

**Culham Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held in the School on**  
**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Mr G Bartley  
Mr A Steele  
Dr T Price  
Mr J Thomas

**Apologies:** 0

**Public:** 6

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**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. PRESENTATION**

The meeting was attended by Joanne Clegg, Oxfordshire County Council, to discuss the Abingdon Integrated Transport Strategy (AbITS) and issues affecting Culham village. In particular, it was noted that:

- An independent review of the scheme is being undertaken by independent consultants. The terms of reference for this review will be emailed to the clerk.
- The strategy was driven by the Vale of White Horse District Council, Abingdon Town Council and Abingdon Chamber of Commerce, and did not address possible outcomes for outlying villages.
- OCC welcomes input and specific suggestions for improvement for the scheme.

**4. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

**County Councillor** – Mr Howell reported on a number of issues, including:

- Oxfordshire County Council's 2008/09 increase in settlement from central government is less than inflation.
- A bus review of routes going to Didcot – these routes are likely to become commercial as more people are travelling to Didcot for shopping and other activities.

**District Councillor** – Mrs Tomlinson reported back to the parish councillors on several issues, including

- OCC Community Safety Strategy Group
- Recycling of Christmas trees
- Bursaries for arts and sports for young people
- Helpline for smoking in the workplace

**5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was much concern expressed about the increase in traffic from Culham to Culham Parish Council Meeting – January 2008 minutes

Abingdon since the implementation of AbITS, and that people prefer to travel to other towns for shopping and leisure activities instead whenever possible.

It was suggested that the consultants conducting the independent review of AbITS could attend a Culham Parish Council meeting to discuss the findings.

## 6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> December 2007

The minutes of the above meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## 7. ACTIONS UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING

### ACTIONS UPDATE

Action	Update
Thames Water sign opposite Waggon & Horses junction.	Ongoing. <b>The Chairman to progress with the owner of the field.</b>
<b>Playground Fencing – The Clerk and Chairman to arrange for BCB to complete work.</b>	Completed.
<b>Burial Ground Rules Review - New rules have been published in the Mouthpiece village newsletter. Chairman to provide copy of guidelines to webmaster.</b>	Completed – now on the Culham website.
<b>Abingdon Integrated Transport Strategy (AbITS) – No reply received as yet from Abingdon Town Council or Abingdon Chamber of Commerce. Mr Steele to draft further correspondence. Mr Steele had circulated letters for review. The Clerk to arrange for Chairman to sign, and post.</b>	Completed. No reply received to date.
The Lion public house: Concern was raised that the state of the building and no lights on could encourage vandalism. <b>The Clerk to write to Admiral Taverns to highlight the council's concerns.</b>	Completed. No reply received to date.
Archiving of Parish Documents <b>Documents to be sorted before making arrangements with Oxfordshire Records Office. Clerk has identified minute and financial books for transfer.</b>	Ongoing. <b>The Chairman to review and arrange transfer to ORO.</b>
Upgrading of the A415 footpath from the Burycroft junction with the A415 to a cyclepath, with dual use for cyclists and pedestrians.	Completed. OCC has acknowledged letter and the parish council will be kept informed.

<b>Mr Steele to draft letter to OCC Highways department to express the council's concerns. Mr Steele to draft item for the village newsletter.</b>	
Dr Price had attended the Oxford Green Belt AGM. <b>Dr Price to prepare summary for article for village newsletter.</b>	Ongoing
OCC Community Safety Strategy <b>Dr Price agreed to review and report back at the next meeting.</b>	Ongoing.

## MATTERS ARISING

### a) Old Culham Bridge

Vegetation on the old Culham Bridge has not been cut back during the recent work by Oxfordshire County Council along the A415, despite confirmation that this would be attended to. **Councillor Howell to investigate.**

### b) Speeding through Culham Village

The meeting discussed ways of calming traffic through the village, particularly along Tollgate Road, perhaps by means of a vehicle activated sign. **Councillor Howell to arrange for a traffic engineer from Oxfordshire County Council to attend to review signage off the A415 and volume of traffic. The Chairman to talk to Culham School regarding requirements and suggestions.**

### c) A415 pathway

The safety of pedestrians and cyclists along the current pathway was discussed. **Mr Steele to draft letter to OCC highlighting concerns for safety.**

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received during the month and distributed to the councillors.

Item No	Summary (* = action required)
1	OCC Transport department - copy of slides from recent Parish Transport Representative meetings.
2	Rhino Ramps skatepark flier
3	Campaign to protect rural England – Fieldwork newsletter December 2007
4	OCC: Email re damage to bus shelter on A415
5	Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – Grant aid for community building projects 2008/09
6	Glasdon – products catalogue
7	Public Catalogue Foundation flier
8	Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust Annual Report 2006/07

	<b>*information to post to noticeboard and newsletter/website</b>
<b>9</b>	SODC Minutes of meeting of Standards Committee 27 November 2007
<b>10</b>	Copy letter from SODC planning re Lion public house
<b>11</b>	Oxfordshire Rural Community Council: Changes to Post Office network in Oxfordshire
<b>12</b>	SODC town and parish digest
<b>13</b>	OCC Highways reply to our letter regarding A415 pathway

## 9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**P07/W1439** – Single storey front porch at 8 Tollgate Road, Culham OX14 4NL. **The Council has no strong views.**

## 10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

### a) Culham Parish Council Audit for the year ended 31 March 2007

The Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been displayed on the village noticeboard for at least 14 days.

### b) Precept 2008/2009

The precept request for 2008/09 was agreed in the sum of £9,900.

### c) Payments

<i>Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>£ detail</i>	<i>£ total</i>
1139	Berinsfield Community Business	Invoice No: 1344 Clear play area of rubbish, old fencing, gate posts VAT	210.00  36.75	
		<b>TOTAL PAYABLE</b>		<b>246.75</b>
1140	South Oxfordshire District Council	Empty Dog Bins Oct 2006-Mar 2007  VAT	109.44  19.15	
		<b>TOTAL PAYABLE</b>		<b>128.59</b>
1141	South Oxfordshire District Council	Invoice 107155 Elections 3 May 2007  VAT	67.00  0.00	
		<b>TOTAL PAYABLE</b>		<b>67.00</b>
1142	J Beck (Clerk)	Salary (Dec 2007) Expenses Post & telephone	131.74 10.00 0.20	

**d) Receipts**

None.

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**a) Bus Shelters at the European School.**

The Chairman reported that both bus shelters had now been vandalised, and that all glass had now been removed. It was agreed that as the shelters had been installed by Oxfordshire County Council and the European School without input from Culham Parish Council, then the parish council did not feel responsible for ongoing repairs.

**b) Culham Burial Ground**

There had been a complaint concerning a type of headstone now in the burial ground which had been refused previously. It was agreed that the new guidelines allowed for this kind of headstone and that a request to change an existing headstone should be brought forward to the council. **The Chairman to visit the individual involved to discuss the request.**

**c) Trees on the Green, Culham**

It was reported that a tree has recently blown down, and that others are looking unhealthy, possibly damaged, and may need replacing. **Mr Thomas to investigate.**

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is 7.30 pm - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

**13. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting was declared closed at 9.56 pm.

Signed ..... Date .....