

Checkendon Parish Council

The minutes of the meeting of Checkendon Parish Council held of 7th November 2006.

1. Present

Mr D. Griggs, Mr A. Bennett, Mr. M. Wickens, Mr. Corbishley, and (Mrs D. Stanworth, and Mrs F. Chancellor part time)

Also present Cllr. D. Nimmo Smith, and 1 parishioner (part time)

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. J. Thomson and PC Brockington

3. Confirmation of the minutes of 12th September 2006

These minutes were agreed and signed by the chairman.

4. Matters Arising from minutes

a. Update on affordable housing

No further developments.

b. Village Shop

This was at present continuing in business.

c. Bus Service 142 Checkendon to Reading

A new contract had been awarded to Thames Travel up to 31.5.08. The current level of service will continue.

d. North Grove Wood Bridal Path

Mr Griggs still to meet with Liz Grant.

e. Village sign re-varnishing

This would be carried out by Mr Corbishley as soon as time permitted.

5. Report by Cllr. D. Nimmo Smith

Cllr. Nimmo Smith raised the following:

- Improvements on A4074 at Checkendon/Woodcote turning – this had now been completed with the installation of islands and appeared to be working well.
- Satellite navigation on rural roads consultation with Department of Transport. Councillors felt it would be self regulating by the manufacturers and would improve with up dates. Therefore they had no comments.
- DNS advised councillors that the 40th Anniversary Fund of Chiltern AONB still had grants of up to £250 available.
- Flooding corner o/s Greenacres. The heavy rain had caused flooding and brought sediment and mud deposits. A number of villagers had contacted OCC who would be cleaning the road, and digging out soak away. Chairman to ask M Russ to sweep leaves from path.
- Marked potholes that were still awaiting repairs – DNS to raise with highways.

6. Sports Club Report

The roof had been repaired but some guttering and the shower room still needed attention. The showers would be replaced during the following financial year. The sight screens also needed repairs, and overhanging trees on boundary required cutting back.

7. Playground Report

The report book was signed.

Area was generally neat and tidy although Mr Corbishley would investigate a complaint of wood and concrete remaining after repairs.

Post at foot of ramp still insecure, and would be looked at.

New swing seats were on order.

8. Footpath Report

Mr Bennett to meet with Howard Dell Chiltern Society to draw up a list of work required on footpaths in Checkendon that the society would undertake. The footpath at the equestrian centre where Hawthorn Tree had grown over stile forcing use of the gate was now also difficult to pass.

9. Village Hall Report

The dance had been a huge success raising £218.00. The next event was the Quiz Night on 17th November.

10. Correspondence

1. Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance – request for donation £100 agreed by all councillors.
2. SODC Site Allocations Development Plan – all councillors to reply

11. Finance

a. Cheques for payment

The following cheques were agreed for payment:

25th September 2006

0754 Hygiene Supplies Direct
Village Hall hot water urn
£85.18

7th November 06

0755 C. Dunk
Clerk's salary petty cash
£343.48

0756 M. Weller
Expenses PTR meeting
£5.15

0757 Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust
Donation
£100.00

b. Cheques received
SODC Precept £4,000.00

c. Precept for 2007/08
Councillors agreed that the precept should remain at £8,000.00

d. Clerks Salary
Agree from 1.4.07 to increase salary from £1,500 to £1,600 p.a. allowance to remain at £350.00

12. Planning

The following application had been received since the last meeting:

P06/E0943 Wyfold Meadows Farm
4 bay garage/ storage over with external staircase
Parish Council No strong views

P06/E0957 Broadoaks
Demolition of existing single storey extension replacement with 2 storey extension
Withdrawn

P06/E01065 White Shutters Exlade Street
Single storey extension to east elevation roof alterations erection of double garage
conversion of existing garage into kitchen
To be considered by PC

The owner of the property gave a brief presentation of the proposed plans:

P06/E01052 Brackenwood Whitehall Lane
Demolition of existing 3 bed bungalow replacement house
To be considered by parish council

P06/E0889LB/E0888 4 Horseshoes PH
Demolition of redundant chimney stack and external wc – remove internal wall to
form disabled wc – internal alterations
Withdrawn

The following decisions had been received

P06/E0829 Neals Shaw Neals Lane
Change of use from agricultural to garden – erection of tennis court
SODC Granted

P05/E1001 Black Horse Checkendon
Conversion of existing barns into holiday/staff accommodation
SODC Granted

P06/E0827 Neals Shaw, Neals Lane
Change of use of agricultural to garden. Erection of tennis court

SODC Granted

P06/E0592/CC Checkendon Primary School

Change of use of adjoining field from agricultural to educational
OCC Granted

Enforcement Action Denefield Farm Neals Lane requiring the residential part of the stables building as a dwelling house to cease.

To appeal:

P05/E01338 White Cottage Whitehall Lane Gage extension to provide ancillary studio.

13. Any Other Business

a. New Computer

Agreed to fund one fifth cost of a new computer

b. Driver for Surgery Minibus

Mrs Chancellor had decided to drive her own vehicle and would be placed on rota from January 2007.

c. Risk Analysis

Mr Corbishley to review

d. PTR Meeting

Clerk highlighted the points raised by Mr Weller. Councillors agreed they did not want a timetable case on post at Balfour's Fields

e. SODC Forum

Mr Griggs and Wickens had attended this forum and requested more walks with council officials around village to highlight concerns.

14. Next Meeting

Next Meeting dates to be confirmed