

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting
held in the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville on
Wednesday, 15 November 2006.

Present:- Mrs G Thornley (in the Chair) Miss A Cairns Mr M Chambers Mrs J Farnham
Mr C Long Mr C Whitworth

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs A Beeton, Mrs D Harkness, Mr E Howlett, Mr M Smith, Mrs K Whitworth, Councillor A Kempself and Councillor J Crane.
 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – The following member declared an interest:

Mr C Long – item 6a – a member of the Village Hall Management Committee.
 3. LOCAL POLICING MATTERS – Apologies were received from the Police as no officers were available to attend. However, a letter was received from the City Council asking for a response from the Parish Council regarding the proposal to give PCSOs the power to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for flyposting, graffiti and littering. The Parish Council were unanimously in favour of this.
 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 OCTOBER 2006 – Mr Chambers proposed and Mrs Farnham seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. This was carried.
 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
- (a) Tree and Hedgerow Management (Minute 5a).

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mr Hopper had asked to address the Parish Council. He had several grievances which will come up under their appropriate headings on the agenda. One was regarding the price quoted for the felling of the trees. Mr Hopper had met on site with the Clerk and was asked to quote for all the trees that had been marked by the City Council. The tree belt was very thick and it was difficult to get in, but Mr Hopper did struggle through and counted 15 trees. There was no reason to question his addition. He quoted £200 for the felling of these 15 trees. This quotation was accepted and confirmed in writing as 'all the trees marked by the City Council'. His grievance was that when he started to fell the trees and it became easier to get through, there were many more than 15. He had already begun this work and thought he would not get paid if he did not finish the job so he felled all the marked trees but would be putting in an invoice for £400 which he expected would be honoured. The Parish Council accepted that a good job had been done and agreed that, despite his miscalculation, as a gesture of good will, it will accept this revised figure.

A written report from Mr Long was circulated with the agenda. This stated that to claim Adverse Possession of the tree belt the Parish Council had to prove that it had factual possession of the land for the past 12 years. It was agreed that this could not be done. It was, therefore, agreed to reply to Mr Scane that the Parish Council is not the owner of the Land and therefore does not have the responsibility of its maintenance.

- (b) Newspaper Reports (Minute 5b).
The ET has continued to select items from the minutes as articles for its paper. Maintenance matters such as hedge and tree trimming, ditch clearing and graffiti cleaning have appeared as articles on different weeks. The dates of Council meetings has also been advertised. It was agreed to update the list of Parish Councillors and to publish them in future Orton Oracles.
- (c) Terms of Reference (Minute 5c)
The draft will be discussed at the next meeting.

- (d) Parish Seat in Memory of Councillor Jean Barker (Minute 6b)
 A meeting was held with City Council Officers on 24th October 2006. They could not agree to store the seat long term so an alternative site was requested. Seats are no longer put into bus shelters but they did offer to try to get a 'perch' put in. This has now been confirmed and it was agreed to re-site the seat in the Play Area. A letter was sent to the MP by a disgruntled resident complaining about the handling of this situation by the Parish Council. This letter was circulated with the agenda. It was agreed to inform the resident of the Parish Council's decision. Mr Chambers proposed and Mrs Farnham seconded that a waste bin should be requested to be put beside the bus shelter. This was carried. Miss Cairns also agreed to contact the Youth Workers at the Orton Centre and/or PCSO Gonda Davy at Bushfield College for advice on provision for the Youth in the parish. A questionnaire on play facilities was completed and forwarded to the City Council.
- (e) Damage to Listed Cottage (Minute 12a)
 A letter was received from the City Council confirming that the damaged bollard outside 53 Cherry Orton Road would be reset and another bollard will be provided closer to the property. These wooden bollards have already been ordered and therefore our request for bell bollards was denied. This was noted.
- (f) Buckingham Palace Garden Party (Minute 6b)
 Confirmation was received from CALC that the Parish Council's 3 nominations for the above event will be placed in a Draw to be held in January 2007. This was noted.

6. NEW CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) Village Hall Hiring Agreement – This agreement was received and completed by the Clerk. Having checked its contents, it was agreed that it should be signed by the Clerk as the Parish Council's Authorised Representative.
- (b) Tree near 23 The Gannocks – A letter was received from the City Council who believed that this tree was on Parish land. The Clerk informed them that this was not Parish land. This action was retrospectively approved.
- (c) Quality Council Workshop – An invitation was received for the Parish Clerk and one Parish Councillor to attend this free session. There appeared to be two dates: 11 December and 16 January. The Clerk was asked to check if both these dates were part of one course or if it was a choice of dates. If so, the Chairman could go in January. The Clerk could go in December.
- (d) PECT Annual Review – An invitation to this Annual Review was read out but no-one was able to attend.

