

Minutes of the meeting of the Charney Bassett Parish Council held in the Village Hall on 9th January 1985 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:	V. A. Hodgkins	Chairman
	J. Ody	Treasurer
	D. Douglas)	Councillors
	G. Rumble)	

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. E. Clarke.
District Councillor T. Cox was also in attendance,
together with six members of the Public.

AGENDA

1. To allow 15 minutes for residents to ask questions etc.
2. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
3. Treasurer's Report and Financial matters.
4. To consider any Planning matters.
5. Playing Field, letter from Miss Smith, Secretary of Oxfordshire Playing Field Association.
6. To give preliminary consideration to employing a part-time street cleaner.
7. Any other business.

1. To allow 15 minutes for Residents to ask questions etc. The Chairman asked if anyone had anything to raise. There were no questions asked, the Chairman therefore reported upon the condition of the surface of Chapel Lane and said that since the Village Hall was in the Lane this did give the Parish Council a lever and he would contact the Divisional Highways Department and ask them to deal with the problem.

2. To confirm the Minutes of the last meeting. The Clerk read the Minutes and they were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising.

- (a) School Bus. Following a Public Meeting with the Education Authority's Transport Manager, he was able to agree that the Bus for the school-children to Wantage left at 8.10 a.m.; this arrangement has proved to be most satisfactory.
- (b) Path to Kissing Bridge. The Chairman reported that he had recently cut some steps where the ground falls at the approach to the Kissing Bridge.
- (c) Lyford Road Bridge. It was reported that the parapet had been repaired.
- (d) Tree Planting. It was reported that Mr. J. Bright had erected a Rabbit Proof fence along his boundary with the Bridle Path and Mr. E. Clarke would be planting trees as soon as possible. Mr. Ody thought it might be necessary to put a strand of barbed wire at the top of the fence at a later date.
- (e) Wall at Barnfield. The Chairman said that he hoped that the Notice Board can be replaced in its previous position when the wall is completed and the new owner had been contacted.

3. Treasurer's Report and Financial Matters. Mr. J. Ody reported that the Balance remained the same as at the November meeting - £121.95p. An account had now been received from Mr. Tyler, the grasscutter, for £26 and this would be settled forthwith.

Notice of the Precept for 1985/6 had been received in the sum of £260. Mr. Ody said that the expected expenditure for the next two years would result in the Account being overdrawn by £162 in 1984/5. A 1p. rate should produce £260 and suggested that the Parish Council ask for a 2p. rate after 1985/6. The Chairman said that a decision on this should be approved. Mr. T. Cox suggested that the Parish Council could obtain an advance of funds from the Vale of the White Horse to avoid Bank Charges. This was thought to be unnecessary as accounts will not fall due after April. The Chairman pointed out that the main reason for the increase was the cost of grass cutting for School Playing Field.

4. To consider any Planning Matters. The Clerk reported that he had received notification from the Planning Authority that the extension to the Pig Farm at Sheephouse Farm had been agreed. Mr. T. Cox commented that the entrance from the road to Frilford was to be enlarged, he further suggested that if nothing was done the Parish Council write to the Highway Department again.
5. School Playing Field. The Chairman said he had approached the Vale of White Horse to assist with the purchase of the field. However, due to present Government embargo this was unlikely to materialise at the present.
- Mr. T. Cox suggested a loan could be obtained from the Public Loans Board, approximate interest rate being 10%. Mr. D. Douglas queried the acquisition of another piece of land but the Chairman said that this would probably be more expensive and also, would any existing tenant be willing to relinquish a piece of land. Mr. G. Rumble suggested that the Parish Council could enter into fund raising from outside the Village. Mr. J. Ody said he understood from Mr. Pankhurst of the Area Sports Council that they would be interested under the World Youth Year. Mr. Ody also commented that he thought any money could be better used in providing a new Village Hall. Mr. Douglas asked whether there had been a Notice in the papers regarding selling the field. The Chairman said that he thought there had been one referring to the Paddock adjacent. Mr. Cox felt that the Parish Council should send a formal letter to the Vale of the White Horse saying a Grant would be needed. Mr. Douglas pointed out that any negotiations should include the access strip. The Chairman said this would, of course, be the case.
6. Appointment of Part-time Street Cleaner. The Chairman said that the Parish Council is permitted to employ a street cleaner and that the Vale of the White Horse would meet 70% of the cost. He suggested 4 hours a fortnight at £2.50 per hour, i.e. £80 per annum, but that this matter could be formerly decided at the Annual General Assembly.
7. Any other Business. There was no other business and the meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Chairman

March 1985