

Culham Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held in the School on
Monday 6th March 2006 at 7.30pm

Present: Mr R Griffiths
Mr G Bartley
Mr A Steele
Mr J Thomas
Mr T Price

Apologies: 0

Public: 1

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Councillors were given the opportunity to declare an interest in any of the items on the agenda. No declarations were made.

3. MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 6th February 2006

The minutes from the above meetings were amended and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Village Benches – Mr Bartley informed those present, that following a discussion with Mr Greenway, the tarmac needs to be removed and therefore a skip needs to be hired to remove the rubble in order to secure the new benches. The Clerk to confirm to Mr. Greenway that this is acceptable.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Storrs was present to give a verbal update on how the website was going. He asked for ideas on how the website could improve village life and that local walks could be put onto the site. (The Clerk to obtain an up to date map showing footpaths).

A vote of thanks is to be recorded to John Storrs for setting up the website. There was a set up charge of £10 that John requested be donated locally. The members agreed for the donation to go to Culham Poor Allotment Trust.

6. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Councillor – Mr Stimson reported on several issues including advertising

hoarding, the new budget and travel arrangements (mainly bus).

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) BT - removal of public payphone - **Clerk to respond and confirm objections against removal**
- b) SODC - Our Didcot-Our Future - questionnaire - **circulated**
- c) Thames Valley Police - longer opening hours at police stations - **circulated**
- d) OCC & Thames Travel - temporary changes to Thames Travel Service X15 - **circulated**
- e) SODC - Street Trading in South Oxfordshire - **circulated**
- f) OCC - Affordable Housing - **circulated**
- g) OCC - CAG Newsletter - **circulated**
- h) OCC - Oxfordshire Structure Plan 2016 - **circulated**
- i) OCC - Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Development Framework - **circulated**
- j) OCC - Home2School Newsletter - **circulated**
- k) SODC - Parish Digest - March 2006 - **circulated**
- l) CPRE - Fieldwork Publication - March 2006 - **circulated**
- m) SODC - South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 - **circulated**

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

6 The Green - Appeal Ref APP/Q3115/A/05/1191350 - the appeal was dismissed.

P06/W0172/RLB - European School (Retrospective Listed Building - retrospective application for removal of dry rot infected woodblock floor design. **Approved by Culham Parish Council.**

P06/W0173/LB - European School (Listed Building Consent) - installation of Newlath and Newlath flooring membrane to room 5. **Approved by Culham Parish Council.**

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

PAYMENTS

1061	Mr J Boyland	2 x RoSPA	£ 50.00	£ 50.00
1062	Miss B Cannings	Salary (January)	£124.86	
		Expenses	£ 9.66	
		Post & Telephone	£ 2.41	£136.93

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS (contd)

1063 CPRE Annual Subscription
26.00

£

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1064	OFPA	Annual Subscription	£ 25.00
1065	Culham Poor Allotment Trust	- donation	£ 10.00

RECEIPTS

Waste Sacks (Mr R Griffiths)	£ 1.20
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The annual NALC rates come into force on 1st April 2006 – it was agreed that the Clerks salary is increased from £7.804 to £8.035 per hour.

It was also agreed that the Annual Expenses allowance be increased from £115.87 to £120 per annum, also with effect from 1st April 2006.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk acknowledged a thank you letter from Culham School for the £500 donation.

Mr Bartley brought a letter from the School regarding additional views and ideas regarding a School Travel Plan (to try and raise funds for items such as bike sheds and Road Safety Training) - The Clerk to send a copy of the letter to the County Councillor, Mr John Howell.

Vale of the White Horse District Council are considering HGV restrictions through Abingdon. The Clerk to write to the council to ask that Culham Parish Council be consulted when meetings commence.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting – 7.30 pm - 3rd April 2006

Culham Parish Council Meeting – 7.30pm – 8th May 2006

Signed **Date**

Report from Councillor John Stimson

Highways Log

Councillor Howell informed the meeting that there is due to be an inspection over the

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next few weeks to address the current Highways Log.

Other Traffic Items

Work is about to, if it hasn't already started, on the cycle track - the work is being put right by resurfacing it - the fees (approx. £350k) are being paid by the last contractors as it was a "mess up"

Clifton Hampden - there are going to be 2 spells of traffic lights again from Watery Lane to High Street. (w/c 13th February for 1 week and then a maximum of 2 weeks mid-March) The drainage engineer showed the Highways Committee photographs of the Victorian brick built culvert (very intricate), which was all pulling apart.

Forums

From the OCC viewpoint, it could not justify the continuing of the forums - it won't, however, prevent individual meetings if there is an issue. The annual ones will also continue. Different means of engaging between parish councils is being reviewed.

Forthcoming Budget

The budget will be proposed on 14th February - the tax increase is likely to be 4.375% (the lowest in South East England) and in addition no substantial cuts in services.

Parish Councils will be working together and subject to approval on 14th February,

- 1) The revenue account will be £300k over 3 years, and
- 2) £100k will be given to support youth facilities

It is also envisaged that there will be no cuts for old peoples services but it will increase. £1m will be set aside as a contingency (due to NHS cuts) and £1m for 40 new care home beds (Chipping Norton & Woodstock)

At the end of Councillor Howell's report, Mr Thomas asked about the Culham Station crash barrier and who paid for it - taxpayers or Railtrack? Mr Howell will investigate further.