

# *Ashton Keynes Parish Council*

Minutes of a meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Present: Cllrs I Woods (Chairman), M Carter, J Freeth, J Hughes, S Jefferson, M Seymour, A Stefanovic, E Tidmarsh, R Thomas and D Wingrove  
County Cllr C Soden

Mr Robin Rogers (Chairman Oaksey Parish Council)

Mr Matthew Millett (Cotswold Water Park Society)

Emma Casey ( Reporter) Janet Twynam (Member of public)

## **2011/13 Mr Robin Rogers– CWPS Trust**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Robin Rogers and Mr Matthew Millett to the Parish Council meeting. They said they did not wish to dwell on the past, but wanted to concentrate on the future of the CWPS. They also said that they did not want to talk a lot, but to answer the members' questions instead.

Matthew began by saying that following the CWPS Public Meeting last October, there had been much technical work undertaken behind the scenes; the CWPS had got many people involved trying to put plans into place for the CWPS Trust to take over. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> March there will be the first of two General Meetings, open to the public. After which, and after the Parish Councils have seen them, the Articles of Association will be given to the CWPS Trustees, who will be a charity and in charge of the CWPS. Robin expanded on what Matthew had said by reporting that after the 2<sup>nd</sup> March meeting, the Constitution will be re-written, but the objects of the CWPS will stay the same. However, the membership of the CWPS Trust will have real influence within the Society.

In answer to a number of questions about the Trustees, Robin said that there were currently between seven and ten Trustees, with a wide variety of skills, who met regularly. The Nominations Committee will be appointing up to five more Trustees with the maximum number of Trustees fixed at fifteen, who will be appointed for a fixed term of three years. Cllr M Carter asked what the cost would be to join the CWPS and was told it was expected to be about £15 a year for an individual membership.

Matthew concluded by thanking the Parish Council for its input to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Landscape Partnership Scheme bid, which he said would be submitted on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

The Chairman thanked Robin and Matthew for giving their time and updating the members on the future of the CWPS Trust. They then left the meeting.

## **2011/14 To accept apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr M Jackson.

## **2011/15 Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda**

There were declarations of interest submitted by Cllrs S Jefferson and R Thomas on the Planning Application to raise the roof of Ellison's Garage, which was anticipated to be discussed under Agenda item **2011/20**.

## **2011/16 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

The Minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## **2011/17 Matters arising from the Minutes**

The Clerk said there were three matters arising, as follows:

- Martin Rose, the Principal Highway Engineer in the Wiltshire Council Traffic & Network Management, came with him to the Spine Road to talk Speed Limits.

The discussions were productive in that he went back to Wiltshire Council to suggest a 40 mph speed limit at the North End crossroads from all four directions. The Clerk said he was expecting to receive a plan of action from him in the next week or so

- Colette Mallon had a meeting with the Chairman and Vice Chairman in the Clerk's house on 26<sup>th</sup> January, which was most fruitful. She went away to discuss what she had learned with the Estate Manager for AI at Cleveland Farm, and a number of other people. She will get back to us when she has some positive information. It was suggested that an approach should be made to Cullimore's to ascertain whether there was any possibility of them selling off one, or a part of, their sites. Cllr M Carter said he would e-mail the Clerk with the whereabouts of disused farm buildings that may possibly be a brown field site for industrial units.
- Wiltshire Council has advised him that our free 1 tonne of salt or, if we are lucky, 2 tonnes of salt, will be delivered on Thursday this week. If for any reason it doesn't get delivered, then he would be contacting County Hall yet again.

## **2011/18 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk gave the following report:

- He began by giving his report on the current financial position of the Parish Council; the figures were rounded to the nearest pound. At the beginning of the financial year, there was £23,461 in the Bank Accounts and we have received our 2010/2011 Precept allocation of £32,685, giving us a total of £56,146. This financial year, the Parish Council has received a further £18,147, which includes £5,070 Section 106 money for the installation of the Playbuilder equipment. This year, so far, we have spent £52,146, which includes a £6,000 loan to the Village Shop. As of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010, therefore, there was £22,148 in the three Bank Accounts.
- The Clerk brought up the subject of the "Great Poppy Party Weekend" on the 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> June, mentioned last month and which is in celebration of the British Legion's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The members suggested that an approach be made to Mrs Gwen Astin, who runs the village British Legion Poppy Appeal and offer the Parish Council's support.

**Action: The Clerk**

- The Clerk mentioned the Prospect Hospice's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and, to mark the occasion, they are inviting individuals or organizations to join with them in constructing a lasting beautiful feature in their gardens. To do so, they are asking for sponsors to buy a paver, or stone, engraved with a message to be placed along the pathway leading to the Bluebell Wood. The Clerk was asked to find out what the cost would be and report back at next month's meeting.

**Action: The Clerk**

- He said he had requested £1,910 of Section 106 money be released for the Millennium Green hedge project, as match funding for the Malmesbury Area Board Grant of £2,100. He said he expected to hear from the Council soon.
- The Clerk suggested that the Village Handyman monthly payment should be increased to £850, which would be an increase of £400 a year and the first increase since April 2009. The cost of diesel and petrol has risen dramatically over the last 6 to 12 months and we could not expect our Handyman to absorb these higher costs any longer. Cllr A Stefanovic proposed the Handyman's monthly payment be increased to £850 with immediate effect, which was seconded by Cllr S Jefferson and agreed unanimously.

