

The Parish Council of St. Helen Without

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd June 2014
at the Community Centre, Dalton Barracks at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. G. Fitzgerald (in the Chair), M. Gilbert, C Priestley, B. Rogers, M. Russell and V. Talbot

In attendance: County Councillor Richard Webber, District Cllr Catherine Webber, Mr John Higgs and George Edmonds-Brown (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs M. Bailey, K. Houlden and C. Parkin.

2. Declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None

3. Matters raised by a) members of the public

Mrs Karen Fysh attended the meeting to ask for volunteers and support for the WADS-stock beer and Music Festival that would be held at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre on 26 July. £2,000 had been raised last year of which half was donated to the Air Ambulance. It was resolved that £168 would be donated

b) attending Councillors and MOD

Mr Higgs thanked the Parish Council for its agreement to contribute £1,000 towards the Dalton Barracks playground which would be open to other children in the parish. The project will be subject to £25,000 being available from the Army Welfare Fund and the outcome should be known in July. The Station Commander would be finding £4,000 in funding.

There had been some clashes between events in Shippon and Dalton Barracks; these included the Church fete and the World Cup event. It was agreed that it would be useful for there to be a link on the community website to that of Dalton Barracks. Councillors had been invited to the event in the Officers' Mess on 26th June. A talk had had been arranged between the Station Commander and the Friends of Shippon in October; the likely venue was the Station Conference Room.

Cllr Russell drew attention to the overhanging trees on Faringdon Road near the Officers' Mess that needed pruning.

District Cllr Catherine Webber and County Cllr Richard Webber attended the meeting and contributed to the discussion on Paragraph 5e) and 6 below.

JH

4. Minutes of the Meeting (AGM) held on 12th May 2014

The Minutes of the AGM on 12 May were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) The Jubilee bench

Cllr Russell and Mr John Higgs would meet on 24th July to agree the site for the Jubilee bench.

MR/JH

b) Community website and newsletter

The community website was to be launched in the July newsletter. It was confirmed that the Friends of Shippon were prepared to deliver the newsletter if it had been collated. It was resolved that the Parish Council would be prepared to contribute up to £300 in principle towards the cost of collating by the printer until the advertising rates had been adjusted to cover the cost.

c) Speeding and speed limits

Cllr Russell would be meeting Mr Higgs to discuss the site of the VAS either on Long Tow or Cholswell Road. Cllr Talbot said that speeding on Barrow Road was still a major cause of concern.

MR/JH

d) Community Governance Review

The VWHDC Committee had recommended that the 'status quo' on the boundary in Dry Sandford between Wootton and St Helen Without would be maintained; this was subject to confirmation at the VWHDC meeting on 16th July. Clarification on Cothill was awaited.

e) Shippon Plan developments

The proposal for two properties in the land of Elm Tree Walk had gone to written appeal on 17th July; further written representations can be made. Cllrs Russell and Fitzgerald agreed to draft a response. The outcome of the VWHDC Planning Committee meeting on the Elm Tree Walk development was discussed. District Cllr Catherine Webber who had supported the proposal and County Cllr Richard

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Webber who had wider District Council responsibilities explained the problems of the application in relation to the Green Belt. Other parishes were very concerned about Green Belt protection and developments which set precedents and weakened the Green Belt were not always welcome. Cllr Richard Webber said that the way to resolve the problem would be to have a Neighbourhood Plan which would give the Parish the more influence on where development can take place. Another approach would be to ask for an adjustment to be made to the Green Belt. This could only be done for larger villages although Shippon might qualify if Dalton Barracks was taken into account. It was recognised, however, that to follow this route might open up Green Belt issues that would be detrimental to the village. Cllr Priestley commented that it made little sense to decide against a proposal which was permitted under GS3 and also to ignore the brown line.

MR/GF

f) St Helen Without PC newsletter

The draft newsletter would be circulated as soon as the outstanding contributions had been received. It was resolved that yellow paper would be used.

It was resolved that a note would be put in the newsletter encouraging residents to maintain stone walls and keep the village tidy. Cllr Talbot agreed to pass the details of the resident who had raised the issue of the stone walls to the Clerk.

VT/GE-B

g) The VWHDC Local Plan Part 1 – Neighbourhood Plan

The possibility of a joint Neighbourhood Plan with Wootton was discussed and it was resolved that a meeting should be set up between the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of both parishes to consider the matter (see also 5e) above).

GF/MR/GE-B

h) Tree planting Cholswell Road

The site visit with MOD's Forester was expected to take place shortly.

VT/JH

i) Flooding

The flooding problem on Barrow Road had been dealt with.

6. County Council Grants; Highways and Community

County Councillors Webber confirmed that funds are available for use by the Area Steward. Work was expected on painting the village gates, weed clearance and cleaning sign posts; efforts were being made to catch up on the work promised last year. Cllr Webber confirmed that funding was also available for community grants.

7. Matters raised by members of the Council

Cllr Talbot asked when the "No Through Road" sign would be installed on Old Faringdon Road at Gozzards Ford.

GE-B

It was agreed that relevant pieces by CPRE on the Local Plan should continue to be circulated by Cllr Talbot.

The footpaths from Dry Sandford to Arthur Evans Close were becoming overgrown.

