

MINUTES of the meeting of North Leigh Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall Youth Centre on Thursday 14 March 2013 at 7.30 pm.

Present: R. Soper (in the Chair), R. Langley, B. Norton, D Gough, H.St John, C.Frost, I. Hogg and G.Matthews

In attendance: Lynda Scott, Clerk to the Council. Mr Tino Ferraz, M. Newton, S. Goodman, P.Walls and J.Wardle

1 Apologies for absence: S.Cusick

2 Declarations of interest: None

3 Minutes

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

4 Public Session

Maggie Newton, Cottsway Community Network manager gave an overview of the community grant scheme available for services and activities that support communities and, in particular, Cottsway residents.

Ms Newton also expressed concern on behalf of residents at Shakenoaks who had experienced great difficulty during recent spells of snow and ice and offered to make arrangements for the storage of a salt/grit bin at the back of Shakenoaks. Members discussed the offer and it was resolved to consider the matter further in the context of the developing Emergency Plan.

Ms Newton confirmed that Cottsway planned to hold a Neighbourhood event on the grassed area outside Shakenoaks on 29 May between 6 and 8 pm.

5 Matters Arising

(i) WODC Forum

H.St J reported that the forum had been well attended and well-presented and had included the following topics:

- The Police and Crime Commissioner outlined his five year plan for Thames Valley that will focus on burglary at private dwellings, protection of vulnerable people and preventing rural crime.
- WODC officers updated on a range of issues including the Localism Act, NDPs, increasing powers to individuals, powers of competence etc.

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. Following discussion this was agreed and the Clerk asked to write to WODC.

(ii) North Leigh Windmill and land adjoining

No new information

(iii) The future of North Leigh Library: Meeting with OCC

RS reported the outcomes of a positive meeting with CC Louise Chapman and the Head of Library Services at OCC to discuss options for 2015 when the County Council will continue to fund only eleven hours per week at North Leigh library.

Proposal by RS: That from April 2015, North Leigh Library will continue to be operational for 15 hours per week, the additional costs to be shared by the Parish Council and CC Louise Chapman's local budget.

The proposal was seconded by RL and unanimously agreed.

(iv) Broadband Upgrading

GM confirmed that he had arranged for Gigaclear to attend the next PC meeting to present details of the available options for faster broadband in North Leigh.

(v) Emergency plan

On going

(vi) Notice Boards: refurbishment

Work now completed. CC Chapman has contributed £200 towards the cost of this work from her Locality budget.

(vii) NL Website

GM confirmed that the annual cost for hosting the website will be £180.00. The website is almost complete.

Following discussion of the proposed Nor 'Lye News website, it was agreed that the Clerk invite the editors to attend PC for further discussion.

(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.

(ix) Contractors' public liability insurance

In response to the Council's insurer's requirement, the Clerk confirmed that she had received evidence of public liability insurance from all contractors who work for the Council.

6 Thames Valley Police Report

None received.

7 Planning Decisions:

WODC have advised that there is a Secretary of State appeal against its decision to refuse permission for the erection of a replacement dwelling at The Chalet, New Yatt Road.

8 Planning Applications & Correspondence:

The following applications have been considered by the Working Group:

6A Common Road: erection of a two storey front extension: No comment

41 Park Road: Erection of rear extension and loft conversion: concern re facing direction of first floor dormer window

9 Finance

9.1 The following accounts were approved for payment:

Cheque no	Description	Supplier	Net	Vat	Total
102171	AP Cleaning February	WODC	99.92	19.98	119.90
102172	Youth Project grant	NLYC	1100.00		1100.00
102173	Membership renewal	OALC	312.42	62.48	374.90
102174	Membership renewal	OPFA	45.00		45.00
102175	Licence renewal	Scribe	195.00	39.00	234.00
102176	PAYE	HMRC	89.14		89.14
102177	Home allowance	L. Scott	52.00		52.00
102180	Website hosting charge	G Matthews	180.00		180.00
102178	Postage	L. Scott	8.30		8.30
102179	Notice board repairs	A Kerpache	214.00		214.00
102181	Room hire Dec/Jan/Feb	NL PCC Youth work	60.00		60.00
SO	Clerk's salary Mar	Lynda Scott	358.60		358.60

9.2 Spend against budget: report approve

10 Open Spaces

10.1 Reports:

Report received from IH.

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. Funds now received..

11.2 Unsafe Headstones: Churchyard

The Clerk reported that she had received a further response to her request for a financial contribution from the PCC. The PCC are suggesting a site meeting with Parish Council representatives to discuss available options. Clerk to arrange.

12 Traffic & Roads Reports and other Highways Matters

12.1 VAS signs for the village

Members discussed OCC's proposal for the location of the two VAS signs on Park Road. The Clerk was asked to contact OCC to suggest that the signs might be placed further apart to maximise the traffic calming on Park Road.

12.2 Bus Shelter by the Green on Common Road

CF raised a request that a bus shelter be purchased and located by Cuckamus Green on Common Road. The Clerk was asked to obtain costs.

12.3 Number 11 bus timetable

CF raised concern that the 16.35 number 11 bus from Oxford stops at Freeland and does not continue to North Leigh. She reported that residents had asked if anything could be done about this. The Clerk was asked to contact Stagecoach.

13 Consultation: none

14 Correspondence

Members approved a request from Mr Hatwell for the use of Cuckamus Green for the annual village feast from 18 to 20 August 2013.

15 Any Other Business

CF reported that Mr and Mrs Kerpache are concerned that an increasing number of older children are playing football on Cuckamus Green and removing stones from their garden.

CF reminded Council that she wished there to be further consideration of signs at the village entrances

RS reported damage and a gap by the railway bridge at the Roman Villa which enables access to the railway line. Clerk to report as a matter of urgency.

Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 11 April 2013 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Chairman

Date