

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

**Present:** Harry St John (in the Chair), Crew, Gough, Norton, and Soper

**In attendance:** Lynda Scott, Clerk to the Council

**1 Apologies for absence:** S. Cusick, C Frost and R. Langley

**2 Declarations of interest:**

John Crew declared an interest in agenda item 12.1, the signing of New Yatt Road.

**3 Minutes**

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

**4 Matters Arising None**

**5 Public Session**

No one attended.

**6 Thames Valley Police Report**

H St J reported that he had attended a NAG meeting on 7 September and expressed concern that there had been no police officers in attendance for the second time in the last 9 months. He reported that the meeting had focussed on incidents in other areas and that there was nothing to report for North Leigh.

Richard Soper, referring to the local meeting with the police arranged by Mike Alexander held on 6 July, requested that all such future meetings be advertised to residents.

**7 Planning Decisions**

The Clerk reported the following decisions:

- Land adj. Croft Bungalow, New Yatt Rd: Refused
- 47 Perrott Close: Conservatory now permitted.
- The Chalet, New Yatt Rd: Withdrawn
- Heath Farm House: Granted
- Bridge Field Barn, East End: Granted
- Bridewell Farm, East End: Granted

**8 Planning Applications & Correspondence**

**8.1 The Chalet, New Yatt Road: revised application**

It was resolved that the Clerk writes to WODC making the following comments and requesting that the planning officer inspects the site and meets with the neighbours whose amenities could be seriously impaired:

- Planners should verify title plans as there seems to be a difference of opinion and the applicant's plan appears to be incorrect. Boundaries shown on the plans are misleading
- Parking arrangements and access. Planners should be certain to ensure that legal parking is secured for both Marmaduke Cottage and the new property and that this does not have any adverse impact on neighbours
- We query the size and scale of the proposals Impact upon the neighbours whose amenities could be seriously impaired.
- There is an electric supply pole in the north corner of the plot from which a cable runs across to the property called Arden and others. It goes straight over the current



bungalow which has a sloping /flat roof. The proposed property is two storey and therefore, the cable will need to be moved

It was also agreed that the Clerk request WODC to include the following in their letters to neighbours:

'If you have any comments to make about this planning application, you might wish to copy your response to your local Parish Council who will also be invited to comment on this application.'

## **8.2 Working Group Report; considered the following applications:**

Bridge Field Barn, East End: single storey ext.: No comment  
1 Park Road, Change of roof covering: No comment  
Bridewell Farm House; Removal of porch etc.: No comment  
5 Cuckamus Lane: single storey exts. No Comment  
Lollipops: Retrospective application re detached garage:  
PC submitted comments re retrospective nature of the application etc. See letter on file

## **9 Water Conservation: presentation by Simon Staring from Thames Water**

Simon Staring, a Ground Water Analyst for Thames Water, addressed Council and three residents who attended to hear the presentation. Simon gave examples of ways in which water conservation could be achieved and advised members of the products available on Thames Water's web site.

He assured members that Thames Water was doing everything possible to maintain and replace mains pipes to reduce leakage into the ground but that it was offering no financial incentives for water conservation initiatives at present. He agreed to find out more and advise the Clerk.

## **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 were circulated and a summary report given by the Clerk.

### **10.3 Risk Assessment Schedule**

It was agreed that Richard Soper would review and amend the schedule before the October meeting.

## **11 Open Spaces Reports and Renewal of Play Area Lease**

### **11.1 Reports**

RS reported that the rubber mat on the swing slide was missing; the rubber sleeving on the children's swings had come off exposing the metal bars, and, the rubber mats throughout the playground need re pointing. Clerk to find out who has done the repairs in the past.

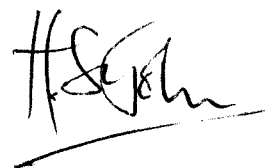
**Adventure playground:** following discussion of the cost benefit of the adventure playground it was agreed that its future be discussed with residents through the Nor 'Lye news and possibly at next year's APM. Harry agreed to write a letter for the Nor 'Lye News and asked that the item be put on the agenda for the next meeting

## **12 Traffic & Roads Reports and other Highways Matters**

### **(i) Signing of New Yatt Road.**

JC left the room for discussion of this item.