7. BURIAL GROUND

The Consultation period having expired, an email was received from DEFRA enclosing letters from two of the three objectors withdrawing their objections. The Clerk agreed to forward these to the Legal Department and ask if they can confirm whether permission has now been given.

The Clerk enquired at St Botolph's School about the grass crete drive but was told that it was part of a much bigger project funded by the LEA. It was agreed to leave this matter for the moment.

8. ALLOTMENTS

- (a) Wyman Way
 Two quotations were received for cutting the summer meadow. These were circulated with the agenda. Mr Chambers proposed and Mr Long seconded that the quotation of £300 from Peterborough Tree Services be accepted as the lower tender. This was carried.
- (b) Cherry Orton Road
 Mr Hopper was aggrieved that he had been asked for a contribution towards the cost of the fence since he felt that he had no input into the choice of materials or positioning of the fence. He felt that there had been a break down in communication and he was, therefore, not going to contribute. Despite the fact that Mr Hopper had asked for the security fencing in the first instance, and the fact that a meeting was held with him where he stated his preferences, the Parish Council had to negotiate with the Planning Department and accept planning regulations to finally get planning permission. The Parish Council did accept that it should

have kept Mr Hopper informed of its negotiations with the Planning Department and that, therefore, his grievance was justified on that count. It was agreed not to pursue Mr Hopper for his contribution.

A site visit was made to the allotments by Mrs Harkness and the Clerk to assess the extent of the alleged fly tipping. They met with Mr Hopper who confessed that he had brought the gates onto the site intending to dispose of them in due course. Since they had not been dumped on his own allotment but on a neighbouring one, he was asked to remove them within a week. It was agreed to review this matter at the next meeting.

A complaint was received from a resident that there was rubbish touching her fence and that there were rats allegedly coming from the allotments. This was followed by a letter from the City Council who had received complaints that there were unsafe structures on the allotments and rats going into neighbouring properties. It was agreed to investigate these allegations.

(c) Gostwick

The water was turned off at Gostwick at the end of British Summer Time. The Parish Council will be invoiced for this when the water is turned on again. In addition, there were some leaks which will also be dealt with when the water is turned on again.

It was reported that the security fence on this site had been breached and some allotments invaded. The allotment holders concerned were notified and it was reported to the police. A temporary repair was made to the damaged fence by an allotment holder, and Mr Long agreed to inspect the fence to determine whether a permanent repair could be made without employing a contractor.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) New applications since last month

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| 06/01489/FUL | Conservatory at 9 Aboyne Avenue, Orton Waterville | No objection |
| 06/01618/FUL | Extension at 1 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville | No objection |
| 06/01676/CTR | Tree work at 74 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville | No objection |

(b) Decisions on previous applications

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|--------------|--|----------|
| 06/00949/FUL | Extension at 10A Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville | Approved |
| 06/01143/ADV | Signs at the Granary, Ham Lane, Orton Waterville | Approved |
| 06/01472/CTR | Tree work at 5 Debdale, Orton Waterville | Approved |
| 06/01371/FUL | Restrospective conservatory at 2 Beckingham, Orton Goldhay | Approved |
| 06/01354/FUL | Conservatory at 2 Glencoe Way, Orton Southgate | Approved |

(c) Appeals

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| 05/01647/FUL | Erection of one dwelling at 1 Martins Way, Orton Waterville | Allowed |
| 05/01871/FUL | Extension at 25 The Orchards, Orton Waterville | Dismissed |

10. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The following payments were authorised

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| Anglia Water (Cherry Orton Road Allotments) | £176.12 |
| Anglia Water (Gostwick Allotments) | £178.81 |
| Peterborough Office Supplies (stationery) | £106.33 |
| HM Revenue & Customs (employer's tax & NIC) | £88.30 |
| Clerk's Salary (for November) | £388.70 |
| Clerk's Expenses (for November) | £29.89 |

(b) Income received to date

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| J Hopper – shed rent | £140.00 |
| M Lodge – shed rent | £100.00 |
| Bank Interest on Saver Plus Account | £127.58 |
| Bank Interest on Treasurer's Account | £1.21 |

11. MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The following matters were raised:

- (a) The footpath from Gleneagles towards Notcutts is overhung by overgrown shrubbery in various places. It was agreed to ask the City Council to cut them back.
- (b) The tree belt between the Lessingham footpath and Brimbles Way is littered with fly tipping. It was agreed to notify the City Council.
- (c) There has been some dumping of garden waste at the back of 11 Rangefield, near the electricity substation. It was agreed to notify the City Council.
- (d) The street lights in Mill Crescent, numbered PCC1 and PCC3, are not working. It was agreed to notify the City Council.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members were reminded that following the next meeting, it will be the Christmas Social. Members were asked to bring Mince Pies. Wine will be provided.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15 pm.