

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting
held in the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville on
Wednesday, 20 December 2006.

Present:-	Mrs G Thornley (in the Chair)	Mrs A Beeton	Miss A Cairns	Mr M Chambers
	Mrs J Farnham	Mrs D Harkness	Mr E Howlett	Mr C Long
	Mr M Smith	Mr C Whitworth	Mrs K Whitworth	

Members of the Public – none Press – none Ward Councillors – none

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor Mrs D Lamb, Councillor A Kempself and Councillor J Crane.
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – The following members declared an interest:

Mrs K Whitworth – item 3 – a member of the Police Authority.
Mrs J Farnworth – item 9a – a governor of St John’s School.
3. LOCAL POLICING MATTERS – PCSO Beverley Johnson attended the meeting. She reported on the clean-up and free marking in the Hinchcliffe area. PCSOs have the power to issue fixed penalty notices for littering as asked to do so by the City Council. There will be a Smartwater Day at the Cresset on 23 January 2007 when Smartwater will be available for marking valuables at £45 a bottle. The Community Consultation days went well and it is planned to do this every 6 weeks. Two new PCSOs have been deployed in the Ortons bring the total up to 6.
4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2006 – The penultimate sentence of item 5(d) should read “Miss Cairns also agreed to contact the Youth Workers at the Orton Centre and Mrs Farnham agreed to contact PCSO Gonda Davy at Bushfield College for advice on provision for the Youth in the parish.” Subject to this amendment, Mr Chambers proposed and Mr Whitworth seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. This was carried.
5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
 - (a) Maintenance Matters (*Minute 11a Sep*).
Confirmation was received that the trees between Sunningdale and Oundle Road will be trimmed to a height of 3m above the footpath to clear three street lights above this path. This work will be completed with the next twelve weeks.
 - (b) Newspaper Reports (*Minute 5c*).
The Parish Council has been mentioned twice in the ET since last month. A very good article regarding the seat in memory of former Councillor Mrs Jean Barker was written and notice of our meeting was given. However, the dates for next year’s meetings which were sent to the Orton Oracle appeared to have been published under Orton Longueville instead of Orton Waterville Parish Council. It was agreed to send them an update on the New Burial Ground for their February issue and confirm the date of the next meeting.
 - (c) Terms of Reference (*Minute 5c*)
A draft for circulation will be finalised for the next meeting.
 - (d) Parish Seat in Memory of Councillor Jean Barker (*Minute 5d*)
A date for the re-siting of this seat has not yet been given. However, an email was received stating that Queensbury had installed the perch in the bus shelter on Lady Lodge Drive. The Clerk has notified the City Council that this statement was incorrect. The perch has not been installed.
 - (e) Quality Council Workshop (*Minute 6d*).
The Clerk attended this workshop on 11 December and reported that she found it very useful. She had discovered that some procedures practised by the Parish Council, like Planning Matters, would not pass Quality Status. It was recommended that a parish Planning Committee should meet in between Parish

Council meetings to discuss plans within the limited consultation period. There was also a legal opinion that this power could be delegated to the Clerk. Mr Chambers proposed and Mr Long seconded that the latter opinion should be accepted and that, therefore, the present procedure should remain. This was carried. The Clerk agreed to check the procedure for this delegated power with CALC.

(f) Maintenance Matters (*Minute 11*).

A reply confirming that these matters are being dealt with was circulated with the agenda. However, it was reported that whilst street light numbered PCC1 in Mill Crescent had been repaired, street light number PCC3 was still not working. The Clerk was asked to obtain confirmation that this light also would be repaired.

(g) Parking Restrictions (*Minute 6a Sep*).

A further and final consultation was received regarding parking restrictions in the Orton Waterville village parish ward. It was noted that, whilst some of the parish council's observations had been noted, the two most important ones had not. Furthermore, two letters of objection to the limited waiting outside the shopping parade was received from local shopkeepers. It was agreed that the following comments should be sent to the City Council.

1. Oundle Road/Cherry Orton Road

The Parish Council feels strongly that 'No Waiting' should continue up both sides of Cherry Orton Road, where it is particularly narrow, from the junction with Oundle Road to a point level with the middle of house No.12, where the road widens. This is particularly important since this is a bus route and large heavy goods vehicles frequently use this route to businesses further up Cherry Orton Road. It is difficult enough for larger vehicles (including buses and emergency vehicles) to pass each other without mounting the grass verge or pavement but when cars are parked along this stretch of the road (as they often are) it is impossible.

2. Church Drive

The Parish Council is astonished that its former comments have been ignored. It is strongly opposed to the limited waiting of 20 minutes in front of the shopping parade. This restriction would have an adverse affect on trade and put small local businesses in jeopardy. It should also be borne in mind that this loop is a one way system and, therefore, does not impede traffic. The consequences of such a restriction would be to encourage the parking of vehicles in Church Drive itself which is a bus route and where there is through traffic.

(h) Conservation Area Appraisal (*Minute 6a Oct*).

Clarification was received from the City Council that it is their intention to prepare a draft of the Orton Waterville Conservation Area Appraisal and work with the Parish Council to finalise the draft prior to a period of public consultation.

