

Minutes of Over Wallop Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th January 2014, in the Wallops Parish Hall at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Mrs L Murray-Twinn - Chairman
Cllr Mr J Taylor Firth - Vice Chairman
Cllr Mr J Francis
Cllr Mr G Cairns
Cllr Mr T Burden - Palestine Councillor
Borough Councillor Mr T Hope
Mr Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk
County Cllr Mr A Gibson
Mrs R Cartwright - NHW
Members of the Public - 4

Apologies: Cllr Mr G Gates and Cllr Mr P Bye (Chairman Grateley Parish Council)

WELCOME. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. She expressed sympathy to the Shadwell family for the loss of the old barn by the War Memorial, unfortunately burnt down before Christmas period. This was an ancient village landmark that will be much missed.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Francis declared an interest in the Pavilion and the Parish Hall. The Chairman stated her involvement with Wallops Good Neighbours in a voluntary capacity.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

URGENT ITEMS

TREES - Cllr Taylor Firth reported that the recent storms brought down a number of the trees.

1. One down across Salisbury Lane and into a resident's driveway. Daren Butler cleared the debris (Bill will be in the region of £150). Highways cleared the tree from the road.
2. Another tree in Salisbury Lane that had fallen onto the telephone lines had been cleared by BT Openreach.
3. A tree came down by the Church wall, this was cleared by Cllr Taylor Firth.

Cllr Taylor Firth reported that 5 further trees identified in the tree survey around the sports field need attention. The job has been put out for tender. Cllr Taylor Firth stated that initial thoughts are that the cost will be in the region of £5,000.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mrs R Cartwright reported that PCSO Trowbridge is trying to organise a 'Big Band Buffet' to be held at Test valley School. The event is free and transport will be provided, the aim of the event is to provide advice to the elderly on how to keep warm and healthy.

Mrs R Cartwright reported that thefts of heating oil and items from outbuildings are still of concern. Residents are encouraged to take extra precautions on security.

FINANCIAL REPORT

CHEQUES and PAYMENTS ISSUED IN JANUARY 2014

R.N. Waterman

Wages (SO)

£423.00			
Cedarwood Tree Services	Woodland Maintenance		£350.00
Clive Hutchinson	Village Maintenance		£2170.00
Mrs L Murray-Twinn	Refreshments Christmas meeting		£58.00
Test Valley Borough Council	Instalment Road Closure Bill		£200.00
HCC	Parish Hall Supplies		
£82.97			
Revenue and Customs	NI		
£70.20			
SSE Contracting	Street Lighting Maintenance		£235.44
Aviva	Insurance - now paid by direct debit		£188.37
Southern Electric	Street Lighting Energy		£285.16
Mr Simon Tilling	Security Storage Cupboard Pavilion		£254.45
			Total
Payments		<u>£4,317.59</u>	

BANK ACCOUNTS BALANCES.

After above payments have been deducted

Current Account	£	414.20
Premier Interest	£	5,000.00
		<u>£ 5,414.20</u>

2014/2015 PRECEPT

The Clerk produced a financial report showing the estimated results for the year 2013/2014 and the budget for the year 2014/2015. Each item was explained.

It was noted that in the current financial year £9,150 was spent on essential tree works, this used up most of the Parish Council's reserves. The Parish Council discussed the budget at length. £5000 will be needed for essential tree works in 2014 to complete the recommendations from the tree survey. The Parish Council's reserves also need to be topped up in case of emergencies.

The Parish Council made the difficult decision to increase the precept by £7,000 for the 2014/2015 period. This will be a one off increase to get the tree work completed and to start building up the reserves. The Parish Council also vowed to make savings elsewhere in the budget, it was agreed that there will be no additional planned woodland work on the sports field in the next financial year, any work needed will be carried out by organised work parties.

The Over Wallop Parish Council precept for the year 2014/2015 was set at £30,000. Proposed by Cllr Taylor Firth and seconded by Cllr Burden - all agreed.

PLANNING

There were no new planning applications.

REPORT FROM THE LEISURE COMMITTEE

Cllr Francis reported that the secure storage cupboard has now been. He has still to make contact with Cllr Smith from Grateley.

The Chairman asked Cllr Francis if the use of the AACen gym was still possible. He thought it was and would contact Peter Plaister.

PAVILION - The Chairman asked the Clerk to put the pavilion on the agenda for the next meeting. OWPC needs to agree the way forward before the task of applying for funding is undertaken. Cllr Gates gave the Chairman a list of organisations who may help fund the project.

PARISH HALL

Cllr Taylor Firth reported that Hall bookings start again this week after the Christmas break.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR T HOPE

Cllr Hope reported the blocked drain on Station Road to Highways, the flooding of the road is making it difficult for pedestrians and residents. A proper drain is required to take the surface water away. Cllr Hope reported that fallen trees had taken out his telephone line, which took 7 days to restore.

Cllr Hope reported that Test Valley Borough Councillors are meeting with the Police Commissioner and he will report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting. The Revised Borough Plan is due for release for its second consultation in the next few weeks.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MR A GIBSON

Cllr Gibson reported that at a recent Cabinet discussed the issue of the many rural parishes having no electricity as a result of the recent storms. The County Council will be pursuing the companies to reduce the amount of overhead cables, opting for underground cables.

Hampshire County Council will not be increasing their Council Tax this next financial year. An additional £10million will be put into improving the broadband speeds in Hampshire, two additional personnel will be employed to promote broadband. Cllr Gibson spoke about the introduction of Village Agents and offered to give a presentation at a future Parish Council meeting.

The Parish Council doubted the need for a Village Agent but agreed to the presentation.

Cllr Gibson, Cllr Taylor Firth and Cllr Cairns will liaise to look at the possibility of holding a circuit training session in the Parish Hall.

FOOTPATHS

Cllr Cairns reported fallen trees during the recent storms. He has managed to clear all, apart from one large oak branch on Bridleway 17 which requires heavy cutting equipment. This has been reported to HCC and clearing is in hand.

PALESTINE

Cllr Burden had nothing to report.

KENTSBOROUGH

Cllr Gates had sent a progress report on the Clegg and Booking refurbishment. The Chairman reported the Nether Wallop Chairman a letter wrote to Mr Alborough expressing concerns on the proposed speed limits on the A343. The Chairman also wrote to Mr Alborough about OWPC's concerns over the dangerous entrances to the Museum and

Craydown Lane from the A343.

CORRESPONDENCE

An email about traffic calming was received from owners of the Walled Garden. They ask to be included in the consultation when the Parish Council received the traffic calming proposals from Mr Alborough as they are concerned about the increase in traffic and continued damage to their property. This was noted.

POINTS FORM THE FLOOR

Grass cutting and street lights were raised and discussed. Mr Tilling volunteered his services on the woodland working parties; he has all the relevant training permissions to use a chainsaw. The Chairman thanked him for his kind offer.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

10th February 2014 in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm