

**MINUTES OF THE HAMBLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday 8th October 2007 at 8.00pm in The Village Hall,
Skirmett**

Present: Cllrs Mr T. Nixey, Mr Baird, Mrs E. Robinson, Mr D. White,
Mr J. Jackson, Mrs S. Walker (Allies) , Mrs L. Mann,
Mr A. Armstrong, Dr M. Elliott Mrs S. Henson, Clerk

0 members of the public

Apologies for absence were accepted from: Cllr Mr Emmett

- Minute 7428 Confirm and Sign the Minutes of the September Parish Council Meeting
Cllr White asked that under Minute 7410, page 35/07, line 22 and 28 the word 'movements' be added after the word 'aircraft'. Councillors then agreed the Minutes and the Chairman signed them off.
- Minute 7429 Declaration of personal or prejudicial interests
Cllr Baird declared a prejudicial interest in the planning application for Yewden Manor Farm and Cllr Armstrong declared a personal interest in the planning application for Pheasants Coombe.
- Minute 7401 Progress on items from previous minutes
2. The gully covers at the bottom of Hutton's Lane have been replaced.
3. The Donate a Gates were due to be erected on 4th October, however due to conflicting information The Chiltern Society will be installing the gate agreed by Turville Estate on October 12th. The kissing gate at Pheasants Hill has been erected.
6. The Clerk spoke on the issue of taxi tokens in rural areas and asked that it should be investigated, pointing out that £50's worth of tokens does not provide many taxi journeys in rural areas. She was told that with the new government free travel scheme coming in next April there was very little likelihood of anything changing. Cllr Emmett is also investigating the subject.
- Action: Cllrs Emmett & Woollard
- Minute 7413 1. BCC could not rod the narrow inlet in the deepest soak away by the church wall.
- Minute 7417 4. Ellery Rise lease papers have been forwarded to the Land Registry.
9. Clerk attended the Local Accessibility forum but as it only covered exactly what was said 18 months ago and nothing has happened since then it would appear that little will be achieved.
- Minute 7423 The A3 printer has been purchased and is in use.
- Minute 7425 1. Cllr Baird reported that the tree on the Henley Road will be cut down.
3. The bin in Ellery Rise will be put on a regular schedule by WDC.
4. Cllr Armstrong has spoken to the gardener and the fence is about to be replaced.
5. Weeping cherry has been reduced.
6. Planning enforcement has told Faylands that the fence is unacceptable and they are currently waiting for a response.
7. Our BCC Area Highways Engineer has no objection for the seat to be installed Skirmett. A site visit has taken place and an area has been agreed. Angus Armstrong submitted a price of £150 plus VAT for clearing back the scrub, dig out the base and set the bench in concrete. It was resolved that Angus Armstrong be asked to go ahead with the installation.
8. Cllr Baird attended the Neighbourhood Watch meeting. The police were present encouraging everyone to start a scheme. Frieth, Turville and Fingest are going ahead with the scheme and Skirmett are looking to revive their scheme. Used to be a scheme in Pheasants Hill. Trying to encourage a scheme for Hambleden – a co-ordinator is required. Clerk will put up a Notice to ask for anyone interested.
- Action: Clerk/Cllr Baird