6. NEW CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(a) Pond Warden's Report – This report, in which Mr Russell asked that the pupils at Bushfield School should be thanked for assisting with the hedge planting at the Gostwich allotments, was circulated with the agenda. Mrs Farnham and Mrs Whitworth declared an interest as being on the Board of Governors at the school. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent.

(b) Register of Electors 2007 - Application forms for the appropriate part of the new register were sent out with the agenda.

7. BURIAL GROUND

A reply to the Parish Council's enquiry from the Legal Department revealed that there was a further delay to the planning of the burial ground because DEFRA had still not given its permission for access for funeral vehicles across the vacant allotments. A letter circulated with the agenda informed that DEFRA was seeking confirmation as to how the Allotment Land was originally designated as such and specifically mentioned as to whether it was created by an Enclosure Award.

Mr Long then went to the Huntingdon Records Office and reported that the present old allotment land was part of the parcel of land numbered 72 on the Enclosure Award Map 1809 for the parish of Cherry Orton (ie Orton Waterville). This parcel of land was referred to as Stone or Gravel Pit. It was awarded to the surveyors of the highways of the Parish. The herbage for this plot of land was awarded to the Surveyors so that they could let this out at a reasonable rent and use this income on the repair of roads. This area elsewhere in the award document is referred to as 'the public gravel pit'. The Clerk agreed to convey this information to the Legal Department

8. ALLOTMENTS

(a) Wyman Way

The meadow had been satisfactorily cut.

(b) Cherry Orton Road

It was brought to the Parish Council's attention that old gates and related pieces of wood had still not been cleared from the allotments. It was agreed that the Clerk should remind Mr Hopper that he had agreed to remove these items and to request again that he do so.

Mr Long had investigated the complaint received and found that there were no dangerous or unsafe structures on site and a reply was sent to the City Council that "the Parish Council does not necessarily accept that rats are coming from the allotments but, if it was to be proved, then the Parish Council will of course deal with the problem." The Clerk then wrote to all the allotment holders reminding them of their obligation to keep their allotment tidy and received a reply from one who complained about the boundary between his allotment and the neighbouring residence. The Clerk was asked to ascertain from him which residence he was actually complaining about.

Following further complaints from a resident about rats, the Pest Control Officer contacted the Clerk to gain access to the allotments to lay bait. There would not be a charge for this initially. Both the Chairman and the Clerk were present when he returned a week later. It was found that whilst the wheat seed had been eaten, the husks were left behind indicating that mice had taken the bait. Rats would have taken the whole lot leaving nothing behind. There were no signs of rat runs, even around the sheds, indicating that there was no major problem or epidemic.

(c) Gostwick

Mr Long inspected the fence and was able to repair it himself.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) New applications since last month

06/01572/FUL	Extension at 46 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	No objection
06/01682/FUL	Conservatory at 30 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	No objection
06/01715/OUT	Dwelling at 6 Everingham, Orton Brimbles	No objection
06/01668/FUL	Sprinkler System at Marriott Hotel, Orton Wistow	No objection
06/01755/FUL	Extension at 1 Whitewater, Orton Wistow	No objection
06/01649/FUL	Extension at Caravan Club Site, Orton Meadows	No objection
06/01810/CTR	Tree Work at 70 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	No objection
06/01700/FUL	Extension at 46 Linnet, Orton Wistow	No objection
06/01757/FUL	Extension at St John's School, Orton Goldhay	No objection
06/01880/NTEL	Telecom mast on Wistow Way, Orton Wistow	Objection*

* The objections to this application were on the following grounds:

- The tower is situated in a residential area. The Parish Council understands that the Swerdlow Report of January 2004 is out of date. In-depth clinical research, which is partly in the public domain, has indicated that Radio Frequency fields can affect a person's DNA. This is contrary to public Health and Safety.
- This area is totally unsuitable for the erection of such a structure so close to houses and clearly visible. This is out of character with the surrounding area.

(b) Decisions on previous applications

06/01459/FUL	Extension at 24 Wyndham Park, Orton Wistow	Approved
06/01489/FUL	Conservatory at 9 Aboyne Avenue, Orton Waterville	Approved
06/01682/FUL	Conservatory at 30 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	Approved
06/01676/CTR	Tree Work at 74 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	Approved

10. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The following payments were authorised

Hopper's Landscapes (tree felling)	£400.00
Peterborough Tree Services (meadow cutting)	£352.50
HM Revenue & Customs (employer's tax & NIC)	£88.53
Clerk's Salary (for December)	£388.47
Clerk's Expenses (for December)	£40.47
Mr E T Howlett (Re-imburement for Poppy Wreath)	£18.00

(b) Income received to date

J Hopper – shed rent	£140.00
M Lodge – shed rent	£100.00
Allotment rents	£17.00
Bank Interest on Saver Plus Account	£145.96

11. MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The following matter was raised:

- (a) There was a lot of litter in the grass verge along the footpath between the rear of the Windmill and the allotments. It was agreed to request the City Council to clear it and to ask whether a bin could be placed near the public bench.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that the collection of brown bins would be suspended until February. The publicity given about the cessation of the brown bin collection was considered very poor. A sticker on the bins prior to the cessation would have been more acceptable and successful.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.