- Wiltshire Council would like to introduce a new council-wide street trading scheme to cover all streets in Wiltshire. To view the proposed street trading scheme, including maps and to complete the consultation the Clerk said the members should visit [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/consultations.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/consultations.htm)
- He said he had sent an electronic copy of a letter plus enclosures from BT, who want to erect a pole in the Village Hall Car Park. The Clerk was asked to speak with BT to find out whether they had investigated any alternative method of supplying the dwellings with telephones. If the use of a pole was the only option, he was asked to negotiate with BT to discover whether they would be in favour of some other remuneration instead of a Wayleave. The Clerk was asked to report his findings back at next months meeting.

**Action: The Clerk**

- He said the Village Hall has been booked for the Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April, all afternoon/evening for the Annual Parish Meeting. He asked the members to put the date in their diaries.
- Following a short discussion on the subject of the Parish Council Annual Dinner, it was decided that it would be held in the Main Hall of the Village Hall on a date to be agreed in March. It was further decided that an outside Catered should be invited from the village to undertake the catering.
- He asked for their agreement to have a roster of the male Councillors who could be available to set up the Ashton and Keynes room at 5 pm on the Parish Council meeting days. There was general agreement and the Clerk said he would distribute a roster before the next meeting.
- He said his last item was, as usual, to ask for the members' wish list of work for the Parish Steward to undertake next month, which would be recorded and passed on to Wiltshire Highways Partnership. There were only three items reported to him, namely the potholes in various places around the village, the footpath behind Gosditch and the large hollow appearing in the road outside Cove House.

## 2011/19 Financial Transactions

### Payments Made:

The Council noted that the following payments had been made:

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|--|-----------------|
| ▪ <b>AK Village Hall (January Room Rental)</b>       | <b>£ 51.00</b>  |
| ▪ <b>Patrick Edwards (Grit Spreader)</b>             | <b>£ 640.37</b> |
| ▪ <b>Holland &amp; Farmer (Repair Youth Shelter)</b> | <b>£ 295.44</b> |
| ▪ <b>Clerk's Salary (January)</b>                    | <b>£ 599.24</b> |
| ▪ <b>Clerk's Expenses (January)</b>                  | <b>£ 271.49</b> |

## 2011/20 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

The Chairman invited members to give their reports.

### Wiltshire Council

County Cllr C Soden reported that she had received an e-mail from Lee Burman in the Planning Section today stating that he had drafted a report with a recommendation for consent to the building of the Village Shop on the front of the Village Hall. The Chairman said he was delighted with the news and thanked Cllrs J Hughes, M Jackson and D Wingrove for all their hard work on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Soden asked the members of the Parish Council to help with ensuring that everyone in the village gets registered on Census day, which is 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011. She said it costs a great deal of money if anyone is found not to have registered.

Cllr Soden said that for the Royal Wedding on 29<sup>th</sup> April, Wiltshire Council has got packs made up especially for setting-up street parties.

Cllr Soden reported that no Libraries would close in Wiltshire under the present financial climate, and neither would any Mobile Libraries be taken off the road. She said that there were 95 volunteers to help ensure that the Libraries retained their opening times.

On the subject of Wiltshire Constabulary, Cllr Soden said there would be a reduction in Police funding of £15M over the next four years and they are looking at all aspects of policing in cross-border collaboration. Locally, PC Harvey has taken over from PC Akers and will work with PCSO Walsh when she is fit again. The new Police Inspector for the area is Chris Martin.

#### Planning Committee

Cllr R Thomas said two Planning Applications, Thimble Cottage and Millbrook Cottage, should never have been given permission. County Cllr C Soden said that she had not seen any objection, so she could not have called them in. The Chairman said that this was a lesson that needed to be well learned. The Clerk said he would find a way of ensuring the 'Objections' of the Planning Committee to any Planning Applications get sent to Cllr Soden. Cllr Soden said she would see to it that any Planning Applications with 'Objections' get called in. The Chairman said that on 16<sup>th</sup> February, Ellison's would be appealing on their Planning Application to raise their Garage roof having been turned down. Cllr Soden said someone from the Parish Council should attend, but no member of the Planning Committee said they were available to attend the hearing.

#### Minerals Liaison Working Group

Cllr J Hughes said there were two meetings of the Minerals Liaison Working Group in January, the Minutes of which had been issued.

#### Footpath and Roads Working Group

Cllr M Seymour reported that there would be a Working Group meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> January. Cllr A Stefanovic said she had obtained some maps of the Footpaths in the area from the Cotswold Water Park Society and distributed them among the members.

#### Playing Fields Committee

The Chairman said he had nothing to report.

#### **2011/21 Village Shop Update**

Cllr J Hughes said the next meeting of the Shop Management Committee was next Monday and the AGM would be on the 19<sup>th</sup> February.

#### **2011/22 Keynes Country Park**

Cllr C Soden said that three Gloucestershire Councillors and two from Wiltshire, Cllr T Sturgis and herself, were petitioning Gloucestershire County Council to designate all footpaths on Keynes Country Park land as Permanent Rights of Way. In the spirit of Localism, Cllr Soden said she would send the Petition sheets by e-mail for distribution among the members.

#### **2011/23 Village Facilities Ownership**

The Chairman said that more work was needed to be done in preparation for discussing this item, which was deferred until a later meeting.

The business of the meeting was concluded at 9.59pm.