

GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 13th April 2015
at the Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden
at 7.30 p.m.

Public Forum: Mr & Mrs Jonathan Waters regarding request for disabled swing at Ballinger.

Present: Councillor B.Gover - Chair

Councillors: B.Barker: M.Bennett: A.Hewett: R.Hougham: S.Humphreys: M.Johnstone:

G.Maher: V.Martin: K.Pither: C.Plested: J.Sole: L.Swayne: C.Ward

1. Apologies: Councillors: M.Lee: D.Tavernor

Cllr B.Gover reported that there would not be elections for any of the wards in the Parish but that there were six Councillor vacancies.

2. Declarations of Interest - Cllr B.Barker – item 5 c ii)

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 9th March were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising

The letters calling for volunteers to help move the MVAS units were being prepared.

Cllr S.Humphreys is progressing with the lighting request for Prestwood Common car park.

With regards to the LAF applications, the one for play equipment for Sibleys Rise cannot be funded through the Local Priorities budget and the picnic table in Prestwood has in fact already been repaired.

Cllr M.Bennett reported that it has been verbally confirmed that there will be no loss of hours or personnel at the Library but this is not yet confirmed in writing.

5. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 7th April 2015 were **agreed** and **confirmed** following alterations to the comments for CH/2015/0374/AV and additional comments on application CH/2015/0478/FA. There were mixed views about Costa Coffee coming to Great Missenden. The Council agreed that it would be a good idea to request a meeting with James Stacpoole to discuss The George, as the Council would support the inclusion of a small pub within the development. Cllrs B.Barker, A.Hewett and K.Pither volunteered to represent the Parish Council and representatives from CDC and English Heritage would also be invited.

b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee

i) Lease of Greenlands Lane Allotments

The letter from Stoke Mandeville and Other Parishes Charity confirming that the Trustees had decided to make no change to the lease terms or rental charge for a further two years was noted.

ii) MVAS update – schedule for collection of control data

After some discussion and consideration about how much time and work would be required by the volunteers to introduce two separate weeks of 'blind' data collection into the existing four weekly schedule, it was agreed to run the MVAS units 'blind' for the whole four week period. The police had confirmed that this would be an acceptable way to collect this control data.

iii) Ballinger Play Area – request for additional equipment

It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the sizes and costs of a swing suitable for both disabled and able bodied children, which could be considered for the Ballinger play area. It was

noted that the space available was limited and that the Cricket Club would need to be consulted as the play area is within the area of their licence. Funding would also need to be investigated as there is no provision in the budget for additional play equipment. It was noted that there is a swing suitable for disabled children in the Buryfield play area.

iv) Request to put up a banner on Buryfield

The Council voted unanimously against allowing a large banner, advertising a commercial organisation, to be put up on the Buryfield for the best part of six months.

v) Free Parking Days – 2015

It was agreed to request the following five free parking days in 2015 from Chiltern District Council:

- Saturday June 13th – Link Road and Buryfield car parks (2)
- Saturday November 28th – Link Road car park (1)
- Saturday December 5th – Link Road car park (1)
- Saturday December 5th – Prestwood car park (1)

vi) Donate-a-Gate (Gates for Stiles) – alternative site

The site at Ballinger opposite Mortimer House had been agreed at the March meeting and it was agreed to suggest that the second site should be one of the three alternatives as suggested by Cllr M.Johnstone in the order that he had suggested them.

vii) Request to book tennis courts - email

The Council voted unanimously against allowing the booking of the tennis courts, since they were deemed to be for public use on a first come first served basis. The Council agreed that this was the policy of the Parish Council and that the Clerk could reply to any future requests with the same information.

c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Additional cheque signatories

Cllrs S.Humphreys, M.Johnstone and C.Plested agreed to be added to the list of cheque signatories.

ii) Prestwood Common Car Park –quotes for resurfacing

The Clerk had obtained four quotes to resurface the whole car park to form a fall using a suitable material. After some discussion a majority of Councillors voted to accept the quote from Chiltern Surfacing and Paving, who had done the work at Ballinger Common. Cllrs B.Barker, R.Hougham, K.Pither and L.Swayne abstained.

iii) Dog waste bin collection – contract from CDC

It was agreed to accept the contract/service agreement from CDC for dog waste bin collection.

iv) Additional dog waste bins

It was agreed to defer this to the next meeting of the new Council.

v) Streetlighting charges

Cllr M.Bennett reported that the street lighting charges had increased with very little warning but that it was the first increase in 9 years. It was agreed to carry on with the current supplier whilst investigating alternative quotes.

vi) Request for grant – Bucks Girl Guides

The Council declined to make a contribution as the request was not specific to the Parish.

