

MINUTES of the meeting of North Leigh Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall Youth Centre on Thursday 8 December 2011 at 7 pm.

Present: Harry St John (in the Chair), J Crew, D Gough, R Langley, S Cusick, G.Feasey, B.Norton and R. Soper

In attendance: Lynda Scott, Clerk to the Council

1 Apologies for absence: C. Frost

2 Declarations of interest:

Barry Norton, expressed a personal but not prejudicial interest in item 16 – LDF in his capacity as a District Councillor.

3 Minutes

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10 November, previously circulated, be taken as read and approved as a true and correct record.

4 Matters Arising

It was confirmed that the salt ordered from OCC had been delivered.

5 Public Session

No items

6 Thames Valley Police Report

H St J reported that he had attended a NAG meeting on 30 November and that no issues specific to North Leigh had been raised. Members reported an incident overnight on 3/4 December on the Common. The police were called on three occasions, the first at 3am, and failed to attend until 8.30am. H.StJ will take up the matter and request a formal report.

7 Planning Decisions

The Clerk reported the following decisions:

- Wilcote House: insertion of two conservation roof lights: granted
- 6 Cuckamus Lane: new first floor windows: granted
- Chilburn The Green, East End: first floor and single storey extensions: granted
- Greystones: installation of solar panels/new replacement windows: granted

8 Planning Applications & Correspondence: none received

8.1 Working Group Report;

No applications considered since the last meeting.

9 The future of the adventure playground

HStJ outlined the continuing high on going costs of maintaining the Adventure Playground and members discussed the cost/benefits of retaining the Playground. Following lengthy discussion, it was resolved:

- To consult with residents in the New Year regarding the continuation of the playground and to seek volunteers to support its maintenance. RS will draft a piece for the Nor 'Lye News and request space in the newsletter.
- That the Clerk request WODC to reduce the litter collection service by 50%.
- That the Clerk arrange for the mowing/spraying service to be reduced by 50%
- That the Trim Trail be removed and following inspection by HStJ, other items be removed
- That the Clerk access the Lease for consideration

10 Open Spaces Reports

10.1 Reports

RS will forward his report. RS also reported that the contact number on the board at the children's playground needs to be updated. GF/Clerk to action

10.2 ROSPA report

RS reported no high risk items in the report.

10.3 Tree survey report

HStJ to review and report back

10.4 Resident complaint re Tree on the Adventure Playground



The Clerk reported that she had received a quotation for either pruning or felling the tree that is taking light away from numbers 6 and 7 Ladywell Close. It was agreed that, for safety reasons, the tree should be felled at a cost of £275

11 Cemetery/ Churchyard Reports

11.1 Repairs to dry stone wall: three sections

The Clerk reported that she had received two further quotes for the work and it was agreed to ask Ron Dix to undertake the work at a cost of £850 to be commenced before the end of the year.

12 The future of North Leigh Public Library (item brought forward)

The Clerk confirmed that if the PC resolved to contribute toward staffing costs for the Library, this would have no impact in respect of employment contracts which would continue to be held by OCC. Following discussion concerning the legal position of the PC making a contribution toward staff costs under Section 137, Keith Butler at WODC and OALC have confirmed that this would be appropriate.

HStJ outlined the proposals to be considered by the OCC Overview and Scrutiny Committee which include partial provision for Community Libraries which includes North Leigh. The proposed provision, if accepted, will require 50% of library staff time to be met by volunteers, by financial contribution or the Library would be open for only half the time. This will be a transitional arrangement over 3 years from April 2012. Members agreed to consider financial support in the budget setting process.

13 Finance

13.1 Accounts for Payment

It was resolved that the items set out in the attached list be paid.

13.2 Finance Report: Bank statements were circulated and a report of spend against budget cost centres, previously circulated.

13.3 Budget Setting 2012/13

Members discussed spend against cost centres in 2011, projected expenditure to March 2012 and commitments for the forthcoming financial year and confirmed the budget for 2012/13 as £34,310.

The breakdown by cost centre is:

	£
Open spaces	6300
Play areas	1000
Cemetery and Churchyard	5500
General administration	8850
S 137 payments	350
PWLB	11,100
Youth Centre	1100
West Oxon, CAB	110

It was proposed by BN and seconded by DG that:

- The Council set a precept of £30,000 for 2012/13 with the additional spend of £4310 being taken from balances, and
- That the level of balances would enable the Council to consider financial assistance to the village library if this becomes necessary.

This was unanimously agreed by the full Council.

14 Traffic & Roads Reports and other Highways Matters

14.1 Signing of New Yatt Road.

It was resolved that H.StJ would meet with Mrs Taylor to discuss these issues and report back to the next meeting. **Outstanding**

15 Water Conservation Project

GF updated members on progress and, following discussion it was agreed that the project will be



based on the Thames Water DMA. GF will continue to develop the project with David Grantham and report back.

16 Local Development Framework

BN reported that the Core Strategy will be considered by the WODC Cabinet in February and then by a special meeting of the full Council. He confirmed that a decision is likely to be made before 21 March. H.StJ emphasised the need for continued vigilance re the progress of the North Witney proposals for development which might have a significant traffic impact on the area

17 Localism Act and the Draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

BN confirmed that WODC Officers are preparing summary guidance notes on this new legislation which he will make available to Members in due course.

18 Emergency Plan/OCC Snow Guidance for Oxfordshire

Following discussion, it was agreed that further work needs to be undertaken by the working group before a final village plan can be confirmed.

19 Flooding: Mr Cropper, The Willows, East End

Members noted the response from WODC. BN agreed to look into the matter further.

20 North Leigh Windmill and land adjoining

Members emphasised their concern to protect the open spaces and listed buildings in the village and confirmed their intention to reserve any judgement on this matter until a formal planning application is submitted. In the meantime, HStJ will write to Mr Lilly.

21 Consultation None

22 Correspondence

A letter requesting a donation from Volunteer Link-Up was received. Members agreed a donation of £50.

23 Any Other Business (For Mention Only)

RL reported that the grit bins at the top and bottom of White Hill, East End had still not been filled by the CC Highways Department. The Clerk was asked to chase up.

**24 Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 12 January 2012 at 7 pm.
The meeting closed at 10.05 pm.**

Accounts for payment: Parish Council meeting 8 December 2011

Cheque no	Description	Supplier	Net	Vat	IPT	Admin Fee	Total
102077	Grass cuts	NPJ Green	129.00				129.00
102078	2 Cradle seats	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd.	286.00	57.20			343.20
102079	Room hire	NL PCC	20.00				20.00
102080	AP cleaning	WODC	141.73	28.35			170.08
102081	Grass cuts/ spraying	WODC	700.27	140.05			840.32
SO	Clerk's Salary December	Lynda Scott	316.80	-			316.80
102082	AP grass cuts	MV Firmin	293.30	58.66			351.96
102083	Computer services	L Scott	70.00				70.00
102084	PAYE Clerk	HMRC	237.60				237.60



102085

Tree Survey

WODC

580.00

116.00

696.00

Chairman

H. Sefton

Date

12th January 2012