment in the Jubilee Meadow which is available for general public use.

## 9. Village Maintenance & Millennium Field

Clerk had contacted Caroline Booth at WBC to discuss the issues with the dog bins. Ongoing issues have included none of the bins being emptied, some of the bins overflowing. The bins have not been labelled up as promised and the contractor doesn't always know the location of the 5 bins. The clerk proposed the PC move over to Tactical Facilities who charge 1p per bin less than WBC and can start immediately. Councillors AGREED to the proposal at a cost of £3.40 per bin (plus VAT), per week.

## 10. Community Speedwatch

(Still on hold due to ongoing works in the village – compound expected to be kept in place until mid September)

## 11. AOB

Meeting ended – 8.55pm  
Next Meeting  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 7pm

Signed

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Date 9/11/23