vii) Request from GM Traders – The Cage

It was agreed that the other two tenants of 'The Cage', PEG and GMCG, should have a meeting with the GM Traders to discuss the space and options and then report back to the Council.

viii) Memorial Centre toilets – update

The Clerk had instructed 4G Architects to prepare a specification for the work to be carried out in the toilets, and the Council agreed that this specification should be used for 4G Architects to obtain quotes from a minimum of three contractors.

ix) 70th Anniversary of VE Day

Information noted.

x) Community Policing Awards

The Council agreed to nominate PCSO Chris Ging and Cllr C.Ward offered to write the nomination.

xi) Chilterns Conservation Board - Appointment of Replacement Parish Member

The prior notice of a forthcoming vacancy was noted.

xii) Payment of accounts for March (final) and April

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **207-220** in the sum of **£13,228.21 – March (final)** and accounts numbers **1-11** in the sum of **£5,872.53 - April** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for March (final) **£44.33** and March/April **£9.90** be ratified.

d) Editorial Working Party

The article for 'The Source' dealing with information about the speeding initiatives had been sent off for the next issue. Cllr B.Gover suggested that articles about new Councillors could be considered for the following issue.

e)HS2

i) House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee, Chilterns Long Tunnel and Select Committee visit - provisional

Cllr M.Johnstone advised that the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee had now reported and stated that 'the government had not carried out a proper assessment of whether alternative ways of increasing capacity are more cost-effective than HS2'. Additionally, the appraisal of the impact on the north has not been done.

Cllr M.Johnstone had produced a map showing all the tunnel proposals and gave Councillors a copy of a leaflet prepared by REPA. The Chiltern Long Tunnel proposed by CDC is slightly west of the existing HS2 tunnel route.

An exhibition about tunnels hosted by Amersham HS2 Action Group took place on Saturday and was well attended – Martin Tett opened it and visitors included Cheryl Gillan, Nick Rose and Hilary Wharf.

The Select Committee should be visiting Bucks for three days after successful lobbying with Wednesday May 20th the provisional date for the visit to Great Missenden Parish. The planned route is currently being discussed to include important locations.

ii) General update

It now looks as though the expected Additional Provisions will not be published until July which is very late and this is likely to lead to the submission of further petitions.

A one day conference on Cultural Heritage has been arranged for May 16th.

A network of helpers is being set up to support petitioners and anyone wanting help should be directed to the Clerk or Cllr M.Johnstone.

6. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

i) Charity of Dame Jane Boys – information

The information received from the Charity of Dame Jane Boys was noted. The Clerk reported that there was no information about the rent that Mr Hawkins referred to in his letter and the Clerk would inform him of this. The Council is concerned that money is available to sponsor youth enterprises, which is not being used and asked the Clerk to write to find out when the next meeting was due to take place.

7. Clerks Report

i) Land at Sibleys Rise

Following requests to Paradigm Housing about this land in relation to installing new play equipment, it appears that Paradigm Housing believe they gave this land to the Parish Council. The Clerk is in the process of investigating this situation.

8. Any other business.

- Cllr A.Hewett thanked all those Councillors who were leaving for all their hard work – both long standing Councillors and those who had joined more recently.
- Cllr M.Johnstone reported that Great Missenden has been nominated by Cycle Chilterns as a Chiltern Cycling Bike Hub with a web page to promote cycling in the Chilterns with cycle routes and bike hire for visitors including a fleet of electric bikes.
- Cllrs C.Ward and B.Barker reiterated Cllr A. Hewett's 'thank you'.
- Cllr B.Hougham reported that the new vehicle for Prestwood First Responders had been delivered.
- Cllr K.Pither reported that the parking in Great Missenden during the Love Food Fair had been a problem and she reported that a drain in the car park was cracked.
- Cllr V.Martin said that the Love Food Fair itself was better than last year. She suggested that an open day might help to attract new Councillors.
- Cllr L.Swayne reported that the potholes on the Wycombe Road at Lodge Lane junction were very bad.
- Cllr M.Bennett added his formal vote of thanks to all Councillors and especially to Cllr B.Gover for her energy and commitment as Chair of Council.
- Cllr B.Gover thanked everyone for all their hard work and pointed out that the work of the Parish Council had changed considerably in her time as Chair.
- Cllr B.Gover also reported that the Community Bid for The Pheasant had been flatly refused negotiations continue!

The meeting closed at 21.40

9. Future meetings

a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 5th May 2015 in the Parish Office

b) Parish Council – 7.30 p.m. Monday 11th May 2015 in the Memorial Centre