

**MINUTES of the meeting of North Leigh Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall Youth Centre on Thursday 14 February at 7.30 pm.**

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

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

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

**2 Declarations of interest: None**

**3 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10 January 2013 be approved as a true and correct record.

**4 Matters Arising**

**(i) NDP**

To be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting

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

No new information

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

RS reported correspondence received from Judith Wardle and other residents expressing concern regarding the future of the library and, following lengthy discussion, it was **RESOLVED**

- That RS, BN and DG meet with CC Chapman, the responsible OCC Cabinet member and the Head of Libraries to discuss options for 2015 when the County Council will continue to fund only five and a half hours per week at North Leigh library.
- That, following the meeting with CC Chapman, a community meeting will be arranged to present the various options.
- That the Parish Council will support the library where that is legally and financially possible.

RS reported that he had been invited by Richard Stevens to attend a local meeting concerning the library and Council agreed that he should attend as an observer only.

The Clerk reported that OCC will be installing a self-service facility at the library on 26 March 2013.

**(iv) Broadband Upgrading**

No further information. It was agreed that GM invite the service providers to attend Council to present details of the available options for faster broadband in North Leigh.

**(v) Emergency plan**

On going

**(vi) Notice Boards: refurbishment**

Mr Kerpache has the work in hand. The Clerk confirmed that CC Chapman had approved £200 from the Big Society Fund to pay for the work.

**(vii) NL Website**

GM reported that the structure of the web site was complete but content and photographs are required. Members agreed to submit personal photographs and biographies to GM for inclusion and the Clerk will provide some outline information and statistics about the village from ORCC.

**(viii) 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.

Following a discussion of the format of monthly inspection reports to Council from IH, and the requirements of the Council's insurers, the Clerk was asked to seek advice on an appropriate format from ROSPA/OALC.

**6 Thames Valley Police Report**

None received..

**7 Planning Decisions:**

The following application was granted:

41 Park Road: Erection of rear extension and loft conversion

**8 Planning Applications & Correspondence:**

Erection of a workshop building with self-contained living accommodation above: Gorselands Hall

The working group requested that WODC impose a condition that the combined dwelling remains as one and not sub divided.

**9 Finance**

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

Cheque no	Description	Supplier	Net	Vat	IP T	Admin Fee	Total
102167	Adventure playground cleaning January	WODC	99.92	19.98			119.90
102166	Cemetery/churchyard grass cutting August	WODC	574.56	114.91			689.47
102168	Cemetery/churchyard grass cutting September	WODC	574.56	114.91			689.47
102169	Cemetery grass cutting July 2012	WODC	574.56	114.91			689.47
102170	Fence repair children's play area	R.Allsworth	50.00				50.00
	Postage	L.Scott	19.10				19.10
SO	Clerk's salary Feb	Lynda Scott	358.60				358.60

**9.2 Spend against budget:** report approved

**9.3 Review of Clerk's salary:** It was resolved not to increase the Clerk's salary.

**9.4 Youth Club Grant**

Following discussion of the Youth Club's accounts, it was resolved to pay a grant of £1100 to the Youth Club on receipt of a written request. Awaiting request.

- 10 Open Spaces**  
**10.1 Reports:**  
Report received from IH.  
**10.2 ROSPA**  
IH to liaise with Clerk to seek quotations for urgent work. In hand.
- 11 Cemetery/ Churchyard Reports**  
**11.1 New cemetery Layout**  
CC Chapman has approved £800 from the Big Society Fund towards the cost of this work..
- 11.2 Unsafe Headstones: Churchyard**  
The Clerk reported that she had received a negative response to her request for a financial contribution from the PCC. The PCC suggest that the headstones that are unsafe, be laid down.
- 12 Traffic & Roads Reports and other Highways Matters**  
**12.1 Occupation Lane**  
GM reported a request from Hailey PC for support in its efforts to open Occupation Lane as a right of way. The Clerk to Hailey PC will provide more information. No information to date. It was noted with concern that a gate had been placed across the lane. HSt J confirmed that, having checked the definitive map, there is no public right of way along that track.
- 12.2 VAS signs for the village**  
CC Chapman agreed to pursue the installation of two VAS signs and seek funding from the Area Stewardship fund. No information to date.
- 12.3 Blocked Drains outside the entrance to the New Yatt Business Centre**  
Clerk to report.
- 12.4 Potholes between Common Road and Windmill Close**  
Clerk to report
- 12.5 Snow clearing/gritting icy roads in the village**  
RS reported that OALC had advised that, 'with regards to snow clearing, the general situation seems to be that if a person or organisation starts the process, then they must see it to completion.' OALC will be clarifying where OCC stands on this specific issue given its new arrangements for Parish Councils to organise the clearing of snow on all but A roads.
- RS expressed concern about the issue of responsibility/insurance/liability should Parish Councillors be actively involved with spreading grit on the roads in the village and, following discussion, it was agreed that the use of bins for residents to 'help themselves' would be a better option. It was resolved to discuss the matter further at the next meeting.
- 13 Consultation:** none
- 14 Correspondence**  
The Clerk reported two letters of thanks received from CAB and Volunteer Link- up in respect of the PC donations to these organisations..
- 15 Any Other Business**  
RS reported a request from Mrs Scammell for use of Cuckamus Green for Sunday School events during the summer. Members agreed to the request in principle but asked that the Clerk advise Mrs Scammell that she would need to submit dates in advance for approval to ensure no clashes with other users..

**Date and time of next meeting:** Thursday 14 March 2013 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....