11. WDC will produce an extra sign for Innings Road.

- Minute 7430
- Action: Clerk
- Correspondence received from 11th – 28th September
1. Letter from Paul Goodman asking for a copy of the Silencer report and asking for an update on other issues at WAP. A response will be sent covering the complaints system, monitoring and highlighting issues relating to the Silencer Report. We will send him a copy of the Silencer Report as requested.
 2. Notification that WDC has a graffiti removal kit for Parish Councils to borrow.
 3. email circulated to all Councillors from Cllr Mrs Mann on The Commons Act 2006
 4. email from WDC confirming that Ellery Rise rubbish bin will be on a regular route for emptying
 5. Matters Arising magazine – copy for all Councillors to be issued at meeting. Contains the updated figures for Clerks mileage allowances. Councillors can only use the figures currently used by WDC Councillors.
 6. BCC Notification that some street lights in parts of the county have been turned off for a trial period in an experiment to save energy.
 7. email circulated to all Councillors from Cllr David White re the Commons Act and proposals for Frieth Common
 8. BCC Area 8 Speed Review Consultation documents.
 9. Report from WDC re the suitability of Ellery Rise as a Play Area – circulated to all Councillors.
 10. Letter from WDC confirming that all planning application consultations became electronic on 1st October.
 11. Email from Frieth Village Society stating their continued objection to the new paths across Frieth Common.
 12. Letter from Mrs Tebbot, Churchwarden, St Johns Church re the paths to the church.
 13. WDC confirmation of Tree Preservation Orders on trees at Isabel Cottage, Skirmett and St Johns Church, Frieth.
 14. Email from Mrs Newcombe re proposed road closures in the Hambleden Valley. The Clerk has responded that there are no proposals for this, however in October 2008; the motorway bridge at Stokenchurch will be closed for important maintenance works. People in Ibstone and Mill Road will be most affected. Everyone else will just have to use earlier or later motorway junctions. Highways Agency are still working on the scheme and diversions and it is too early to make any comment as the formal proposals have not been made. A public meeting will be called when more is known.
 15. Email from Mike Henson Presentations asking if the Parish Council would like to sign up to a Parish Council Forum for Councillors and members of the public. No cost involved. – it was agreed that we would sign up to this.
 16. Because Every Adult Matters leaflet.
 17. Letter from Karen Satterford, CEO of WDC acknowledging our letter re Wycombe Air Park.
 18. Email from Alan Armstrong asking if the Parish Council would like to be involved in 'Specially Hambleden' on Saturday 10th November, 10am – 4pm at a cost of £35. – It was resolved that we would attend as it is a good way of communicating issues, publicising the website and to talk about the residents surveys.
 19. Price of £150 plus VAT from Angus Armstrong for installing the seat at Skirmett.
 20. Email from BCC confirming that the order has been placed for blocking off the drain by Frieth Village Hall.

- Minute 7431 Planning Report – Applications and Decisions
Applications
DVO/07/07286/FUL – Woolleys, Hambleden –demolition of existing orangery & constr of part two storey, part single storey front & rear extension – no objection
RH/07/07288/FUL – Grebe Cottage, Mill End – erection of detached garage & store – no objection
AEF/07/07292/FUL & 07293/LBC – Coombe View, Skirmett –constr of part two storey/part single storey rear extension & insertion of rear dormer window (alternative scheme to 07/06329/FUL) – no objection
AHC/07/07246/TPO – Garden House, Ferry Lane – remove 1 Lawson Cypress – no objection
PECS/07/07254/CTREE – Yewden Manor Farm – crown lift by up to 2m, reduce overhang by up to 2m and thin and remove deadwood by a Max of 10% to 1 yew tree – no objection
DVO/07/07436/CAC & 07435/FUL – Pheasants Coombe, Pheasants Hill – demolition of existing detached garage and store, erection of replacement detached 3 bay garage with studio over and creation of external staircase – on circulation
Decisions
07/061/CLE - Woodmans, Frieth Road – continued use of the land edged red as part of the residential garden to the adjoining land edged blue – is lawful.
07/06738/FUL Springfield Farm, Rotten Row – conversion of garage and store rooms within existing stable block to form 2 bed staff accommodation - permit
PECS/07/06870/CTREE- The Firm, Frieth – fell 1 yew tree – refused – TPO granted. Fell 2 Lawson cypress, 1 sycamore, group of holly and cypress – not to make a TPO.
- Minute 7432 To review the start time and duration of Parish Council Meetings
Cllr Mrs Walker (Allies) asked if we could start our Winter meetings an hour earlier, finishing at 10pm and in Summer start at 8.00 finishing at 10.30. Review at 10.15 and possibly postpone subjects. Ideas were discussed on ways of reducing the amount of time spent on discussion. By a vote of 5 to 3 it was agreed that we continue with 8 – 10.30.
- Minute 7433 To consider the BCC Area 8 Speed review
Action: Clerk Maps showing the proposals are on the notice boards. Clerk will attach a set of maps to the minutes. BCC confirmed that Frieth is in the 30mph limit, it is the wording which is incorrect as they have called Frieth Hill, Shogmoor Lane. Councillors asked why continuous stretches of road could not all be one speed limit, Cllr White and the Clerk had attended the Judges Lodgings were this was explained – drivers become complacent or forget what the speed limit is so changes keep drivers more alert to the limits. Councillors asked if the road markings currently being painted on the roads are connected with the speed limit signs. No one really wants too many signs, however the roundels are quite small and many markings are painted directly onto the road. If we want enforceable speed limits there have to be signs. Clerk will ask for timescale.
- Minute 7434 To discuss Frieth Common in relation to the new Commons Act
Cllr Mrs Mann sent a report on her attendance at the training on the new Commons Act. The most significant point being that the owner of the land, without the need to seek approval from the Secretary of State, could install a row, not exceeding 200 metres in length, of regularly spaced obstacles such as bollards or large stones, for the purpose of preventing or restricting vehicular access to common land, where the owner reasonably considers that such access would interfere with or be detrimental to the use of the land by members of the public.
We have received a letter from Mrs Tebbot, Church Warden for St John's Church, Frieth stating that having read the Defra letter in which it

