

Minutes of the Meeting of West Lavington Parish Council held on Thursday 1st July 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, West Lavington

Present: Councillors: Mr M Page (as Chairman); Mrs J Ford; Mr T Jones; Mrs M Diccox; Mrs E Evans; Mrs P Watts; Mrs J Collins;

Apologies: Councillors; Mr M Wadman; Mr K Dyer; Miss B Green; Clerk (Designate); Mr P Baxter.

Also Present County Councillor R Gamble; Mr J Bell; Mr Haste (Clerk);

10/11/039 Declarations of Interest.

There were none at this time.

10/11/040 Village Hall Car Park

Mr Page read out an e-mail from Mr Wadman in which he set out the problem as he saw it. A larger car park might be needed and in that case a second entrance/exit would also be necessary.

Mr Page then invited Mr Bell, a parent at the school, to speak on this issue. Mr Bell explained that the Headmaster of the primary school had announced his intention of closing the school gates to parental traffic at the beginning of the new term in September. This would mean that cars could no longer enter the school grounds to drop off children and turn round. The inevitable consequence of this closure would be to transfer the traffic elsewhere in the village, much of it to the Village Hall car park. Mr Bell understood that the new policy resulted from concerns over the school's liability for any accidents to children on school premises.

Mr Jones asked that the Clerk be instructed to ascertain the Council's own position in relation to liability for accidents on the car park. This was agreed and the Clerk is to contact the insurers.

Councillor Gamble emphasised that the Governors were expected to have a travel plan which took all these factors into consideration. Mrs Evans, herself a governor of the school, said that there was a travel plan but that it probably needed revising in the light of the proposed closure.

After further discussion it was resolved that the Clerk would write to the Chairman of the Governors, Mr J Ford, requesting that the travel plan be updated so that the Parish Council could consider it and decide what steps could and should be taken to improve matters in the interests of both parents and children.

10/11/041 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. They were then signed by the Chairman.

10/11/042 Matters arising from those Minutes

There were none.

10/11/043 Wiltshire Councillor's report

Councillor Gamble reported that he had insisted on further action in respect of the lights on the A360 by the Church bends. He also intended to ask for repeater 30 mph signs in the Cheverell Road. He noted that the next meeting of the Area Board would be on 19th July and that one major topic would be waste disposal.

10/11/044 Police Report

In the absence of any police representative this item was also held over. Mrs Ford noted that a number of bales of hay had been set alight near White Street.

10/11/045 Children's Playground Maintenance Report

The Clerk reported that he had been assured that a representative of the makers of the "Witches Hat" would be visiting the site in the near future. After discussion it was proposed by Mr Jones, seconded by Mrs Evans, that the Clerk be authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £200 for repairs to this item without further discussion.

10/11/046 Footpath's Committee Report

Mrs Ford reported on her discussion with interested parties concerning FP 15. It was agreed that she should seek to have a padlock put on the gate and that the adjacent stile should be replaced with a kissing gate. Mr Jones reported on the situation in relation to the gate on the footpath near the Catholic Church.

10/11/047 Reports from Representatives

- (a) Devizes Area Board. There was nothing to report on this occasion.
- (b) Primary School – Mrs Evans had nothing further to report.
- (c) Dauntseys School – The Chairman read the report from Mr Matters, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes.
- (d) Village Hall – Mrs Ford reported that a new committee had been elected. She was now the Chair and Mike May was the Secretary.
- (e) Youth Club – Mr Watts reported that the current reduction in Local Authority funding had put the new play equipment for older children on hold.

- (f) Neighbourhood Watch – Mrs Collins reported that all five signs were now in place.
- (g) Emergency Planning – Mr Jones had nothing to report.
- (h) Twinning Arrangement – Mr Page reported on a fund raising event held on 30th June.

10/11/048 Annual Return 2009/2010

Members considered the Annual Return which had been approved by the Internal Auditor. The Chairman was authorised to sign on behalf of the Council. It was noted that the sum of £2,500 held in the reserves had been contributed by Dauntseys School towards the costs of the speed limit extension in the Cheverell Road.

Councillor Gamble asked that the Internal Auditor's fee of £100 be divided between the Youth Club and the Twinning Assn. Members expressed their appreciation for this generous gesture.

10/11/049 Accounts for Payment

The following were approved for payment:

- (a) Clerk's expenses (as approved) - £123.16p
- (b) Mr Coles - £410
- (c) Mr Baxter (purchase of new LG Handbook) - £65.47p
- (d) Deputy Clerk's final salary payment for the month of June - £93.33p
- (e) Wiltshire Council – waste removal - £381.26p
- (f) Youth Club (see above) - £50
- (g) Twinning Assn (see above) - £50

10/11/050 Clerk's Contract of Employment

After discussion it was agreed in principle that the new Clerk should be offered a contract of employment in line with the national agreement and Model Contract of Employment.

10/11/051 Planning Matters

There were no items for discussion on this occasion

10/11/052 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 2nd September 2010.

10/11/053 Correspondence received

All matters not dealt with at this meeting will be circulated to members.

10/11/054 Speed limit in Cheverell Road

The Clerk reported that the work appeared to be complete but that no invoice had as yet been received from Wiltshire Council.

10/11/055 Future of West Lavington Post Office.

There was nothing to report on this occasion.

10/11/056 War Memorial

It was agreed that the only action needed was to have the memorial properly cleaned. Councillor Gamble suggested that the Clerk should contact Helen Garside (Planning) for advice.

10/11/057 Items of Maintenance

- (a) It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Highways Authority over the state of the “chevrons” at the junction of Duck Street with the A360.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Chairman made a presentation to the retiring Clerk of two pictures of West Lavington, one in winter the other in summer. Mr Haste expressed his appreciation of this gesture and thanked members for their support over the past 21 years.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm. Light refreshments were then served.

Signed.....Chairman
(of the meeting)

Date.....2010