

Checkendon Parish Council

The minutes of the meeting of Checkendon Parish Council held of 2nd November 2009.

1. Present

Mr D. Griggs, Mr. M. Wickens, Mr. T. Corbishley, Mr. A. Bennett and Mrs. D. Stanworth

Also Cllr. D. Nimmo Smith and Cllr. J. Nimmo Smith (part time)

1 parishioner (part time)

2. Confirmation of the minutes of 7th September 2009

These minutes were agreed and signed by the chairman.

3. Matters Arising from minutes

a. Vacancy on Parish Council

No candidate had come forward so Chairman would directly approach individuals.

4. Adoption of Red Phone Kiosk

The phone kiosk at Parkside had only been used for 5 calls within the last 12 months prompting BT to ask the parish council if they wished to adopt the kiosk (without phone) for £1. Councillors discussed at length the pros and cons of taking the kiosk which is already in a bad state of repair into their ownership. Whilst the parish council were not against paying for initial costs of restoration and insurance the ongoing problem in the future of vandalism could not be ignored. There was also concern that in future years it may be listed incurring greater responsibility and expense. Councillors could not see what purpose they could use the kiosk for and felt it would have to be sealed to prevent anti social use.

To retain it in the village at a visible site Mr Corbishley would approach the publican at the Four Horseshoes to see if he wished to purchase and site at the public house. If he declined this option then councillors felt it was best to decline the offer which would not automatically mean the removal of the box at this stage.

5. Report by Councillor D. Nimmo-Smith

As there was not an accident black spot near Rose Cottage OCC Officer Peter Ronald would not consider the priority scheme at the end of the village where the road narrows. Cllr. Nimmo Smith would ask for him to reconsider.

Cllr Nimmo Smith reported that OCC was not aware of problems with Exlade Street being used as a high speed rat run.

Cllr. Nimmo Smith would drive from Deer Lane into Main Street to see if the vision was restricted. If he felt it was he would request OCC to place a mirror at the junction.

The application for the incinerator at Ardley was refused by the Planning Committee as it was felt that the development proposed would represent a large permanent building in the countryside. The Council as Planning Authority was not persuaded that the need for a facility on this scale to divert waste from landfill was sufficient to

outweigh the effects of the proposal on the countryside in this locality. This was now likely to go to appeal and there would be additional costs whilst the delay is sorted and rubbish continues to be disposed in landfill sites.

Cllr. Nimmo Smith would look at the lack of facilities for processing plastic at Oakley Wood and why it was being placed in with other landfill material. Mr Bennett also stated that position of the skips for green waste did not give optimal sequencing. Again Cllr. Nimmo Smith would ask the waste plant staff.

6. Report from Judith Nimmo Smith

Cllr. Nimmo Smith had asked for a statement on households wanting a review of their wheelie bin size. She would forward to clerk once obtained.

Cllr. Nimmo Smith had attended the Affordable Housing seminar which had been very informative.

Cllr. Nimmo Smith had visited the Star Works site last week and viewed the revised plans forwarded by the agent. The large blue trailer parked immediately outside the gates to the site would be brought to the attention of the owner.

Cllr. Nimmo Smith was currently sitting on the committee looking into the engagement of SODC with Town and Parish Councils. She continued her planning training and that of licensing.

7. Footpath Report

No matters to report.

8. Sports Club Report

The Cricket Clubs AGM had taken place the previous week. The new Sunday Captain was Luke Gray. Rain covers and the sight screen had been purchased. Their Annual Dinner would be on 21st November 2010.

The complaint about bad language had been lodged with the football club.

9. Playground Report

Alex Wilson was on holiday so Mr Corbishley had carried out a check in her absence. Repairs were required to one side of slide which Malcolm Russ had been instructed to do. Shavings were low and Mr Griggs would dig over where needed.

A child had slipped on the safety surface resulting in a broken wrist. Mr Corbishley had spoken with the mother and cordoned off the sloped area. He was trying to contact Wickstead who had installed the surface, and would see if scrubbing the area reduced this hazard.

10. Village Hall Report

Apart from the door ,the disabled facilities were complete. Further refurbishment is planned. Finances were suffering due to the low return on interest and a loss of a regular booking.

100 club winners October 1st 39 - 2nd 82

November 1st 46 - 2nd 91

Forthcoming events included:
13th November Quiz Night
Feb Has Checkendon Got Talent
June Art Exhibition

11. Correspondence

1. OCC – Speed limit Reviews Formal Consultation –A4074 extension to 50MPH proposed to Woodcote from limit at Cane End and 40MPH limit through Cane End. Fully supported by Parish Council due to accident record
2. Sue Ryder Care – request for donation - £100 agreed by councillor to be paid from reserve as not in budget

12. Finance

a. Cheques for payment

The following cheques were agreed for payment:

23.9.09

0871 T. Dunk

Painting Posts around Village Green

£118.75

14.10.09

0872 BDO Stoy Hayward

External Audit

£155.25

2.11.09

0873 C. Dunk

Salary and petty cash

£378.46

0874 Sue Ryder Care

Donation

£100.00

b. Cheques received:

SODC half year precept £4,250

OCC Grass Cutting Grant £1350.77

c. External Audit

No matters were brought to the council's attention

13. Planning

The following applications had been received since the last meeting:

P09/E1034 Checkendon Equestrian Centre Lovegroves Lane Checkendon

Erection of double garage, bicycle store, log store and greenhouse to the front driveway. Creation of outdoor swimming pool, plant/changing rooms and veranda within new walled garden.

To be considered by parish council

P09/E1004 Land adj Hook End Cottages Hook End Checkendon
Erection of two storey 4 bed house and detached garage incorporating new access.
Parish Council Recommended for Refusal

P09/E0725 Berrybrook Whitehall Lane Checkendon
Replacement raised roof with increased pitch and insertion of four roof lights
Parish Council No Strong View

P09/E0867/868/LB Wisteria Cottage Dogmore Lane Checkendon
Two storey oak framed extension incorporating garden room and bedroom.
Parish Council No Strong View

The following decisions have been received:

P09/E0892 Checkendon Equestrian Centre Lovegroves Lane
Conversion of the existing barn building including
extensions involving new gable end, raising of roof and
insertion of 3 dormer windows to provide
accommodation for staff employed at Checkendon
Equestrian Centre and demolition of 3 existing small
side buildings in order to provide amenity space.
SODC Refused

P09/E0317 The Chestnuts (Houndscroft) Checkendon
318LB Creation of accessible self contained accommodation
provision of replacement garage
SODC Granted

P09/E0798 1 Emmens Close Checkendon
Two storey extension
SODC Granted

P09/E0766/LD Lovegroves Farmhouse Lovegroves Lane Checkendon
Extensions and alterations to the existing single
dwelling house.
Certificate of Lawful Development Granted

14. Dates for Forthcoming Year

All on Mondays starting at 7.45pm

4th January

1st March

22nd March Annual Electors Meeting

10th May Annual Parish Meeting

6th September

1st November