

Checkendon Parish Council

The minutes of a meeting of Checkendon Parish Council held of 2nd March 2009.

1. Present

Mr D. Griggs, Mr. M. Wickens, Mrs D. Stanworth, and Mr. T. Corbishley
Also Cllr. D. Nimmo Smith and PCSO Kathy Brooks (part time)
1 parishioner

2. Apologies

Mr. A. Bennett and Miss K. Palmer-Stevens

3. Confirmation of the minutes of 5th January 2009

These minutes were agreed and signed by the chairman.

4. Report by PCSO Kathy Brooks

Kathy Brooks reported that Checkendon was regularly patrolled with special attention given to the Village Hall and School. The phone box had been vandalised again. Clerk to place article about keeping sheds and outbuildings locked when not in use in local news magazines.

Mr Lisansky expressed his concern over the speed of traffic through the village and in particular near the turning for Hammonds Farm although it was still in 30MPH zone. Kathy Brooks would be bringing the speed indication device to the village and this would be recording data which would be made available to the parish council regarding the speed of traffic.

5. Matters Arising from minutes

a. Post on small triangle at turning to Hammonds

This had now been refurbished and was looking magnificent.

b. Memorial to Cliff Blackburn

The new score board would be ready for the start of the cricket season.

c. Backing Board for Bus Shelter

Mr Corbishley had suffered a mal function of his equipment but would erect shortly.

d. Broken seat Whitehall Lane

Jewsons had replaced and installed the new seat.

e. Hedge at playing field behind 14 Whitehall Lane

Parish Council contractor had cut the hedge back to the agreed height Soha had cut dead elms by their garages.

f. Forthcoming by election for Chiltern Woods and Henley North

This would be held on 19th March with two declared candidates for the Conservatives and Lib Dems.

6. Report by Councillor Nimmo-Smith

OCC element of the council tax would rise by 3.75% with the SODC element at 2.9%. This would bring a combined rise with police and parish council elements of approximately 3.5% which was slightly up on the national average. OCC continued to economise on back room services whilst maintaining front line services.

Cllr. Nimmo Smith was concerned that funding being brought forward by the government for capital projects may leave a vacuum for those scheduled for 2016 such as Gillotts, and for Townlands, and Henley College. He would continue to lobby for these to be funded.

Oakley Wood was to shut for 3 months for a complete refurbishment from 23rd March 09.

7. Sports Club Report

The weather had made the pitch unplayable except for the last two weeks when two games had been possible for Checkendon FC.

A fund raising Race Night for the Cricket Club had raised £1,000. The sight screen had been delivered. Problems with the pavilion roof leaking would be investigated.

8. Playground Report

Graham Williams would carry out the monthly check asap. He had tendered his resignation with effect from the April check. Mr Corbishley would seek a new playground inspector. Mr Griggs would renew shavings at the end of this spell of wet weather.

9. Footpath Report

Nothing further to report.

10. Village Hall Report

Mary Weller was standing down as secretary of the village hall after many years of service. Mary Daniels had agreed to fill the vacancy from 1.4.09.

The door for the disabled entrance had been fitted but the ramp was still awaited. Modifications to the village hall entrance from the road at that end by narrowing slightly may be required.

The latest touring theatre production had disappointingly been attended by only 21 people and this form of entertainment would be reviewed by management committee.

Future events to be held were:

20th March Village Hall Quiz

30th March AGM

3rd May Bluebell Walk

16th May Plant Sale

25th September Village Hall Quiz

Autumn Bingo Evening

100 Club winner for March £125 No 42, £65 No. 32.

11. Correspondence

1. TVP – Crime figures Oct – Dec 08 – 3 burglary non dwelling, 3 criminal damages, 1 theft.
2. SODC – precept £8,500 agreed
3. SODC – Electronic Consultation on planning applications. PC to continue with paper consultation
4. SODC Change of property names:
 - a. The Chestnuts to Houndcroft Checkendon
 - b. Denefield Farm to The Orchards Neals Lane Wyfold.

12. Finance

a. Cheques for payment

The following cheques were agreed for payment:

12.1.09

0840 Universal Services

Sight Screen

£1834.24

2.3.09

0841 OPFA

Annual membership

£32.00

0842 C Dunk

Clerk's salary and petty cash

£404.11

0843 K.L. D.W. Griggs

Hedge cutting

£57.50

13. Planning

The following application had been received since the last meeting:

P09/E0032/LB Chestnuts Checkendon

Internal alterations to existing garage to create living accommodation. Construction of new garage, and new glazed link between annexe and main house

Parish Council No strong views

P09/E0013 Chestnuts (Houndcroft) Checkendon

Conversion of existing garage to create living accommodation. Construction of new garage, and new glazed link between annexe and main house. Alteration to vehicle access

Parish Council No strong views

P08/E1363 Checkendon C of E Aided Primary School Checkendon

Removal of existing timber store/resource room and the construction of a new foundation stage classroom unit

Parish Council No strong views

P08/E1381 Lovegroves Lovegroves Lane Checkendon

Alterations and extension to existing dwelling, new access and 3 bay carport/garage and relocation of greenhouse.

Parish Council No strong views

SODC Granted

The following decisions had been received:

P08/E1336 Lilac House Whitehall Lane Checkendon

Erection of log cabin outbuilding

SODC Granted

P08/E1326 Barnhouse Lovegroves Lane Checkendon

Change of use of agricultural land to extend residential garden. Erection of single storey side and rear extension, greenhouse, bicycle and log store -creation of swimming pool and plant/changing rooms.

SODC Granted

Concern had been raised about the installation of a stainless steel flue in place of the brick chimney at Greengates.

14. Next meeting

Monday 23rd March 2009 at 7.30pm Annual Electors Meeting

Monday 11th May 2009 at 7.30pm Annual Parish Meeting