states that nothing that impedes access is allowed, and as the new paths do not impede access, the only option would be for the Parish Council to go to court against the PCC and as there are numerous other works on the common, this would not appear to be a good use of funds. She hoped that the matter can now be considered closed.

Action: Clerk	<p>Having read the papers relating to the new Commons Act, Cllr White contended that the PCC has contravened Part 3 – works on Common Land Section 38 as it states that under restricted works resurfacing of the land would be included, and resurfacing includes concrete, tarmacadam or coated roadstone (unless it is for the repair of existing surface). It also covers fencing, construction of buildings and other structures and digging of ditches and trenches and embankments. A long discussion took place. The work carried out by the PCC was not agreed upon or supported by the Parish Council and the Parish Council will not allow it to set a precedent.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to write to the Chairman of the PCC as the response to our letter had been from the Church Warden and not the full PCC meeting. The Clerk will attach a copy of the Commons Act which will help to clarify the position.</p> <p>The Clerk will investigate issues of insurance liability above and below ground.</p> <p>A final decision on the action that the Parish Council will take will be made upon receipt of a response from the PCC.</p>
Action: Agenda item	<p>A letter had been sent to the School Governors about safety issues and parking. It was agreed that a discussion about maintaining the area in front of the Gables would not take place until we have had a response from the School Governors.</p>
Minute 7435	<p><u>To consider creating and circulating two questionnaires: Wycombe Air Park Survey and a Children's Play Area Survey</u></p> <p>The Clerk had circulated a draft questionnaire on Wycombe Air Park. The concept was agreed by Councillors and Cllr Mrs Mann who has experience in producing such documents made suggestions for improvements and additions and ways in which it would be easy to evaluate the responses. Clerk will circulate the modified document to all Councillors and it will come back as an agenda item.</p>
Action:Clerk	<p>Cllr White and the Clerk had attended a training session at WDC where grants and planning play areas were discussed. There is a scheme under the Big Lottery Fund called Playful Ideas where we could ask for a grant from £40,000 - £250,000 to develop a play area. Forms declaring our interest have to be submitted by the end of December.</p> <p>Cllr White and the Clerk had drawn up a questionnaire. Cllr Mrs Mann will study it, once it is in final form it will be emailed to all Councillors who must respond quickly as we would like to get this out as soon as possible. Clerk will investigate the best way of distributing it.</p> <p>Clerk will contact WDC Officer to start the process of completing the forms. We will be given 6 months to come up with a scheme if we are told that we will be considered for a grant.</p> <p>Clerk will pass information on to Mrs Eldridge, Hambleton Sports Club</p>
Minute 7436	<p><u>To consider projects suitable for BCC Local Area Committee bids</u></p> <p>It was agreed too submit a bid for repair work for a section of the Valley Road – The Hyde – Colstrop Lane and the back road into Hambleton village.</p>
Action: Clerk	
Minute 7437	<p><u>To receive further footpath information from Councillors</u></p> <p>Cllr Nixey reported that HA55 and 58 were not on his list but he will take them on. Cllr Nixey reported that many of his paths did not have stiles and suggested that we either paint the numbers on the finger posts or cable tie the roundels onto the posts. The Clerk will obtain prices for 100 and 200 roundels.</p>
Action: Clerk	

