

**MINUTES of the meeting of North Leigh Parish Council held in the Turner Hall on Thursday
12 May 2011 at 7 pm.**

Present: Cllrs. St John (in the Chair), Crew, Gough, Norton, Langley, Frost and Soper

In attendance: Lynda Scott, Clerk to the Council

1 Apologies for absence: Cllr. Fletcher

2 Declarations of interest:

Cllr Soper declared a personal and prejudicial interest in planning application 0621/11
Lollipops – East End

3 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

There being no other nominations, Cllr.St. John and Cllr.Langley were elected Chairman
and Vice-Chairman respectively.

4 MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14 April 2011, previously circulated,
be taken as read and approved as a true and correct record.

5 MATTERS ARISING None

6 PUBLIC SESSION

One member of the public attended to express objection to a planning application.

7 THAMES VALLEY POLICE REPORT

Cllr Norton reported a complaint from Mr Tim Bush concerning the continuing anti social
behaviour of joy riders in and around the Turner Hall car park. Following discussion of
various deterrents, it was agreed that the Chairman would follow the matter up with the
Police and would discuss possible solutions with the PCC.

Other reports included: continuing vandalism at the Memorial Hall; Fly tipping in the lay-by
prior to the right turn to East End; youths setting a fire in a waste bin in the Children's play
area.

8 PLANNING DECISIONS

The Clerk reported that planning permission had been granted to the erection of a
conservatory and garage at 1 Hazeldene Close.

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Planning Applications

(i) **Lollipops:** a part retrospective application for the conversion of an existing
garage and annexe above into holiday accommodation; erection of a two
storey side extension

Following lengthy discussion and consideration of the plans, it was resolved
that the Clerk write to WODC objecting to the application on the following
grounds:

- That the wrong neighbours have been notified
- That the garage has been steadily converted since the original planning
permission in 1999
- That there is no need to extend the building
- That there is no need for a sub division of the site



It was further resolved that:

- The Chairman will meet with Mr Phil Shaw, Head of Lowland Planning to discuss the detail of the Parish Council concerns.
 - The Clerk strongly request that this planning application be put before Members for decision rather than being dealt with under delegated powers.
- (ii) **Field View. New Yatt.** alterations and erection of garage extension; raise roof to create first floor accommodation with front and rear dormers. No objections but the Clerk write commenting that, given its prominent elevated position, the scale and setting of the site should be developed sympathetically within its countryside surroundings, and that the east facing dormer be glazed with obscure glass.

9.2 Working Group Report

The Clerk reported that the group had dealt with an application relating to Chilburn, The Green, East End for the erection of first floor and single storey extensions. No objections.

10 FINANCE

10.1 Accounts for Payment

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

10.2 Finance Report

Bank statements and reconciliation reports were unavailable for April, pending the resolution of a bank mandate for the new Clerk.

The HSBC bank mandate was completed by all signatories and the resolutions contained in section 5 of the mandate approved and signed by Cllrs St John and Soper..

10.3 Insurance

Cllr Soper agreed to review the Insurance renewal documentation prior to payment.

10.4 Internal audit review and risk assessment

Following review, it was agreed that the Parish Council's audit and risk assessment processes were fit for purpose and in accordance with financial regulations.

11 OPEN SPACES REPORTS and RENEWAL OF PLAY AREA LEASE

11.1 Tree Survey

The Clerk reported that she had submitted the following trees for survey. WODC will provide a quotation.

- Trees in the Children's Playground
- Trees in the Adventure playground area
- Hedges/trees at Windmill heights open space
- Trees on the A4095 from the pump house to Park Road junction

11.2 Closure of Footpath: from Chapel Lane to the allotments

The Clerk advised that she had reported the need for the temporary closure of the footpath whilst remedial work was carried out. Clerk to progress with the Field Officer at the Rights of Way office.

11.3 Children's Play area: safety issue

The Clerk reported that Thames Water had agreed to inspect the site and would consider the use of 'anti-climb' paint on the Pump House.



