

**Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting
held in the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville on
Wednesday, 19 December 2007.**

Present: Mrs G Thornley (in the Chair) Mr M Chambers Mrs J Farnham (till 9pm) Mr J Gillings
Mr T Howlett Mr C Long Mr M Rowett Mr M Smith (till 9pm)
Mr M Stone

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs D Harkness, Mr G Masters and Cllr Mrs S Allen.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS –

Items 6a – Mr C Long (member of Village Hall Committee)

Items 6a – Mr E Howlett (member of Village Hall Committee)

Items 6a – Mrs J Farnham (member of Village Hall Committee)

Item 5d – Mr M Smith (owner of adjacent property)

3. LOCAL POLICING MATTERS – PCSO Gordon Scott attended the meeting and reported that there was a lot of unsocial behaviour resulting from apparent alcohol sales from the local off licence. Shops should be encouraged to install their own CCTV cameras. Sonic devices outside the shops would deter youth congregating and improved lighting, especially on the side nearest the church, would deter criminal activity. Criminal damage, particularly of vehicles, has increased and the police are working on a strategic plan.

Dangerous parking outside 33A Cherry Orton Road, 53 Cherry Orton Road and 3 Cherry Orton Road were raised. PCSO Gordon Scott confirmed that any obstructive parking across pavements will be ticketed if reported and caught.

Mr Gillings agreed to find out if a business was being run from the residential premises at No. 3.

Mr Chambers proposed and Mr Gillings seconded that in light of the above recommendations, the City Council should be asked to improve the lighting around the shops by increasing the lumens, especially between the shops and the church. This was carried.

Mr Smith proposed and Mr Chambers seconded that, in view of the above police recommendations, the church PCC should be asked to improve its own lighting around the church in its own interest. This was carried.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2007 – Discussion took place on whether or not the last sentence of item 7(d) should be omitted since a vote had not been taken. It was unanimously agreed that this sentence accurately reflected the opinion of the majority of the members. Mr Howlett therefore proposed and Mr Chambers seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. This was unanimously carried.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- (a) New Code of Conduct (*Minute 6b*)

A letter was received and read out from Allan Kempzell tendering his resignation from immediate effect for personal reasons. A newspaper article was also circulated which stated that for these same personal reasons he had resigned as the ward councillor for Orton Waterville. It was unanimously agreed that a reply should be sent thanking him for his contribution as a member of the Parish Council and for his good work as a liaison between the Parish and the City Councils. He will be sadly missed. A communication from the Chief Executive's Office stated that "under the Local Government Act 1972 s89, an election to fill a vacancy for a Ward Councillor will only be held if the vacancy occurs more than six months before the Council elections at which the previous Councillor was due to stand for re-election." Since the Parish Council has elections in

May 2008 when the whole Council has to be re-elected, the Clerk agreed to find out whether s89 also applied to Parish Councils.

An application was received from Mrs June Stokes to be considered for co-option onto the Parish Council since she had learned that Allan Kempzell was resigning. She was applying for the Orton Brimbles parish ward since she lived in Carradale. It was agreed to reply that Allan's place could not be filled at the moment but that a vacancy existed in the Orton Goldhay East parish ward which can be filled by co-option.

(b) Website (*Minute 6c*)

The vacancy in the Orton Goldhay East parish ward was advertised on the website. It was noted that 26 visits were made to this website last month and so far they are the most popular pages on the community website.

(c) Application for Funding under section 137 LGA (*Minute 6c*)

After enquiring further, it was learned that security checks had not been made. The Clerk then wrote to the applicant asking him to produce a CRB clearance certificate and to provide further information regarding the safety of children. No response was received.

(d) Dangerous Parking (*Minute 7c*)

A reply was received stating that a kerb would not be practicable due to the existing levels which would require significant reconstruction at a substantial cost. However, the City Council were looking into the practicality of marking out parking bays. Mr Howlett proposed that a single white line denoting where the path ends and the bay began was sufficient. Marked out parking bays would not be in character with the Conservation Village. This was seconded by Mr Chambers and carried.

(e) Press Release (*Minute 7d*)

It was noted that the letter written by the Vice-Chairman had been printed in the Orton Oracle unedited.

(f) Local Bus Service (*Minute 7a*)

A reply was read out stating that since Stagecoach operates service X14 on a commercial basis, they receive no financial support from the City Council. Therefore, the Council has very little say in the way this service is operated. However, the Council does regularly meet with directors at Stagecoach and will ensure that the Parish Council's request is brought to their attention. This was noted.

(g) Bus Shelter (*Minute 12c*)

An acknowledgement was received from the Clerk of Orton Longueville Parish Council. This maintenance matter will be brought up at their next meeting. This was noted.