Members discussed the issue of the appropriateness of one or two signs for New



Yatt Road and considered WODC's recommendations and the letter of concerns received from Ms Fran Taylor. It was agreed that two signs were required and that Harry would meet with Ms Taylor to discuss her concerns and report back to the next meeting.

(ii) **Potholes in Leigh Close**

DG confirmed that these had now been repaired.

(iii) **Church Road**

The Clerk confirmed that OCC had agreed to prune back the vegetation growing over the narrow part of Church Road causing poor visibility.

**13 Cemetery/ Churchyard Reports**

**Felling of tree in Churchyard**

H St J reported that a tree in the Churchyard had been strangled by ivy and needs removing. Quotation for work is £275 +VAT. H StJ to speak with the contractor.

Outstanding

**14 Future of North Leigh Public Library**

Members discussed this ongoing issue and agreed that Harry would ask the Friends of North Leigh Library to think about a team of volunteers who would help to staff the Library in the future.

**15 Localism Bill: Awaiting Further Information**

**16 Review of Electoral Arrangements: Boundaries Commission**

Harry reported that under the proposed County division changes, North Leigh would be in the Hanborough and Minster Lovell division together with Freeland and Hanborough, Hailey, Minster Lovell and Leafield.

**17 OCC Snow Guidance for Oxfordshire**

The guidance was discussed and it was agreed that Harry would speak to Messrs. Hobley concerning local farmer support. It was also agreed that arrangements for severe winter weather measures might be best made in the context of a village emergency plan. The Clerk agreed to provide details of the plan in place for Clanfield PC. Item to be included on the agenda for the October meeting.

**18 Parish Council vacancy**

Harry agreed to speak to someone who might be interested and report back to the next meeting.

**19 Community Transport Schemes – Share A Taxi**

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

**20 Use of Youth Centre for PC meetings**

Harry reported that due to the cancellation of a regular booking, the Youth centre could accommodate Parish Council meetings from October. Harry agreed to speak with Miri Keen to confirm that the availability would be for an indefinite period and report back to the next meeting.

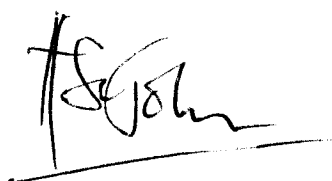
**21 Consultation**

**Proposal for the transfer of properties in Wilcote to the Parish of Ramsden**

A decision to be made by WODC on 29 September.

**22 Correspondence**

(i) Oxfordshire Association for the Blind request for a grant. It was resolved to make a grant



of £50.

(ii) OCC review of Octabus Dial a Ride Service questionnaire: the Clerk to complete the questionnaire in liaison with Ms Brenda Timms

(iii) A letter from Patrick Power thanking members for their gift to him in recognition of his years of service as Parish Clerk.

**23 Any Other Business (For Mention Only)**

There was no other business.

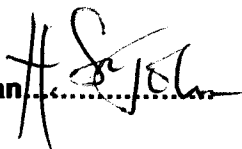
**24 Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 13 October 2011 At 7 pm.**

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

**Accounts for payment: Parish Council meeting 8 September 2011**

Cheque no	Description	Supplier	Net	Vat	IPT	Admin Fee	Total
102050	Spraying and mowing adv. Playground July	MV Firmin	293.30	58.66			351.96
102051	Mowing may and June	NPJ Green	172.00				172.00
102052	Grass cutting and hedge maintenance June	WODC	861.84	172.37			1034.21
102053	Adv. Playground cleaning August	WODC	141.73	28.35			170.08
102054	Turner Hall rental	North Leigh PCC	20.00				20.00
102055	Provision of Computer services	Lynda Scott	70.00				70.00
102056	PAYE Clerk's salary	HMRC/Post Office Ltd.	237.60				237.60
102057	Internal audit fee	Burrows and Edwards Ltd	150.00	30.00			180.00
102058	Grass cutting July	WODC	574.56	114.91			689.47
DD	Loan payment 30/09/11	PWLB	5698.56				5698.56
SO	Clerk's Salary August	Lynda Scott	316.80				316.80
SO	Clerk's Salary Sept	Lynda Scott	316.80				316.80

Chairman



Date 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011