

Minutes of the Over Wallop Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 6th August 2012 in the Wallops Parish Hall at 8pm.

Present : Cllr Mr J Taylor Firth - Vice Chairman
Cllr Mr T Burden
Cllr Mr G Cairns
Cllr Mr P Bengler
Cllr Mr M Glover
Cllr Mr J Francis
Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk
Members of the Public - Mrs P Bengler and Mr T Macey

Apologies : Cllr Mrs L Murray-Twinn (Chairman), Borough Cllr Mr T Hope, County Cllr Mr A Gibson, Mr Geoff Gates and Mrs R Cartwright (NHW).

WELCOME. Cllr Taylor Firth took the chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. No declarations of interest were recorded.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Taylor Firth signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Bengler and seconded by Cllr Burden.

URGENT ITEMS

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY - Mr Geoff Gates has confirmed that he would like to join the Parish Council. Subject to the Parish Council's agreement at the September meeting he will be co-opted on to the Council.

NEW CODE OF CONDUCT - Cllr Taylor Firth reported that the final draft should be available some time in August. The Parish Council will address this issue at the next meeting.

LENGTHMAN SCHEME - The Chairman has done some research in to the Lengthman scheme and was very surprised to find that Petersfield had no knowledge of the scheme and had not taken part. Cllr Taylor Firth reported that the idea is for parishes to club together to employ someone to do footpath cutting, clean signs, etc. Hampshire County Council will give an amount of money to pay for the hours worked by the Lengthman. Initial thoughts were favourable and the matter will be discussed at future meetings.

POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mrs Cartwright had sent an email saying that there was nothing to report. No crimes had been reported since the last meeting.

PLANNING. There were no new planning applications to discuss.

FINANCE

CHEQUES and PAYMENTS ISSUED IN AUGUST 2012

R.N. Waterman	Wages	£423.00
R.N. Waterman	Expenses	£35.60
Fyfield Parish Council	Refund for jubilee Medals	£126.45
S Tilling	Line Marking	£63.00
J Francis	New set of keys for the Pavilion	£76.00

The payments were proposed by Cllr Burden, seconded by Cllr Cairns and were approved unanimously.

BANK ACCOUNTS BALANCES.

After above payments have been deducted:

Opening Balance	£19,769.75
Plus HCC Grants	£ 1,000.00
Less Expenditure	<u>£ 724.05</u>
	£20,045.70

Current Account	£13,519.66
Premier Interest	<u>£6,526.04</u>
	£20,045.70

VAT Refund to be claimed £1,251.69

REPORT FROM THE LEISURE COMMITTEE

FOOTBALL AND CRICKET - Cllr Francis reported that the football pitch had been hired out to Clatford Arms FC for five games at £35 a match during July and August. The Wallop Wanderers FC had started training again and the cricket season is now winding down.

Cllr Francis also reported that he has been approached by Chestnut Tree FC who have asked to use the facility for their home matches throughout the next season. He had quoted them £35 a match and they appeared content with this. The league secretary would sort out the fixtures for this team so that they did not clash with those of the village team.

The Parish Council agreed to the use of pitch by Chestnut Tree FC providing that:

1. The team agreed the £35 match fee which must be paid to the Caretaker each time a match is played. The fee included pitch line marking and use of the pavilion.
2. The pavilion is left clean and tidy after each game.

Cllr Francis agreed to sort out the details with the new team.

EVANS CLOSE PITCH - Cllr Francis reported that Martyn Dean are due to reset the goal posts in which are now leaning severely.

PAVILION - The Pavilion was discussed briefly and all agreed that a major refurbishment to update the facilities was needed. This is to be discussed at future meetings.

GRASS CUTTING - Problems with the cutting during the wet weather have resolved.