11.4 Reports

Cllr Soper gave a verbal report and both he and Cllr St. John agreed to forward written reports to the Clerk

12 TRAFFIC & ROADS REPORTS AND OTHER HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Cllr. Norton reported a complaint from a resident concerning the footway on Park Road between Evenlode Close and the Post Office. The complaint concerned the safety issues caused by the poor and uneven surface of the footpath, further exacerbated by the number of cars regularly parked on the pavement.

Cllr Norton said that he had raised the matter with County Highways who have visited the location and have agreed to raise the kerb and carry out other minor repairs to the pavement; the work will be carried out July / August time

Parking on the pavement: OCC have advised that if vehicles cause an obstruction to pedestrians, the Police are able to take action as it is an offence. It was agreed that Cllr St John will raise the matter with the Village Hall Management Committee and request that they tell clients not to park on the pavement (Saturday's Ballet class to be cited as a bad offender); he will also ask that notices be posted in the Hall to that effect.

Cllr St John will raise the matter with the Police through the Neighbourhood Action Group, asking for tougher action to deal with the problem.

13 CEMETERY/ CHURCHYARD REPORTS

Cllr St John agreed to contact a contractor concerning the need to clean the cemetery/Turner Hall car parks. It was previously noted that the PCC was looking for a contractor to deal with the work and was willing to share the cost with the Parish Council – resolved to accept this arrangement but separate invoices to be sent to each party.

Cllr St John reported that he had received a quotation from Mr Kerpache for repainting the main gates to the churchyard and the cemetery. It was resolved to accept the fixed quotation of £185. Clerk to action.

14 POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF NORTH LEIGH PUBLIC LIBRARY No correspondence

15 LOCALISM BILL

Cllr St John raised Members' awareness of this new legislation and its potential impact on Parish Councils once it becomes an Act of Parliament. He requested that the item be retained on the agenda pending further information

16 WATER CONSERVATION

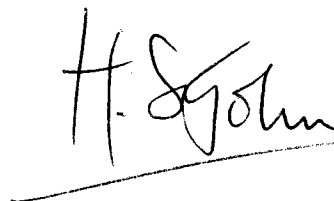
The Clerk reported that there were national initiatives being led by Thames Water and that their web site contained much information about how people can get involved. It was agreed that the Clerk should invite Thames Water to address the Parish Council on opportunities for involvement and that members of the Challenge North Leigh team be invited to attend..

17 FASTER BROADBAND

The Clerk updated Members on information she had researched regarding an OCC led initiative to improve broadband speeds across the county. It was agreed that she send a briefing on this to all Members.

18 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING VENUE

Members discussed and considered the pros and cons of changing their meeting venue to



H. St John

the Memorial Hall. It was agreed that absent Members' views should be sought before a final decision was reached and, in the meantime, Cllr St John would discuss the possibility of negotiating a lower rent for the Turner Hall with DC.

19 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SCHEMES – SHARE A TAXI

The Chairman asked that this item be deferred to the next Council meeting.

20 CONSULTATION

Proposal for the transfer of properties in Wilcote to the Parish of Ramsden The Clerk reported that she had sent a short letter of objection to WODC expressing Members' strong opposition to this proposal.

21 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Letter received from WODC asking how it could support the Parish Council in self help initiatives in dealing with severe winter weather. Members asked that the Clerk write to WODC asking that they co-ordinate a list of farmers who have the necessary equipment and are willing to assist with snow ploughing.

(ii) A quotation from Mr R Allsworth for work in connection with the Park Road play area. Clerk to clarify and progress.

22 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (For mention only)

Clerk's Contract

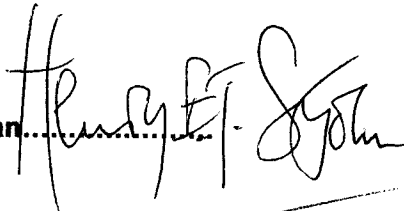
Passed to Cllr Langley for consideration and signature

Printing of meeting papers

As a cost saving measure, Members confirmed their agreement to printing off their own papers for future meetings.

23 DATE and TIME OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 9 June 2011 at 7 pm.
The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

Chairman.....



Date

9th June.....2011