Minute 7438 To consider projects for costing prior to budget and precept discussions for 2008/09

Action: Councillors Cllr Mrs Walker suggested that we should provide support funding for BCC which may give the Parish Council a greater chance of winning their bids. It was suggested that the Parish Council could, with the landowner's permission install a kissing gate opposite Pheasants Hill cemetery - £300. Councillors to come to November meeting with projects for consideration

Minute 7439 To Approve the Accounts and Sign the October Cheques

Current Account Balance as at 1 st August	£ 2574.33
Less August cheques	£ 1687.57
Less September cheques plus Land registry cheque	£ 972.14
Plus precept	£11500.00
Plus Southern Electric wayleave	£ 91.94
Balance	£11506.56
Investment Account	£ 89.68
Bank of Ireland	£11747.09
Total	£23343.33

Cheques for October signature

Mrs S. Henson (s/o)	£ 367.52
Mrs S. Henson expenses & room allowance	£ 490.55
Mrs S. Henson – A3 printer & print server	£ 464.84
Angus Armstrong – grass cutting	£ 511.13
Wycombe District Council – balance on new lease	£ 40.00
Wycombe District Council – South Ward election	£ 970.92
Southern Electric Contracting	£ 90.40
St John's Church light	£ 150.00
Skirmett Village Hall	£ 15.00
Transfer to Bank of Ireland	£ 4,500.00
Total	£ 7600.36

It was resolved to accept the accounts

Minute 7440 Members Questions

1. Cllr Mrs Robinson reported that the road surface near The Lodge, Greenlands to the bus stop at Fawley Court is lifting off.
2. Cllr Mrs Robinson asked if anything had been issued by BCC re Watery Lane. Clerk reported that the Clerk of Turville PCC had asked if she knew the names of the landowners in order that the hedges could be cut and that they have asked for lockable bollards rather than the gate. Nothing from BCC to date.
3. Cllr Dr Elliott asked if we could use emails to greater effect.
4. Cllr Armstrong reported that a tree had fallen down in Bottom Hill lay by. Cllr Baird agreed to remove the tree. Three skip loads of diggings out from Vine Cottage work are in the lay by. Clerk will write to land owner. He reported fly tipping of garden rubbish – Cllr Armstrong agreed to remove this.
5. Cllr Mrs Walker asked about the latest position on the Post Office – Clerk was able to report that Mr Ford thought that the Post Office was safe as it was more than 3 miles away for most people who needed to use it. He had hoped to come to the meeting but had sent his apologies and will come to the November meeting
6. Cllr Mrs Walker suggested that, when future road closures are planned, BCC should be putting signs up a week ahead to advise of road closed.
7. Cllrs Mrs Walker asked that Taxi Tokens be put on the next agenda
8. Cllr Mrs Mann reported severe potholes along Fynamore Road.

Minute 7441 Date of next meeting

Monday 12th November, 8pm in The Village Hall, Frieth

Date..... Signed.....

