

**MINUTES of the meeting of North Leigh Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall Youth Centre on Thursday 11 April 2013 at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** R. Soper (in the Chair), R. Langley, B. Norton, D Gough, I. Hogg, S Cusick and G. Matthews

**In attendance:** Lynda Scott, Clerk to the Council; Mr Cliff Hathaway, resident and Matthew Hare representing Gigaclear

**1 Apologies for absence:** C. Frost and H. St John

**2 Declarations of interest:**

BN expressed an interest in the item under AOB concerning correspondence between the Memorial Hall and the Primary School.

**3 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14 March 2013 be approved as a true and correct record.

**4 Faster Rural Broadband: presentation from Matthew Hare from Gigaclear**

Mr Hare gave an overview of the ultrafast optic fibre networks provided by Gigaclear providing details and examples of services provided in other rural communities in Oxfordshire. He talked about the advantages of fibre networks to local residents and businesses and explained the costs and processes involved in establishing a similar network in North Leigh. In particular, he confirmed that it would be necessary for 30% of residents/businesses to sign up to the network prior a network being created.

Members discussed the issues and details of the service with Mr Hare and it was agreed that the Council would take steps to elicit interest and to establish a working group of interested residents in the village to work with Gigaclear to progress matters.

**5 Public Session: Village web sites**

The chairman thanked Mike Gosford and Phil Skeldon for attending to discuss the issue of the two new village websites which he considered to be a duplication of effort and potentially confusing to residents. He confirmed that the Parish Council's intention in setting up a website was to improve communication, provide information to residents and to create greater interaction between the PC and residents which could not be achieved through the limited space allocated to PC matters in the Nor 'Lye News.

Phil Skeldon expressed concern that the new PC website content was based on contribution and not on proactive chasing of information/comment and Mike Gosford explained the space limitation in the Nor 'Lye News.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Greg Matthews would meet with Mike Gosford and Phil Skeldon to discuss the possibilities of merging the two websites.

**6 Matters Arising**

**(i) Open space designation**

HStJ proposed that the Council take action to designate the land by the Windmill as open space under the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework. The Clerk reported that WODC have advised that this issue would more appropriate for consideration as part of a local Neighbourhood Plan and not the more strategic Local Plan.

**(ii) North Leigh Windmill and land adjoining**

No new information

**(iii) The future of North Leigh Library:**

No further information

**(iv) Broadband Upgrading**

See Minute 4 above.

**(v) Emergency plan**

On going

**(vi) NL Website**

See Minute 5 above.

**(vii) ROSPA actions**

IH tabled a schedule of work arising from the recent ROSPA inspection and reported that he is awaiting a quotation for the work from R. Allsworth. It was agreed to consider the quotation at the next meeting. **Outstanding**

**(viii) Bus Shelter: Cuckamus Green**

Deferred to the next meeting.

**(ix) No 11 Bus route**

Awaiting a response from Stagecoach

**(x) Village entrance signs**

Deferred to the next meeting

**7 Thames Valley Police Report**

Previously circulated: no issues for North Leigh.

**8 Planning Decisions:**

Erection of a two storey front extension at 6A Common Road: Granted

**9 Planning Applications & Correspondence:**

Erection of detached garage with store room over at Northside, New Yatt Road: PC objections submitted.

Construction of a detached dwelling at 75 Park Road: PC objections submitted

Insertion of new roof lights and window to rear elevation at The Old School House, Church Road: no comments

Erection of a single storey rear extension at 91 Park Road. Comments submitted

Conversion of first floor and bay of ground floor garage to self-contained accommodation: No comments.

**10 Finance**

**10.1** The following accounts were approved for payment:

<b>Cheque no</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Vat</b>	<b>IPT</b>	<b>Admin Fee</b>	<b>Total</b>
102183	AP Cleaning March	WODC		19.98			119.90
			99.92				
102182	Windmill Heights/Cuckamus green maintenance	David Green	491.00				491.00
102184	Subscription	ORCC	65.00				65.00
102185	PAYE	HMRC					88.10
			88.10				
102186	Room hire April	PCC Youth Work	20.00				20.00
102187	Photocopying/postage	Lynda Scott	28.85				28.85
102188	Clerk's salary April SO cancelled for April	Lynda Scott	352.40				352.40

**10.2 Draft Annual Return and Statement of Accounts: Noted**

**11 Open Spaces**  
**11.1 Reports:**  
None received.

**12 Cemetery/ Churchyard Reports**

**12.1 Unsafe Headstones: Churchyard**

A site meeting with the PCC has been arranged for 28 April at 11.30am.

**13 Traffic & Roads Reports and other Highways Matters**

**13.1 VAS signs for the village**

Members discussed OCC's revised proposal for the location of the two VAS signs on Park Road. The Clerk was asked to set up a site meeting.

**14 Consultation:** none

**15 Correspondence**

A letter from the NL Youth Project thanking the PC for the grant of £1100.

**16 Any Other Business**

**Use of the Primary school car park for Memorial Hall functions.** BN expressed an interest in this item and left the room.

The Chairman read correspondence from Mike Alexander and the Chairman of Governors at the Primary School concerning a request from the Memorial Hall Committee to use the primary school car park for MH functions at a reduced tariff. School Governors are not supportive of the request and MA is seeking PC support of his position.

Following discussion of the issues, members resolved that the matter was for agreement between the two parties concerned and it was inappropriate for the PC to take a position on the matter.

**Queen's Diamond Jubilee Booklet for all residents**

Heather McCulloch has been organising a QDJ booklet for delivery to all residents in North Leigh. The Council agreed to give a donation of £100 to support the production of the booklet when QDJ celebration preparations were underway last year. Council confirmed its agreement to the donation.

**Date and time of next meeting:** Thursday 9 May 2013 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Chairman ..... Date .....