

Clerk's Report to 3rd March 2011

The clerk attended the second of two CiLCA mentoring days in February.

Ian Smith, the maintenance contractor, has now installed seats in two of the Parish's 7 bus shelters. The clerk put up notices asking for feedback but received none.

The Parish Council have been awarded a grant of £750 towards updating the Parish Plan.

Broadband

VDS

PAYE

New guidance has been issued by HMRC on the tax treatment of parish clerks. Parish Councils must register as an employer with HMRC and operate PAYE on the income the Clerk earns. Any previous agreements with HMRC under which the clerk was paid gross or was treated as self employed are void, as are any 'inherited arrangements' under which a clerk's income is not subjected to PAYE. In practice since the clerk earns less than the lower earnings level this will not have any financial implications for the Parish Council. The clerk will need to submit quarterly statements and a year-end summary.

GCC Highways have now undertaken the work at Frogmarsh and have installed dropped kerbs, and reflective bollards.

The Parish Council's Standing Orders have been amended and circulated to all councillors.

Updated Financial Regulations are due to be published in April and a review of the council's Financial Regulations will follow.

The clerk and the Webmaster are in the process of setting up a business directory on the Parish website. Local businesses, clubs and organisations have been contacted to ask if they would like their details included and this request will be reiterated in the next edition of the Woodchester Word.

The notice board outside the post office in North Woodchester has now been lowered and its orientation changed. The old notice board has been re-sited to Paul's Rise.

The clerk was recently advised by SDC that the 2 empty properties at 5 and 6 Southbank will have the necessary works to bring them back into use. It is expected that the works will be complete by the end of March.

The VDS is now ready for public consultation and will be posted on the website imminently.

Cheques signed/to be signed since last meeting January 6th, 2011

Cheque Number	Description	Amount
543	Leopard Press – Woodchester Word printing	£410.00
544	GAPTC Book for Clerk's CiLCA training	£55.00
545	New back up drive for council laptop	£46.79
546	Clerk's salary 4.1.11-1.2.11	£370.00
547	Hire of Village Hall for 2011	£115.50

548	Ian Smith – notice boards	£400.00
549	Ian Smith – 2 seats for bus shelters	£170.00
550	Clerk's salary 2.2.11 – 2.3.11	£370.00
551	Clerk's wages to attend CiLCA training	£83.25
552	Mileage and parking to attend CiLCA training	£12.95
553	Clerk's wages for 2 hours CiLCA study per week 1.1.11-28.2.11	£148.00
554	GAPTC subscription	£233.04

Planning Update

Planning Decisions Received

Consent has been granted for:

- S.10/2283/HHOLD and S.10/2284/LBC for a proposed garden room extension and detached single garage with new vehicular access for The Cottage on Selsley Road
- S.10/2319/COU Land adjacent to Station Road Industrial Estate for change of use for provision of storage containers for self storage

Planning Applications Received

- S.11/0170/VAR Land at the Old Coach House, Lagger Lane – variation of condition 1 of approved application S.07/2008/FUL to extend the time period for the commencement of development. Erection of new dwelling. (Extant permission).

Applications for Certificates of Proposed Lawful Use/Development

- S.11/0246/CPL The Glen, Rooksmoor Hill - Erection of an old fashioned country Cotswold cottage picket fence and gates

SDC are undertaking an initial review of the identified settlement boundaries within Stroud and are have asked Woodchester to review the existing settlement boundaries to indicate where possible changes could occur.

Planned works to trees in a conservation area

S.11/0076/TCA 3 Pauls Rise – Fell sycamore by sections near to ground level

Resident's correspondence

Complaints have been received by residents on Selsley Hill and Convent Lane about the state of the village, un-emptied waste bins, dog fouling and scruffy, overgrown verges and hedge boundaries, particularly on Church Road and Berryfield as well as on the path leading past Woodchester House in North Woodchester and along Convent Lane and Cow Lane in South Woodchester. The chair and clerk visited the affected areas and the clerk has written to SDC, the relevant private residents and businesses requesting action. Cllr Hamilton has covered the problem in the Parish Council's update for the next edition of the Woodchester Word and it is hoped that the village Litter Pick on 27th March will also help to raise awareness and tackle the problem. There is also concern about vehicles parking in Frogmarsh Lane opposite the end of Convent Lane and the threat of impeding visibility and larger vehicles being unable to turn into Convent Lane.

The footpath from the bottom of Bospin Lane to Tower House Drive has been gravelled and is extremely difficult for pushchairs. Cllr Wigzell has been asked if having a right of way entitles someone to change the surface unilaterally?

The clerk has also been contacted by a resident who is due to acquire a mobility scooter and has realized that it is impossible to navigate through certain barriers at the end of footpaths in North Woodchester. These were erected many years ago and at that time did not have to consider the additional space now required. They believe that to assist handicapped vehicles, these barriers should be altered. Those barriers in question are at the foot of the path leading from Berrymore to Church Road, from Berrymore Road/ Berryfield through to the car park almost opposite the Post Office in Selsley Road and the barrier on the pathway leading from Southfield Road down to Pauls Rise. The clerk will liaise with the Council.

Correspondence received

The Royal British Legion "Great Poppy Party Weekend" brochure to celebrate the Royal British Legion's 90th birthday

SDC E News February 2011

Feb/Mar 2011: Latest news from the Cotswolds AONB - Cotswolds Conservation Board

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Clerks & Councils Direct January 2011 Issue 73

Clerks & Councils Direct March 2011 Issue 74

Clerks & Councils Direct – Councils Suppliers Guide and Yearbook

IAC promotional leaflet