

A bi-monthly Meeting of East Garston Parish Council of East Garston Parish Council was held in the Friends Meeting House Children's Room on Wednesday 2nd November 2016 at 7 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Present: - Jonathan Rabbitts (JR) - Chairman, Chris Tonge (CT), Sue Tulloch (ST), Deana Carpenter (DC), Liam Robson (LR), Jane Haddock (JH). and Alan Breadmore – Clerk.
2. Minutes of the bi-monthly meeting held 7th September 2016 – were read and signed as correct.
3. Matters Arising:-
 - a. c/f. Awaiting action from WBC re re-profiling and drainage on Back St outside PJS, WBC have indicated there is still no funding.
 - b. c/f. Clerk advised that the reprint of "Welcome to East Garston" is now available. Clerk to deliver to The Chapel and Muchmore.
 - c. c/f. Clerk advised that the Millennium Field steps refurbishment is complete and confirmed that WBC "members bid" grant application for matched funding has been agreed. Invoice has been raised to claim.
 - d. Detail of land acquisition cost on website has been corrected.
 - e. Road Safety. JR and ST advised that road safety meeting with WBC highways representative following several accidents on Newbury Road was fruitless. There is no funding and the situation is not considered sufficiently dangerous. There may be funding to refurbish white lining next financial year.
 - f. CT and LR attended the October District Parish conference. Main subjects were further funding cuts and devolution to and cooperation between Parishes. The Parish Council may need to take into account the financial implications of wider responsibilities at budget time as long as there is still freedom to raise Parish precept. Ward boundary review is proposed, it is thought unlikely to affect Lambourn Valley. Clerk has copies of presentations.
4. The Minutes of Planning Decision dated 28th September 2016 were read and signed as correct
5. Matters Arising:- None
6. Planning - Pre Application Consultation – Littleworth, South Fawley:- The new owner and his agent sought pre planning consultation regarding their redevelopment plans for this property. Councillors were able to ask questions about the preliminary proposals and subject to consideration of the final planning application and without prejudice had no significant concerns.
7. Finance and Compliance:-
 - a. Paid since last meeting:

Name	Goods or service	Amount inc VAT	
Scofell	Mowing x2	£693	CQ834 & CQ841
e-mango	Website service charge	£461	CQ837
Alan Breadmore	Clerk Expenses	£31	CQ836
J Rabbitts/ Travis Perkins	Fence Painting Materials	£56	CQ838
Mazars	External Audit	£120	CQ835
BC Building and Groundwork Ltd	Millennium Field Steps	£5217	CQ840
Griffins	Payroll	£310	DD
CPRE	Subscription	£36	CQ839
Newbury College	Printing	£24	CQ842

- b. To be paid by next meeting:

Name	Goods or service	Amount inc VAT
Scofell	Mowing	£231
RBL	Poppy Wreath	£20
East Garston PCC	Churchyard Maintenance	£200
East Garston Quakers	Room Hire	£72
Griffins	Payroll	£310
?	Road Salt	£200
East Garston Parish Council	Opening Deposit for Unity Trust Bank	£500

- c. Received since last meeting: -

Name	Goods or service	Amount inc VAT
WBC	Precept	£4500

- d. To be received by next meeting: -

Name	Goods or service	Amount inc VAT
HMRC	VAT refund	£1600
WBC	Members Bid Grant	£2174

- e. The August and September Current Account bank statements were reconciled to the cash book and signed by the chairman.

- f. Clerk presented the final application for opening banking accounts for the Parish Council with Unity Trust Bank, as previously agreed, including a transfer mandate for Santander Bank. Councillors all signed personal declarations for identification as well as the transfer mandate and overall application. Clerk expected a transition period of several weeks and advised that an opening deposit cheque of £500 would be required. Procedures would be drawn up similar to those advised by other Parish Councils in order to ensure the integrity of the process. Councillors instructed the Clerk to finalise and submit the application along with the other documents required by Unity Trust. Proposed CT, seconded JH.
 - g. Councillors agreed to make grant of £200 to PCC for Churchyard Maintenance. Proposed CT, seconded DC
8. Speeding: - Clerk stated that the Police had advised him that they would “support” initiatives to manage speeding on Newbury Road and illegal parking on yellow lines. David and Carole Ruse have kindly agreed to perform a “street audit” to assist the Parish Council with speed control and education. Clerk advised that he had been unable to get a further update on the proposed VAS on Newbury Road, he will continue to chase.
 9. Volunteer Programme: - No new initiatives at present. Village Clean up Day had been successful, including clearance of foliage around Village Hall car park. CT stated that a further river clearance session would be arranged shortly.
 10. Flood Management Status: - CT advised that there was nothing new to report, although he advised that WBC are encouraging Parish Councils to consider wider community resilience planning beyond just flooding.
 11. Planning Status:-
 - a. Manor Farm - approved
 - b. 3 School Lane - approved
 12. Correspondence:-
 - a. The Highways winter service plan has been received. Clerk confirmed there was no change to the East Garston service for 2016/17 other than the previous agreed responsibility shift for road salt in bins. Councillors agreed that a purchase of road salt stock was required soon but as all bins were currently full, purchase would be deferred until December.
 13. Any Other Business
 - a. Complaints received by JH re “Back Street puddle” – see 3a
 - b. Query raised with JH re the “bricking up” of garage at Rose Cottage, Back St and the subsequent street parking. Apparently resident had been advised that planning permission not required. CT to discuss the parking implications of this with parishioner
 - c. JR advised that the Oak tree by middle bridge is dying and should be removed/replaced. Councillors agreed in principle to replace. JR to investigate and get quotes.
 - d. JR had been approached by parishioner to provide a bench in Millennium Field. JR/DC to investigate and make proposal to Councillors.
 - e. Clerk asked Councillors if proposed date of next meeting was convenient given the proximity to New Year. Councillors agreed to defer next meeting to 11th January 2017.

Meeting ended – 8.45 p.m. Next meeting – Wednesday 11th January 2017 at 7pm