UNDERGROWTH AROUND THE SPORTS FIELD - The Parish Council discussed the increasing mass of deep undergrowth encroaching onto the field. It was noted that several years ago all the undergrowth had been cleared and the field was in full view from Salisbury Lane. This had opened up this fantastic asset for all to see and had discouraged the infestation by rabbits. Cllr Glover and Mr Macey agreed to take a further look at the problem and kindly offered to assist with flailing and topping some of the undergrowth in the autumn. It was

considered that Mr C Wilkins could also be employed to cut back some areas.

TENNIS - Cllr Cairns reported that he had had a good uptake for the tennis coaching sessions for children due to take place in August. The session on the 18th August is fully booked however there are still places for 6 to 9 year olds and some places for the 9 to 12 year olds on 11th and 25th August.

Cllr Cairns requested authority to purchase a small number of tennis rackets and some balls for use by the youngsters. These could be kept with the nets. The Parish Council agreed to the purchases as there had been a good response to the coaching sessions.

Cllr Cairns also recorded his thanks to Mr Stephen Baldock for printing the tennis notices.

PARISH HALL REPORT. Cllr Taylor Firth reported that the entrance, main hall and meeting room had had a fresh coat of paint.

FOOTPATHS

PALESTINE - Cllr Bengler reported that Palestine Road is now only passable with an old 4X4 as the overgrown hedge will scratch any other vehicle. The road is still passable on foot. Cllr Glover stated that unfortunately hedges are in this state all over the countryside as farmers who are under ELS agreements can only cut hedges every two years.

Cllr Bengler spoke about the clearing of the Peach, Olive and Orange Grove paths. He suggested that the residents of Palestine be asked if they could spare 1 to 2 hours over a period of time from September onwards to make a start on clearing these paths. It will be a lengthy job and would require a lot of hard work. He asked that residents who were interested in helping with the project should call him on **01264 889313**.

Cllr Glover suggested that the local equestrian businesses be asked to help keep parts of the byways clear as they are some of the more frequent users and most had the equipment to help with the cutting. This was noted.

OVER WALLOP - Cllr Cairns reported that he had contacted Esterline and asked them if they could trim around their gates. They had informed him that they would instruct their contractors who look after their grounds to do the work. Cllr Cairns also reported that Mr Wilkins has done a good job of footpath cutting.

PALESTINE

Cllr Burden reported that the scaffolding has still not been put around the tree covered by a TPO at Cherry Tree Farm. The Clerk had reported this to the enforcement officer and agreed to ask for a progress report.

Cllr Burden reported that the hedge on the left hand side of the B3084 going towards Grateley at the junction with Mount Carmel Road makes it impossible to see oncoming traffic. There used to be a sign warning of the bend and cross roads and one would be able to see oncoming traffic if the hedge was removed.

It was noted that there has been another accident at this junction and after discussion it was agreed that Hampshire Highways be asked to review this junction. The Clerk was asked to report this to Mr Ray Alborough at TVBC.

Cllr Bengier asked about bottle banks in the village as the one at Grateley Village Hall was often full with bottles overflowing onto the car park. It was pointed out that there is a bottle bank behind the White Hart in Over Wallop. The Clerk reported that Grateley Village Hall Management Committee are aware of the problem and additional emptying of the green bottle bank has been tried. The site was however used by commuters as well as locals with the result that bottles were often left on the tarmac rather than being put in the containers.

Cllr Glover spoke about the large stones on the verge at Northern Farm and his concerns about vehicles damaging their tyres. This was discussed and the Clerk was asked to contact Highways for clarification on the subject.

POINTS FORM THE FLOOR

Mr T Macey suggested that now that the Parish Council had a new notice board on the Barn by the War Memorial the unsightly old notice board on the end of the barn be removed. The Parish Council will investigate.

Mr Macey also stated that if the weather is wet during the Vintage Gathering this year he will make good any damage to the field. The Vintage Gathering is to be held on the 26th August 2012.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

Cllr Taylor Firth thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

10th September 2012 in the Wallops Parish Hall at 8pm.