

CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10 MAY 1995

PRESENT: Mr C Eld (Chairman)  
Mrs T Cox  
Mrs J Fry  
Mr W Lindsey  
Mrs T Teale

Mr P G Davies (Clerk)

An apology was received from District Councillor Terry Cox. 12 members of the public were in attendance.

AGENDA

1. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting
2. Matters arising from those minutes
3. Matters arising from the Parish Assembly
4. Treasurer's report
5. Planning matters
6. Playing Field
7. Ten minutes for Residents' questions etc.
8. Any other business

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 8 March 1995 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

2a. Manor Farm Road: The Clerk had received further advice from OALC and had asked Mr Hodgkins to prepare a statement of his recollection of the contents of the Parish Meeting minute book. He had not yet had an opportunity to visit Berks CC archives at Reading. The Chairman suggested it would be interesting to ask the new residents of The White House if their solicitor had discovered anything of relevance in the deeds.

2b. Signs: The Clerk had reported the damaged Buckland Road sign to VWHDC.

2j. Speed Limit: The Clerk had written to OCC seeking news of the request for a speed limit. He pointed out that the election material recently circulated by the Lib Dem candidate appeared to promise action to impose limits. **The Clerk** was asked to write to the new VWHDC to seek their support for a limit.

6. Paddock on the Green: The question of sale of part of the Paddock had now been resolved and Mr Tabor would purchase a small triangle of land to improve his access to the rear of his property. This would not interfere with Feast arrangements.

7. Commemoration of VE-day: The Clerk was authorised to use the £100 grant from VWHDC to pay Mr Clarke to cover the cost of 50 commemorative coins costing £2.00 each for village youngsters. **The Clerk** was asked to pay Mrs Gardiner £9.91 for expenses associated with the village celebrations.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Clerk had sent a copy of his road safety report to PC Foster; had written to the NRA about the lack of water in the Brook and had visited the badger sett on the Stanford Bridle Path to confirm that the report of gassing was erroneous.

### 4. CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

As a full financial report had been made at the Parish Assembly, the Clerk made a verbal report. The summary of accounts for 1994/95 had been submitted to the auditors who had written to confirm there would be no need for an audit this year. The report was adopted.

### 5. PLANNING MATTERS

The Clerk reported on two outstanding planning applications to which the Council had objected. Replacement of "Brilia" in The Bridle Path with two new properties had been recommended for approval by planning officials but had been rejected by the Planning Committee and referred to the Chairman of Planning (yet to be appointed) for refusal. An extension to "Whitegates" in Longworth Road had also been recommended for approval by planning officials and would be considered by the Planning Committee on 22 May.

Mrs Cox reported that District Councillor Terry Cox would welcome representations on the "Whitegates" proposal to put to the Planning Committee. The Chairman agreed to write concerning the Parish Council view and the Clerk indicated his intention to put his personal representation to Mr Cox.

A planning application for change of use of land on the North side of Buckland Road together with outline permission for three dwellings (the "Cox Scheme") had been refused by VWHDC. This had implications for the playing field.

Mrs Cox asked whether the plans for modifications to Nos 24 and 25 New Road, approved by VWHDC but not yet started, could be obtained. **The Clerk** was asked to arrange this.

There was some discussion about two "conversion" schemes in the village (the Old Forge and the last of the Manor Farm barns) which appeared to result in demolition of the original properties. VWHDC planners were concerned and were due to visit the sites to carry out inspections. **The Clerk** was asked to make inquiries of the planners as to the procedure to be followed when demolition was involved. The Old Forge was in the village conservation area, the barn was not.

In response to a question from the floor, it was reported that plans were now retained by The Clerk and the Council and villagers would be able to keep track of approved projects.

### 6. PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk had received a letter from Mr Seddon in which he stated that OCC would not now consider offering land for a playing field on similar terms to the Cox Scheme, in view of its refusal. He also suggested he should now open negotiations with the District Valuer to

determine the value of all or part of the 3.68 acre field. The Clerk had pointed out to Mr Seddon that his letter of 13 January 1995 effectively authorised him to do this. It was agreed to await information on this move by Mr Seddon before the matter could proceed further. It was also hoped that pressure from Mr Seddon would reveal Mr McBain's intentions for the land behind the Old School.

OCHA had written to the Parish Council outlining their proposal to build social housing on the existing playing field.

The Council expressed its frustration at the way the County Council was treating the village and, despite the legal position, still felt the moral obligation to provide the village with playing field facilities was worth pursuing. **The Clerk** was asked to write to County Councillor Walton, District Councillor Cox and Robert Jackson, MP to explain the situation and to seek their support for a new playing field.

#### 7. QUESTIONS ETC. FROM RESIDENTS

Mr Clarke raised the question of cutting the grass on the piece of land alongside the Old Forge which had previously been cut by The Chequers. It was agreed that he should approach Mr Baxter to ask him to add this piece to his cutting schedule for the time being. **The Clerk** was asked to write to the current owner, the builder V K Cox, to explain what was happening and to suggest that the eventual sale of the property should place the onus for cutting this piece on the owner.

#### 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed to pay the Cornhill Insurance premium of £56.37 and to renew membership of the OALC at £60.00. It was agreed not to enter the Best Kept Village Competition.

#### 9. NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 12 July 1995 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.

Signed.....  
Chairman