
Filkins and Broughton Poggs Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held on 21st November 2007

Present: R. Martin, M. Hambidge, T. Poole, C. Bristow, K. Perry
D. Seale, J. Bamsey

54. *Apologies:*
Pat Clark
55. *Receive Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest:*
T. Poole declared an interest to PCC planning application
56. *Adjournment for Public:*
Janice Bamsey from Planning Policy WODC was invited to the meeting to talk on new developments . Notes are appendaged.
57. *To Accept Minutes of Last Meeting:*
Minutes were accepted and signed.
58. *Matters Arising from Minutes:*
Item 43 K. Perry asked why we have not had any information from Kencot and Thames Water regarding their appeal. If we can appeal we should pursue this. Clerk and Chairman have both asked for copies of correspondence. This will be done again.
59. *Planning and Cemetery Committee:*
Glebe Cottage- awaiting decision
Abbeystones- approved
St. Peters Church- objection was submitted. Railings are unique dating to approx 1870's under George Street's direction therefore they form an important part of the land. PCC stated they have a cost for he repair but have not disclosed how much this will be.
The Tallot- Listed building in conservation area. Objection was raised as to look of extension. Ask conservation officer to look at as well.
Robbins Cottage- No objections. Awaiting decision
- Cemetery:** M Hambidge arranged for WODC to cut back foliage at side of road so view is not obstructed down the road. Job Ref No: 144265.
60. *Centre Committee Report:*
Committee needs to meet to discuss works. 25th November 3.30pm at Village Centre
Post Office: Clerk circulated a letter covering Post Office closures which states. 95% of total rural population across UK to be within 3 miles of nearest PO. How many other villages use our Post Office. It is very likely Filkins will be approved for closure. So we must look at what evidence we can gather to keep our Post Office; ground for

appeal need to be thought about now. How important is it to village life? The criteria they look at is varied: financial performance/distance/negative effect on surrounding businesses/number of transactions and turnover. Priority is now to sell other item i.e. insurance/currency/broadband. We may write to Langford PC and ask for a letter of support at a later date.

Action: Clerk will write to E, Constable and ask her to consult with us so we can put an argument together.

61. *Don Seale:*

D. Seale asked if he could say a few words.

Mineral Extraction: He is now on the planning committee at OCC dealing with this. A361 speed limit comes into force on 26/11

Signs will be erected "new speed limit in force". 2 solar powered signs will be put on A361 not sure of location. It is suggested by Wildlife Park and Little Faringdon. PC can influence position.

G Barrell did discuss hatchings on the road as it is too wide. Not yet decided.

Council Budget: Cabinet increase 4% on Council Tax. Tight budget for commercial and community services. Library services will be streamlined with self help for taking books out. Central Library is to be refurbished; £5m from private money £0.5m from OCC.

62. *Treasurers Report:*

Hayes Palmer Trust: Put on agenda for next meeting. RFO will report on figures and expenses.

Cheques paid list was circulated and approved.

Audit: Audit has been approved. Answer No to Trust box next year.

Clerks PAYE: Confirmation received from Inland revenue that we do not need to run a payroll.

Village of the year: T. Poole asked the Parish Council to cover the outstanding costs of the party. £567.25 has been paid out so far towards entering the competition and balance outstanding £107.00. How much should be paid for by the Parish Council. It was decided monies won should be spent on the village, hopefully a project that would not be done otherwise. This will be formalised and discussed at the next meeting. Clerk will write to organisations for ideas. Article will also be put in newsletter.

Financial Standing Orders: RFO asked if Clerk would circulate copies to all councillors to review at next meeting.

Precept: Figures were circulated by Chairman. It has been a good year and swimming pool has had another good year. It was decided there was no need to change the precept so it will stay at £5k

63. *Code of Conduct:*

6 monthly reminder if anyone had any updates for the Code of Conduct declarations.

64. *Highways Dept:*

Drainage- Paul Wilson. Private meeting was held by Peter Grey for residents in Broughton Poggs but they had little regard for PC progress. The idea was to approach a hydrologist and Richard suggested to Peter Grey he may want PC to hold on to the reins for this. They are setting up an action group and any report can be made available to OCC. Some matters involve private land. Clerk will write formally to P

Grey to talk to them and help out. This should cover Filkins as well as Broughton Poggs. The meeting did support engaging a hydrologist – as most residents received £250 from WODC it was suggested they put this money towards the costs. Clerk has written a long letter to OCC which was available at the meeting and has been posted in Village Shop. 153 villages in total were flooded. When the stream rises the road water does not drain away and so backs up. OCC is working with us to approach landowners to clear ditches, the river under the bridge on the A361 and repair the drain which has blown in The Rectory paddock. However, money is a problem for OCC. Hydrologist may say what needs to be done as a priority, Paul Wilson suggested balance ponds may help, but many different features need to be put in place all together. Peter Huggett is also a project engineer who may have ideas of what will help. Tony Mullen has a contact on a hydrologist from Berkshire but maybe a local engineer who knows the area may be better and will be able to draw on local knowledge. The Parish Council were not invited to the meeting although most did attend. We now need to take a more formal approach and pool information and take further the idea of a hydrologist to include Filkins.
Action: Clerk will write to P. Grey and ask if he and three other representatives can attend the next meeting.

65. *Request for Donations:*
Citizens Advice Bureau: £50 to be given.
Volunteer Link Up: Nil
- 66 *Date of Next Meeting:*
Thursday 10th January 2008 7.30pm in Village Hall