

WICKHAM BISHOPS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the council meeting of June 4 th 2013	
Item	Subject
13/21	<p>In the chair Cllr MacGregor.</p> <p>Present; Cllrs Bass, Bates, Jacob, Johnson, Mickelson, Pink, Sayers and three members of the public</p> <p>Acting Clerk Mr Letch</p> <p>No apologies for absence</p>
13/22	<p>Declaration of interests and compliance with the ethical framework.</p> <p>No declarations of personal and prejudicial interests were made.</p>
13/23	<p>Approval of Minutes.</p> <p>Resolved. The minutes Parish Council meeting held on 7th May 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr MacGregor, Seconded Cllr Johnson.</p> <p>The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 17th May 2013 were noted.</p>
13/24	<p>Chairman's report</p> <p>It was reported that there were still some employment matters outstanding, but the recruitment of a new clerk and the resolution of other employment concerns were in hand.</p> <p>All suggestions made to the highways panel have been adopted.</p>
13/25	<p>Clerk's report</p> <p>The clerk reported that a saving of £160 had been made on insurance.</p>
13/26	<p>Public forum</p> <p>A resident enquired about the progress of speed watch. Although the training has been delivered, the police have yet to allocate times and locations. It is known that the police are taking action, but there is disappointment that the residents are not allowed to participate. The clerk was asked to contact the police commissioner asking about the value of training without permission to work.</p> <p>A resident requested information about the application 459 and wished to make a statement about the proposal. It was agreed to close the meeting prior to item 13/36.</p> <p>A resident enquired about the closure of the Mitre public house, asking about the possible futures for the building. No formal announcement has been made.</p>
13/27	<p>Introductions from candidates for council co-option.</p> <p>Presentations were made from both candidates to support their previously distributed CVs.</p>
13/28	<p>To appoint committees and review members individual responsibilities.</p> <p>Carried forward from May meeting.</p> <p>BHSA representative- Cllr Jacob proposed by Cllr Bass, seconded by Cllr Sayers</p> <p>News letter and publicity- Cllr Bates proposed by Cllr Sayer, seconded by Cllr Bass</p> <p>Finance to remain as Cllrs Mickelson, Johnson & Pink reserving the option of appointing the new councillor at a later meeting.</p> <p>Planning committee – unchanged.</p> <p>Transport - Cllr Jacob, unchanged.</p>

13/29	<p>District Council report.</p> <p>Cllr Bass reported that the highway rangers have dealt with tree, hedges and overgrown ivy. This has revealed a fence in poor repair, and the clerk was instructed to write to the owner asking if it can be maintained.</p> <p>Some work has been done on the surrounds of the railway line, but more is to be done.</p> <p>Dog bin update – MDC has no bins at the moment, but enquiries are continuing.</p> <p>The solar panel farm was refused at the planning meeting.</p>
13/30	<p>Police report</p> <p>The police were unable to attend but sent in a written report stating that there had been two offences since the last report; a low level theft from One Stop shop and an offence of a personal nature which has no impact on the local community.</p> <p>Three sites have been assessed for community speed watch; THE STREET on the large pavement situated between the junctions of BLACKSMITHS LANE and SCHOOL ROAD, KELVEDON ROAD and BLACKSMITHS LANE close to ROOTS LANE. The paperwork has been completed for these and sent off to casualty reduction.</p> <p>On the 14/06/ at 12.00hrs at Maldon police station a further training day is taking place with some spaces reserved for residents.</p> <p>No further reports have been received of nuisance bikes.</p>
13/31	<p>Neighbourhood Watch Report</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
13/32	<p>EALC report – any urgent information</p> <p>Cllr Pink confirmed that she represents the Thurstable hundred and has been appointed to the standards board at MDC. Finance and Personnel committees.</p> <p>EALC have been given notice to move, and are looking to relocate but suitable premises are proving difficult to obtain.</p>
13/33	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>There was no correspondence to consider. Councillors confirmed that they wished to receive electronic communications as they arrive.</p>
13/34	<p>Finance</p> <p>The receipts and payments report was noted and the cheques approved for payment.</p>
13/35	<p>Annual Audit update</p> <p>The clerk presented the annual return and the accounts for 2012-3. Some amendments were proposed to the accounts, and subject to their adjustment, it was agreed to sign the return.</p> <p>Resolved. The chairman to sign the annual return confirming the budget figures and the governance statement. Proposed Cllr Johnson, seconded Cllr Bates.</p>

