

Checkendon Parish Council

The minutes of the meeting of Checkendon Parish Council held of 6th September 2005.

1. Present

Mr. D. Griggs, Mr. M. Wickens, Mrs D. Stanworth and Mr. T. Corbishley
Also present PC Ian Roy (part time) and Cllr. J. Thomson (part time)

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs F. Chancellor, Mr. A. Bennett and Cllr. D. Nimmo-Smith.

3. Confirmation of the minutes of 5th July 2005

These minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Report by PC Ian Roy

Pc Roy would speak to the school during the next week regarding safe parking. Mr Wickens raised with PC Roy his concern over small incidents of vandalism that had occurred in the village with the cricket sight screen tipped over, and post box dislodged. Mr Corbishley felt that this may be occurring after drinking in Four Horseshoes when a group of youngsters leave the public house at around 10.30pm. PC Roy would try to be in the village on the coming Saturday evening.

5. Matters Arising from minutes

a. Register of Members' Interest

Mrs Denise Stanworth handed to the clerk the completed forms to be forwarded to SODC.

b. Rubbish Bin near seat at Whitehall Lane

Mr Corbishley had erected the bin.

c. Noticeboard Refurbishment at Church

This was currently being refurbished, with Jo Rush doing the carpentry and Allum Signs providing lettering at approx £160 +vat.

d. Vacancy at Balfours Field Robins Nest

Mr Arthur Stevens has been nominated by SODC to English Rural Churches to fill the vacancy.

6. Report from Cllr. J. Thomson

Cllr. Thomson brought to the parish council's attention a complaint he had received regarding rotten steps on the slide. This matter had already been attended to.

SODC would be issuing an information sheet direct to parish newsletters. It was proposed to be 2 monthly but he had requested a monthly issue in order that deadlines can be met.

There had been an influx of licensing applications for alcohol on the date of the deadline.

7. Countryways

The speed activated device had been manufactured and awaiting installation. However it was not deemed high priority by OCC contractors. Clerk had written to head of transport and ask Cllr. Nimmo Smith to intervene on parish council's behalf.

No reply had yet been received regarding the removal of Quiet Lane signs.

The Chairman thanked the clerk for the work she had carried out in getting the road reverted back to the original layout prior to Countryways with sensible road claming measures.

8. Housing Needs

No further progress had been made. Suzanne Willers to look into the potential of sites 4 and 7 both of which were part of estates that were in administration.

9. Sports Club Report

The Cricket Club finished mid table of Berkshire League Division 2. This season had seen an influx of young players who were now gaining experience.

Rotherfield Boys U17 team would commence another season of football on Sunday. The ground remained in excellent condition.

Showers would need to be replaced over the winter months. Following the death of Joyce Olley a number of trophies and sporting memorabilia of John Olley would be made available. Discussions over where they should be housed would be held.

10. Playground Report

The report book was signed.

Disabled entrance gates were now satisfactorily fixed. Mr Griggs had clipped the hedge and a new larger rubbish bin ordered. The matters raised in the Rospa report would be programmed in the winter maintenance programme.

11. Footpath Report

C12 at the top end of the equestrian centre had a hawthorn tree overhanging stile which was now not able to be used. Chairman had talked with owner over placing a kissing gate or approved alternative in place of unusable stile of which the Chiltern Society would pay 50% costs. Chairman awaiting reply.

C9 at junction with Lovesgrove Lane signpost is damaged. OCC Jenny Beardmore has been informed by Mr Bennett

C11 Chairman thought broken bough across path to north of church had been removed.

Parish council to ask Mr Russ to reinstate fence next to Gilcroft at Bradley Street. Mr Griggs to arrange.

12. Village Hall Report

A food fayre is to be held on 24th September to raise funds. There will also be lunches especially with older people in mind, adding a social dimension to the event. Future events were 7th October Quiz Night, with Salsa Evening in November and Touring Group in January.

13. Correspondence

1. Woodcote Volunteers – Thank you for donation
2. SODC – Leisure and Sporting Activities in rural areas – MW to reply.
3. ORCC – Village Shop of year – pc to nominate Checkendon Village Shop
4. Countryside Agency – Conclusive map of registered common land

14. Finance

a. Cheques for payment

The following cheques were agreed for payment:

6th September 2005

0639 HM Customs and Excise
Overpayment on Vat refund
£208.93

0640 RJS (IA) Ltd
Internal audit
£133.15

0641 Playground Management Services
Rospa Inspection
£86.95

0642 Michael Weller
Reimbursement of expenses as PTR
£7.25

0643 C. K. Dunk
Clerk's salary, allowance and expenses
£302.46

0644 M. Russ
Work around village
£881.00

b. Cheques received

OCC - £1136.00 grass cutting
Customs and Excise £680.87

c. Fidelity Insurance

Internal auditor had recommended increase limit to £16,000 however on checking policy clerk had found it was currently at £16,000.

15. Planning

The following application had been received since the last meeting:

P05/E0542/543LB Copyhold Hammonds Lane withdrawn new application

P05/E0893/896LB submitted

Demolition of existing garage erection of new garage and 2 storey extension to dwelling

Parish council no strong views

The following decision had been received

P05/E0534 Michaelmas Cottage Whitehall Lane

New double garage with games room over. Change of use from agricultural to residential garden new vehicular access

Granted

P05/E0666 Wyfold Meadows Farm

Construction of pergola

Granted

P05/E0411/RET Hinds Corner Barn Neals Lane

Change of use from arts and craft studio to one bedroom dwelling (part retrospective)

Refused

16. Any other business

a. Post for bus timetable at seat at Balfours Field

Post to be erected for timetable

b. Princess Diana Memorial

Mr Griggs would see if this required painting and arrange with Malcolm Russ

c. Dog Fouling

Clerk to place article in Checkendon News

d. Broken rail to fence at recreation ground

Mr Griggs to repair.

e. Threat of closure to Townlands Hospital Henley

Chairman had attended protest meeting and march through Henley.

f. Missing give way markings Lovesgrove Lane/Bradley Street

Clerk to send defect card.

18. Next Meeting

Tuesday 8th November 05 at 7.45pm