

MINUTES of the meeting of North Leigh Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall Youth Centre on Thursday 8 March 2012 at 7 pm.

Present: Harry St John (in the Chair), J Crew, R Langley, C.Frost, G.Feasey, R.Soper and D Gough

In attendance: Lynda Scott, Clerk to the Council and Di Addison from Thames Water

1 Apologies for absence: B. Norton and S. Cusick

2 Declarations of interest:

Geoff Feasey expressed a prejudicial interest in item 4 (vi) – Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

3 Minutes

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 9 February, previously circulated, be taken as read and approved as a true and correct record.

It was agreed that item 5, Water Conservation, Thames Water briefing, be brought forward and taken before other business under public session

4 Public Session: Water Conservation Project: Di Addison, Thames Water

GF updated members on progress to date and confirmed that David Grantham (Thames Water) had recently briefed a prospective project team who could assist David and Di in the development of Thames Water's project. He confirmed that he would continue to be the link between the project team and the Parish Council but would not be leading the team. It was agreed that:

- GF continue to report progress back to the Parish Council
- The Project Team should develop and implement the North Leigh contributions to the project
- The PC would consider whether an official 'project launch' is appropriate and if so suggest ideas and a date in consultation with the project team and TW.

Di Addison outlined the project from the Thames Water perspective and confirmed that TW would be working in partnership with British Gas working alongside the project team in the village. She explained that providing the project with an 'energy conservation' focus would have more impact than water conservation alone and bring some additional benefits ie free loft insulation, cavity wall insulation and discounts on boiler/accessories installations etc. She also confirmed that based on the local sales of new boilers etc, a ring fenced fund would be established for sustainable community investments. TW and BG will, by arrangement, be on hand in the village to provide advice and guidance. Members discussed the project and offered the full support of the PC.

5 Matters Arising

(i) Adventure playground

- The two metal posts alongside the football goal have been damaged by vandalism and have protruding sharp edges. The Clerk was asked to arrange for contactors to remove the two posts.
- The future of the Adventure playground to be determined at the next meeting together with arrangements for removal of equipment.

(ii) LDF

HStJ reported that WODC had recently announced a delay in finalising the draft core strategy of the LDF which will now be determined in May/June.

(iii) Localism Act

No further information.

(iv) NL Windmill, Windmill House and land adjoining

Members emphasised their concern to protect the open spaces and listed buildings in the village and confirmed their intention to await the submission of plans before commenting further. No further update. It was agreed that this item should include Windmill House and be a standing item on future agenda. HStJ confirmed that WODC have undertaken site inspections/made initial assessments. They have also written to the owners to gain access to the internal areas and will keep the PC informed on progress.

(v) The future of North Leigh Library

No further update.

(vi) Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

HStJ confirmed that a team of volunteers were arranging events and outlined the planned activities which would focus upon a tea party for children on Cuckamus Green, stalls, Hog roast and a 1950s fancy dress. Both pubs will be involved. Members agreed to the use of Cuckamus Green at no charge and RS agreed to arrange for the necessary road closures.

(vii) Broadband Upgrading

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk write to OCC to seek an update on progress.

(viii) PC Elections

The Clerk confirmed that the notices of election were on display in the village and distributed nomination forms to members.

6 Valley Police Report

No issues specific to North Leigh to report.

7 Planning Decisions

Application for the erection of three dwellings on the site of Croft Bungalow, New Yatt Road; The Planning Inspectorate supported WODC's refusal to allow the application.

8 Planning Applications & Correspondence:

None received

8.1 Working Group Report;

None considered since the last meeting;

9 Finance

9.1 Bank Statements and reconciliations were circulated.

9.2 **Accounts for Payment** It was resolved that the following items be paid.

Cheque no	Description	Supplier	Net	Vat	IPT	Admin Fee	Total
102095	Room hire Jan	NL Mem. Hall	7.00				7.00
102096	Room Hire Feb	NL PCC	20.00				20.00
102097	AON medical letter	G. Feasey	15.60				15.60
102098	PAYE L. Scott	HMRC	237.60				237.60
102099	Computer services	L. Scott	70.00				70.00
102100	Annual subscription	OALC	310.30	62.06			372.36
102101	Telephone services	L. Scott	38.00				38.00
102102	Post	L.Scott	11.71				11.71
102103	AP cleaning	WODC	141.73	28.35			170.08
102104	Licence	Scribe 2000	195.00	39.00			234.00
SO	Clerk's Salary March	Lynda Scott	316.80	—			316.80

10 Open Spaces Reports

10.1 Reports

Children's Playground RS reported that the ramp flooring is need of repair. Clerk to action GF confirmed that the Clerk's telephone number had been amended on the Children's playground sign by Martin Goodyear, at no cost. HStJ agreed to write to Mr Goodyear to extend the PC's sincere thanks.

10.2 Tree survey:

It was agreed to defer a decision on the tree survey until the future of the Adventure Playground has been determined.

11 Cemetery/ Churchyard Reports

RS reported that a number of the graves on the right hand side of the Cemetery were sinking and the Clerk was asked to advise the owners.

12 Traffic & Roads Reports and other Highways Matters

'The pinch' – traffic calming measures

JC expressed concern at the speeding of vehicles through the Pinch. The Clerk was asked to explore the possibility of funding for traffic calming measures with OCC.

Proposed Bus Stop on Park Road

HStJ outlined a proposal from OCC to erect a bus shelter outside the Garden Centre in Park Road. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should consult Anne Sweetmore on the proposal and ask that she seek feedback from residents through the Nor 'Lye News.

Oak Tree Terrace

The Clerk reported that a street sign had been ordered.

13 PC Meetings start/finish times

It was resolved to change the start time of future PC meetings to 7.30pm to help in attracting working residents to stand for election as Parish Councillors. It was also agreed that every effort should be made to finish meetings by 9.30pm.

14 Consultation

The Clerk confirmed that she had submitted members' comments on the Rail Strategy for Oxfordshire, previously circulated.

15 Correspondence

A Letter from Bradley Hatwell seeking permission to use Cuckamus Green for the Village feast from 19 to 21 August. Agreed.

16 Any Other Business (For Mention Only)

The date of the Annual Parish meeting was changed to 26 April.

DG reported that the footpath outside 30A and 30B Common Road is in need of repair. Clerk to action.

The Clerk was asked to write to CC Louise Chapman to request her attendance at the next meeting.

Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 12 April 2012 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Chairman Date