(h) Wall/fence at 25 Cherry Orton Road (*Minute 4 – second paragraph*)

An acknowledgement was received from the City Council who will investigate this possible breach of planning law. This was noted.

(i) Draft Conservation Report (*Minute 4*)

Following wider consultation by the City Council, a copy of a letter, sent by Mr Pinder to the City Council, was received. This was read out and noted.

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) Village Hall – A letter was received from the Management Trustees of the Village Hall stating their intention to enlarge the car park on the north side of the Hall. This would require the removal of the play equipment which, it is understood, the City Council would do free of charge. It was agreed to reply that the Parish Council has no objection to the extension of the car park or to the removal of the play equipment. The Parish Council will, at some time, be having discussions with the City Council regarding the need in the Parish as a whole of play equipment in the future. The Parish Council will be sympathetic to any request for help with funding.

- (b) Noise Pollution – A copy of a letter from Mr A Chambers of 53 Cherry Orton Road to the City Council was received regarding the noise created by the business next door. This was noted.
- (c) Tenancy Agreement – A letter was received from the tenant of allotment 12 at Gostwick objecting to the new tenancy agreement. Her allotment is adjacent to the extension of the road which comes to a dead end. This extension has become overgrown for various reasons over the years. The new agreement requires the tenants to control weed growth adjacent to their allotments. Whilst the tenant is prepared to control weed growth from cleared ground, she is not prepared to clear the ground which has got out of control. It was agreed that to enable the tenant to abide by the new tenancy agreement, as a one off the Council will arrange to have the roadway cleared by a contractor. The new agreement will then come into effect on 1 April 2008.
- (d) Training Courses – CALC courses on Councillor Professional Development were circulated for the particular attention of the new members. However, guidance from the Good Councillor's Guide was preferred. The Clerk was asked to obtain copies of these.

7. BURIAL GROUND

The Clerk reported that a phone call was received from the Architect requiring further instructions since the Planning Department was mindful to refuse the application due to objections having been received, in particular, from the Highways Department to the width of the access road. The Clerk then tried to contact the Legal Department, which had acted as mediator between the Parish Council and DEFRA, only to find that the officer who had been dealing with the case was no longer with the City Council. The Clerk then went to the Planning Office to read the objections in the file. When she asked to speak to the officer in charge of the case, she was told he had left. She left a message for the new person taking over the case to say that whilst the Parish Council are prepared to make amendments to satisfy the objectors, it can't please both the Highways Department and DEFRA because they were asking for opposing conditions. The new officer, David Loveday, returned the call later to say that he will look favourably at the application again after familiarising himself with the history.

It was noted that an article had appeared in the ET giving an update on the planned Cemetery. This was circulated at the meeting.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) New applications since last month

07/01744/TRE	Tree work at 67 Church Drive, Orton Waterville	No objection
07/01706/FUL	Extension at 36 The Rookery, Orton Wistow	No objection
07/01704/FUL	Extension at 24 Lady Lodge Drive, Orton Waterville	No objection
07/01812/FUL	Extension at 6 Whitewater, Orton Wistow	Objection*
07/00970/FUL	Extension at Royal & Sun Alliance, Lynch Wood	No objection
07/01730/FUL	Extension at 54 Osprey, Orton Goldhay	No objection

(b) Decisions on previous applications

07/00905/FUL	Extension at 4 Giddings Close, Orton Waterville	Granted*
07/01426/FUL	Development of site F, Business Park, Lynch Wood	Approved
07/01558/FUL	Extension at 35 Chandlers	Approved
07/01598/FUL	Extension at 4 Wyman Way	Approved
07/01660/CTR	Yew Trees 22 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/01353/FUL	Extension at 44 Overton Way	Approved
07/01593/FUL	Extension at 26 Lady Lodge Drive	Approved

* Although the Parish Council had objected to the front dormers being out of keeping with the street scene, this application was granted after the applicants submitted an amended drawing omitting the dormer windows on the front roof slope.

9. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The following payments were authorised

D L Kirk (village hall notice board repair)	£117.00
D L Kirk (shops notice board repair)	£114.60
HM Revenue & Customs (Tax and NIC)	£122.35
Clerk's Salary (for December)	£471.47
Clerk's expenses (for December)	£37.23

(b) Income received to date

J Hopper – shed rent	£140.00
M Lodge – shed rent	£100.00
Allotment rent	£12.00
Bank Interest on Saver Plus Account	£241.26

12. MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The following matters were raised for the attention of the Council:

(a) Following resurfacing, the white give way line at the Cherry Orton Road end of Church Drive has not yet been replaced.

(b) It was noted that, although previously reported, the dead tree adjacent to the footpath leading from Chapel Lane towards Gannocks Close has not yet been removed.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that a red Biffer waste bin outside No 3 Cherry Orton Road may indicate a business being run on residential premises. Mr Gillings agreed to investigate this.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.