13/36	<p>Planning, The first two applications were dealt with under prior authority by the planning committee Application: FUL/MAL/13/000347 Application: HOUSE/MAL/13/00421</p> <p>Application: FUL/MAL/13/00361 Proposal: Stationing of 2 gypsy wagons for holiday accommodation between Easter and October. Location: Bouncers Farm, Wickham Hall Lane, Wickham Bishops.</p> <p>Approval is recommended with the request that it is made a condition that the caravans are physically removed in the off-season October to Easter.</p> <p>Application: FUL/MAL/13/00459 Proposal: Erection of zip wire. Location: Fairplay House, Station Road, Wickham Bishops.</p> <p>Meeting was closed to allow the public to make representation.</p> <p>Approval is recommended but the Parish Council would like to specify two conditions; screening or shuttering around the top of the tower to restrict the view, and restrictions on the times at which it may be used at weekends with the preferred option being from 10 – 12 on Saturday and no activity on Sunday.</p>
13/37	<p>Committee reports: - any urgent information only</p> <p>Website – progress has been made and the councillors user addresses are available. The clerk was asked to send a form of disclaimer to clarify the emails were personal and had no official status</p> <p>BHSA were asked to consider installing an additional ‘no dogs’ sign.</p> <p>The Fete is on 22nd June, next fete meeting in the Chequers on 5th June.</p> <p>Clarification was sought about the status of Handley’s land and it was confirmed that there is a traffic prohibition order in force.</p>
13/38	<p>Recruitment of permanent clerk. The Clerk distributed a recruitment pack which will be sent to the neighbouring district councils for advertising on their internal personnel system. Some amendments were proposed and it was agreed that the advertisement would be place with the intention of a September start date.</p>
13/39	<p>General village news and matters for information.</p> <p>The annual report can be produced for 10p a copy for 900 printed. Payment will be required for printing and distribution and this will be considered at the next meeting.</p> <p>The poster for village picnic was circulated and agreed for distribution.</p>
13/40	<p>Exclusion of Press and Public. Resolved.In accordance with s.1 of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, in the opinion of the council it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded. Proposed Cllr Johnson, seconded Cllr Bates.</p>
13/41	<p>Co-option of councillor. After consideration of the strengths of both candidates, the council resolved to appoint Ian Wardrop.</p>

13/42	<p>Update on planning issues</p> <p>The village design statement and the housing needs highlighted a need for <i>village homes for village people</i>, and a site has been identified between Tiptree and Witham roads where there are natural barriers to additional expansion. The project is a community-led development will be a mix of 3 4 and 5 bed properties for the open market and a range of <i>village homes for village people</i>. At this stage the plans are subject to review and there is an intention to get the land owner to have more bungalows and fewer larger properties. Representation will be made to ensure that <i>village homes for village people</i> properties will be restricted to local people and people with clear local connections.</p> <p>There will be an exhibition on 19th and 20th July at which the ideas behind the community led development will be presented to the parish for their consideration. The matter will be managed by the planning committee.</p> <p>Resolved. The community led scheme to provide <i>village homes for village people</i> and properties for open market on a site at Snow's Corner will be put forward for public consultation. Proposed Cllr Sayers, Seconded Cllr Johnson. Carried with one abstention.</p>
13/43	<p>Date of next meeting July 2nd</p>
13/44	<p>Close of meeting</p> <p>The following items were suggested for inclusion in future agendas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forward plan - surfacing Handley's Lane. Internal auditor appointment. Photographs for website and update personal bio. Add an item to the annual general meeting agenda - update register of interests. Appoint interview panel. Approve payment for distribution of annual report. Approve an honour board for past chairmen. Reinstate the chairman's allowance