

**Culham Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting
Held in the School on
Monday 9th March 2009 at 7.30pm**

Present: Mr G Bartley (Chair)
Mr A Steele
Mr J Thomas
Dr T Price
Mr P Gibbs
Mr J Woodley-Shead

In attendance: Ms J Beck (Clerk) **Public: 0**
Mrs P Tomlinson (District Councillor)
Ms L Lindsay-Gale (on behalf of Dr J Howell, County Councillor)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were 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. CO-OPTION

Two nominations for co-option had been received, and Mr Paul Gibbs and Mr Jonathan Woodley-Shead were duly co-opted to the two vacancies. Both signed an acceptance of office, which was countersigned by the clerk, and were given a register of interests to complete.

4. REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- a) Ms Lindsay-Gale attended on behalf of Dr Howell, County Councillor, and gave an update on various items including:
Oxfordshire County Council rating of 3-star 'improving' council by the audit commission; £300,000 granted towards improvements to Abingdon County Hall and museum; £5.4m allocated for didcot railway improvements; £350,000 to improvements to bus stops in Oxfordshire; a new food waste plant in Crowmarsh; the Transform Oxford programme.
- b) Mrs Tomlinson, District Councillor, reported on items including:
New arrangements for waste from June; flood risk strategy consultation, Abingdon Core Strategy; green waste at Culham No. 1 Site; a 2.9% district council tax increase.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th February 2009

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

7. MATTERS ARISING AND MATTERS OF URGENCY

Action	Update
Burial Ground slope	<u>Ongoing.</u> Cllr Bartley has investigated options for grass reinforcement. It was agreed that a step would be better, and Cllr Woodley-Shead will speak with Jim Boyland for options and pricing.
Pavement surfaces by 43 High Street	<u>Done.</u> Work is on OCC schedule.
Freedom of Information Act – Parish Council Information Guide	<u>Ongoing.</u> Cllr Steele to review the types of information and means of publication contained within the Information Guide for the parish council.
Grass-cutting verge by church	<u>Done.</u> It was agreed to instruct Jim Boyland to cut this grass once a month during the season.
Disused septic tank at the recreation ground	<u>Ongoing.</u> Cllr Bartley could not locate the tank, Cllr Woodley-Shead will investigate further.

Sutton Courtenay Incinerator. Cllr Gibbs will attend a meeting on 17 March at the Environment Agency, Crowmarsh. The planning application from WRG is submitted to Oxfordshire County Council, with the planning committee decision on 16 May, and is currently open to public consultation. It was agreed to oppose the application, with one dissenting vote. Cllr Gibbs will prepare a response letter on behalf of the council.

Shed at the Glebe Recreation Ground

Two windows have now been broken and the shed needs to be made secure again. Cllr Woodley-Shead to investigate.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Various items of correspondence had been received during the month and a list is kept on file. The following items were discussed:

a) Road at The Green

Morrells Estate has contributed £300 towards the road repair, but write that they are not happy about the standard of repair. Cllr Gibbs will prepare a response.

b) Street lighting review.

The council agreed that some lights could be turned off as proposed by Oxfordshire County Council, and were highlighted on the supplied OCC plan. The Clerk to reply.

c) Noise at the Railway Inn

A parishioner had written to complain about noise at the Railway Inn. It was agreed that the parish council could not take any further action but noted the complaint. The matter is already being pursued with the District Council.

d) Culham Burial Ground

Cllr Woodley-Shead declared a personal interest in the request for a memorial for Mr

Woodley, and left the room. The council agreed to the memorial as requested. The council reviewed the Guidelines for the Burial Ground and agreed that allocation of plots could be varied to take account of personal or unforeseen circumstances. The clerk to amend the Guidelines.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) New Applications

Reference	Location/Description	Parish Council Response
<u>P09/W0071</u>	Daisy Cottage 37 High Street Culham Single storey timber outbuilding.	No strong views

b) Appeals against Decisions None.

c) Decisions None

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Receipts

Morrells Estate £300.00

b) Payments

The following cheques were authorised:

<i>Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>£ detail</i>	<i>£ total</i>
1200	J Beck	Clerk's Salary Allowances to 31.03.09 TOTAL PAYABLE		£343.99
1201	J Boyland	RoSPA checks VAT TOTAL PAYABLE	50.00 7.50	£57.50
1202	Complete Tree Services	Oak Tree at Recreation Ground VAT TOTAL PAYABLE	435.00 65.25	£500.25
1203	Culham Parochial Council	s.137 donation TOTAL PAYABLE	92.86	92.86
1204	Oxfordshire	Subscription 09-10	15.00	

Green Belt
Network

TOTAL

15.00

TOTAL PAYMENTS

£1009.60

c) Burial Ground Fees

The new Schedule of Burial Ground Fees was agreed, to apply as of 1 April 2009.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7.30 pm on Monday 20th April 2009

12. CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed

Date