

Woodchester Parish Council

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Int.....

Minutes of the meeting of Woodchester Parish Council held on November 6 2008 at the Village Hall North Woodchester at 7pm

Present: Cllrs Wigzell (Chair), Swait, Lead, Hamilton, Brown, Syrett

In attendance: Barbara Lewis (Clerk), one member of the public and PCSO

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
Apology received from Cllr Bastin
2. **To receive declarations of interest in items on the Agenda**
There were no declarations of interest
3. **To receive questions from members of the public and those attending in an official capacity**
There were no questions from the public
4. **To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting September 4, 2008**
The minutes were read, an amendment needed to be made to item 15, surname should be Moore not Black. Chair then signed the minutes
5. **To receive the Clerk's Report**
The clerk reported that Selsley Rd still had not had the hedge cut and she had informed Highways of this. The hedgerows in Water Lane also need to be cut back. It was hoped that Highways will chase the Land Agent about both of these matters
The council would also like to request a Parish Electoral Register
6. **To note planning applications and decisions from SDC**
The planning application and decisions were noted
7. **To note correspondence received**
The correspondence was noted
8. **To receive a financial report for the latest period**
The financial report was noted, clerk to clarify payments and budget against Parish Plan and Design Statement
9. **To approve expenditure and approve cheques as per annex**
Cheques were approved and signed
10. **To discuss the precept for 2009/10**
The Finance Committee will reconvene to discuss precept and an extraordinary meeting will be held to agree precept
11. **To receive a report on the Village Design Statement**
Cllr Lead met Conrad Moore (SDC Liaison Officer for Communities) to discuss draft statement. It was suggested that we look at Nailsworth's site and do skeleton report. Cllr Lead has sent draft report to Stephen Wright to comment on and will then go back to SDC. It is important that residents and local groups get involved in this. As the Design Statement and Parish Plan overlap it would make sense to have a public meeting combining both in January or February.
12. **To discuss the website and its management**
Shona Ward (resident of S Woodchester) is concerned that with the closing of the post office it is difficult to exchange news and views and is proposing that the website could be adapted for residents to use as a notice board. She has some time and is willing to get this up and running. It was suggested that a small group be responsible for entering items onto the website. Cllr Syrett will discuss the website with Shona.

cont.

13. **To receive reports on the Carols and next year's fete**
Village carols to be held on Monday 22 December. Groups will start from different areas of the village and meet at the Church in North Woodchester. South Woodchester to meet at Convent Lane, N Woodchester and Rooksmoor to combine. Suggestions include having Joseph and Mary coming from S Woodchester and Kings from N Woodchester. The Fete will be held on September 12th 2009 in the grounds of Oakley House. The Village Hall will be booked as well, the Historical Society would like to have an exhibition, and also for amenities. The next meeting will be January 19 at 7.30 at Winslow House
14. **To discuss upgrading the notice boards, and their usage**
Cllr Wigzell felt that they should be upgraded and made more attractive. Research to be done on new boards.
15. **To agree procedures for recruiting a new clerk**
The clerk has resigned due to a change in circumstances and it was decided to advertise and network in the village at first, casting the net wider if no response. Notices to go on boards and on website.
16. **To receive a report from the Water Warden**
Cllr Syrett attended a meeting in September and it was explained that it has been set up after the 2007 problems and to give SDC a better idea of the state of the water courses in the district. The wardens have no powers but they are to advise of obstructions and other problems, they will be supplied with identification. Cllr Syrett has advised that there is an obstruction at Rooksmoor Mill weir, but as yet it has not been cleared
17. **To receive a report on highways**
Cllr Swait has reported blocked culverts and some have been cleared, the water leak in Station Road has now been stopped
18. **To discuss the annual village maintenance contract**
Clerk to email current maintenance spec to councillors and they will check it around the village. Clerk to check that Mr Smith will clear War Memorial for Remembrance Service. Mr Smith has been unable to varnish notice boards this summer as they have not been dry enough to do. Cllr Hamilton pointed out that SDC do not keep the old churchyard in a good state, a diary to be kept to see how often they do clear.
19. **To receive a report on footpaths**
Footpath on Little Hill blocked with trees, the landowner would be responsible to clear. Sarah Ellis from SDC will come and inspect. Cllr Syrett to check with SDC about the adoption of a footpath at Rooksmoor Weir to get to railway track, as they have not acted within the required timescale
20. **To discuss Woodchester Parish Council Emergency plan**
Cllr Hamilton attended a meeting intended to get Town and Parish Councils more involved with emergency planning. Information needed on vulnerable residents and properties. A village group to be formed to co-ordinate information. Clerk to send email to council outlining the plan.
21. **To receive comments from members of the public on items discussed at this meeting**
Elizabeth Colcombe confirmed that the hedge on Selsley Road needs to be cut back, also some private properties are allowing their hedges to obstruct the pavement.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm

Chair.....

Date.....