VT
GE-B

8. Finance

a) Approval of the 2013/14 Account and completion of the External Audit form

The 2013/14 Account documents had been circulated. The Accounts were approved and Parts 1 and 2 of the External Audit form completed and signed by the Chairman.

b) Accounts for payment

Payee	Purpose	Total	VAT
George Edmonds-Brown	Salary June 2014	£249.73	
George Edmonds-Brown	Salary July 2014	£249.67	
George Edmonds-Brown	Expenses June & July 2014	£119.10	
Post Office Ltd	HMR & C - PAYE	£499.20	
BGG Garden & Tree Care	Grass cutting	£234.00	£39.00
RJS (IA) Ltd	Internal Audit + cancelled cheque	£360.00	

It was resolved that the above payments should be made.

c) Applications for grants

None

9. Planning

a) Decision Notices

Ref:	P14/V338/HH
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Date	25.2.2014
Description:	Propose 2 no dwellings and works there to
Address	Land adjacent to Elm Tree Walk, Shippon, Oxon
St Helen Without PC's comments	<p><i>The Parish Council of St Helen Without Fully Support this application for the following reasons.</i></p> <p><i>1. The National Planning Policy Framework and the Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2011 adopted in 2006 GS3, allows for limited infilling as exceptions for development in villages in the Green Belt. Shippon is a named village with a brown line defining the village area and the site is within this area.</i></p> <p><i>This proposal is not considered to be detrimental to the openness of the Green Belt. There is already housing development on 3 sides of the site and the frontage abounds the road of Elm Tree Walk.</i></p> <p><i>2. The applicant has agreed to the changes requested by the Parish Council which will maintain the rural appearance of this section of Elm Tree Walk.</i></p> <p><i>a) There will be no road widening, the road will remain the same width as at present.</i></p> <p><i>b) The verge will remain as at present and not turned into a footpath.</i></p> <p><i>c) The stone walls will be retained in their present positions.</i></p> <p><i>This narrow section of Elm Tree Walk provides a considerable reduction in the speed of traffic along this road.</i></p> <p><i>4. The Vale's policy has restricted all development within the village to infilling of 1 or 2 houses and therefore a considerable number of precedents over the years have been set.</i></p> <p><i>i.e. Carlton House, former Stonewall, former Catholic Church, 80 Barrow Road.</i></p> <p><i>4. Shippon is a sustainable village which could accommodate further appropriate development.</i></p>
Decision	Refused 30.5.2014

It was resolved to note the Planning Authority's decisions

b) Applications dealt with between meetings

Ref:	P14/V0824/HH
Date	1.5.2014
Description:	Alterations and extensions to existing house
Address	1 Barrow Road, Shippon OX13 6JF
St Helen Without PC's comments	<p><i>The Parish Council has no objections to this application but wish the following comments to be taken into account:-</i></p> <p><i>The Parish Council would like to be informed that the volume extension is within the 30% increase allowed under the Vale of White Horse District Plan 2011, Policy GS3, before approval is given.</i></p> <p><i>On the plans provided it would appear the garage is included in the volume calculation for the present house but not included in the volume calculation on the proposed redevelopment.</i></p>

Ref:	P14/V0964/HH
Date	13.5.2014
Description:	Proposed loft conversion
Address	11 Lashford Lane, Dry Sandford OX13 6DY
St Helen Without PC's comments	<p><i>No objection; suggested suggest frosted glass in window on 1st floor south elevation and door on 1st floor north elevation to avoid overlooking neighbours.</i></p>

Ref:	P14/V1125/HH
Date	29.5.2014
Description:	Rear first floor extension and increase in ridge height
Address	69 Lashford Lane, Dry Sandford OX13 6DZ
Deadline	No objection

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Ref:	P14/V1267/HH
Date	12.6.2014
Description:	Proposed extension to garage
Address	57 Lashford Lane, Dry Sandford OX13 6DZ
Deadline	2 July 2014

It was resolved to confirm the Planning Committee's action

10. Sandleigh Road Recreation Ground

a) Inspection report;

The June inspection had not yet been carried out. It was suggested that councillors might aim to carry out inspections at a similar time, for example at the middle of the month, so that inspections are more evenly spaced.

11. Correspondence

Cllr Fitzgerald went through the correspondence and it was resolved to note it and his comments.

Oxfordshire County Council

Surface Dressing Programme

Winter Preparedness

VAS signs Long Tow/Cholswell Road

South and Vale

Extracts from Vale News

Chairman's Community Awards Lunch

Nominations to be submitted by 22 August

Other

OALC Update for Members – May

Planning training places are available on 10 July

Training Update–3rd of September, Roles and Responsibilities (for new councillors); and, 15th of October, Chairmanship.

Thames Valley Alert – TVP 'Have Your Say' meetings

AOLC – Training Update

Invitation to Connecting Oxford – a transport vision for the future

LCR – Summer 2014

OALC Rural Affordable Housing Review

CPRE Oxon Pro Campaign

12. Cllrs reports and items for future agendas

None

13. Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held 7.30pm on Monday 12th May 2014 at Dry Sandford Primary School, to be preceded at 7pm by the Annual Parish Meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 pm

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