

Woodchester Parish Council

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Ints.....

Minutes of the meeting of Woodchester Parish Council held on April 24, 2008 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall at North Woodchester.

Present: Cllrs Bastin (Chair), Hamilton, Hemming, Swait, Warnes and Wigzell
In attendance: Duncan Hayes (Clerk) and 1 member of the public

1. To accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Chestnutt and Glanfield

2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interest

3. To receive comments from members of the public

There were no comments from the public

4. To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on February 28, 2008

The minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the chairman

5. To approve expenditure and sign cheques as per annex

The expenditure was approved and the cheques were signed

6. To note the latest financial statements

The financial statements were noted

7. To receive the Clerk's Report

The clerk's report was delivered. The clerk noted that the timing of the submission of the Council's documents for external audit will make necessary a meeting on June 26 to authorise the accounts and governance statement. The council agreed but requested that the clerk bring forward the date of the regular July meeting to this date to conduct any other business at the same time

8. To note planning applications and decisions from SDC

The applications and decisions were noted

9. To note correspondence received

The correspondence was noted

10. To receive reports under the Parish Plan Action Plan

Events

Councillor Wigzell reported that the organisation of an open gardens event is underway

Traffic

Cllr Swait believes that the sale of Tower House may not be going ahead and that units at Fenworths are now being offered for rent. As such there is unlikely to be any planning gain from development in the short term. Cllr Swait is to follow up the SDC safety officer's offer of involving the schools in a road safety campaign

Environment

Cllr Warnes will not be remaining on the council after the elections, but believes Penny Brown may be interested in putting renewed momentum behind walk maps.

Ints.....

11. To consider a response to the GCC charter

The council has had time to consider this document and agreed to sign it

12. To consider a response to LARC funding expression of interest

The council agreed that possible future projects under this funding could include cycle trail resurfacing, purchase of land behind the High Street to alleviate parking, purchase of land for a playground. Cllr Hamilton agreed to submit a response

13. To review the list of assets for insurance

The list of assets was discussed and approved, but with Cllr Swait pointing out that the bench on Atcombe Road is not the responsibility of the Parish Council

14. To discuss the withdrawal of night services on bus route 46

The council strongly objected to the withdrawal of these evening services. Given the very short period of consultation the clerk had already submitted an objection formulated by Cllr Hemming

15. To consider replacement of one bus shelter

The council agreed to proceed with the replacement. The clerk is to action

16. To discuss any progress with Post Offices

The council is unable to proceed with seeking any provisions for the village until the current owners of the two stores have decided how they wish to proceed

17. To receive an update on the Village Design Statement

A draft is almost ready for submission to SDC for comments

18. To delegate a councillor to respond to SDC street cleaning consultation

The council agreed that this consultation would be best left to the new council in May

19. To authorise the Clerk to renew the council's insurance policy

The council authorised the clerk to renew the policy based on the best price available. The council agreed that, although a large increase, the policy must reflect the true value of its assets and should cover all these assets for all risks

20. To consider a response to Considerate Driver Network

The council agreed that this initiative is not appropriate for Woodchester. However by way of encouraging interaction between parish councils, Cllr Wigzell agreed to write a letter thanking the parish of Whiteshill and Ruscombe for their invitation

21. To receive comments from members of the public on items discussed at this meeting

There were no comments from the public. However, Chairman Bastin took this opportunity to thank Councillors Warnes, Hemming and Chestnutt for their service to the council.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Chair.....

Date.....