

CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCILMINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 1995

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

Mr P G Davies (Clerk)

Apologies were received from Col John Walton, County Councillor and Mr Terry Cox, District Councillor. 14 members of the public were in attendance.

AGENDA

1. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting
2. Matters arising from those minutes
3. Clerk's Financial Report
4. Planning matters
5. Low Cost Housing
6. Playing Field
7. Ten minutes for Residents' questions etc.
8. Any other business

EXTRAORDINARY ITEM

Immediately after convening the meeting, the Chairman introduced Mr Ken Dijksman of the Planning and Engineering Department of the Vale of White Horse District Council who had been invited to answer questions on planning matters, in particular the factors taken into account in the planning decision process. He dealt with a very wide range of topics including conservation areas, extensions, demolition, permitted development, listed buildings, repairs, business usage, the Local Plan and how to object to planning applications. He was asked whether the proposed change of use from agricultural to leisure of 2 acres of land for a playing field was likely to be approved and he suggested it would be, provided there were no complications such as buildings, floodlights and access. He would be writing to the Clerk with his opinion, once internal consultations had been completed. Mr Dijksman was thanked by the Chairman for his illuminating presentation.

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 13 September 1995 were agreed and signed by the Chairman after Mrs Cox had drawn attention to planning approvals at Home Farm and 15 High Street, which had not been minuted. It was agreed that a mention of the omissions in these minutes would suffice.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

- 2a. Manor Farm Road: The Clerk had still not had an opportunity to visit Berks. CC archives.
- 6 Residents' Questions: The transfer of the Paddock to Mr Poolman's tenancy awaited the sale of the piece of land to Mr Tabor, which was due to be completed soon.
- 7 Any Other Business: An OCC engineer has examined the Ock bridge cracking and would report it.

**The Clerk** was asked to discuss the question of street cleaning by contract with VWHDC. Grass cutting could now stop and Mr V Cox should be asked for £24 for the cost of cutting the Old Forge grass.

### 3. CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented his report which was adopted on the proposal of Mrs Teale, seconded by Mrs Cox.

From the floor, Mr Ody sought, and was given, an explanation for the purchase of a table for Hanney Playgroup.

### 4. PLANNING MATTERS

The VWHDC planners were aware that the original plans for "The Old Forge" specified a 1.8 metre high stone wall along the road side of the plot, which had not yet been built.

Planning consent for "Brilia" had been refused on appeal on the grounds put forward by the Parish Council, namely overcrowding of the site. Consent for a new window in "Hillside" barn had been granted. Decisions were awaited for "Whitegates", Minmere Farm barn conversion, Bagmere Farm bungalow and an extension to "Willow Cottage"

The Clerk had circulated the Oxon Structure Plan and had collated the questionnaires for return to OCC.

### 5. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

An application for outline planning consent for affordable houses had been received. The plans were restricted to a definition of the site boundary and landscaping but they showed access to the site would be from Buckland Road, despite the criticism which this had attracted at the last meeting.

The Council felt that it could not object to the granting of outline permission. It had, however, two major concerns: the design and layout of the houses and the viability of the scheme. The Clerk had determined from VWHDC that 18 persons, 11 of them in the village, had expressed an interest in the scheme and the Housing Services Dept. of VWHDC considered this enough to support it. The Parish Council still had reservations and needed to know where occupants would be found if the houses could not be filled.

**The Clerk** was asked to write to VWHDC supporting outline planning consent but reserving the Parish Council's position on full planning consent until a new access was provided and the design of houses and layout of the site had been examined. **The Clerk** was also asked to contact other parishes where OCHA schemes in particular had been built to determine reaction to them and he was asked to get feedback from the VWHDC Housing Committee meeting on the results of the housing survey.

### 6. PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk had written to VWHDC seeking their views on whether the change of use of 2 acres of agricultural land adjacent to the Cherbury Camp footpath to leisure use would receive planning consent. As referred to above, a formal reply is awaited. Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association had been approached as the first step in preparing a scheme for approaches to sources of funding.

**The Clerk** was asked to write to OCC seeking an extension to the existing playing field rent until the new field is available.

### 6. QUESTIONS ETC. FROM RESIDENTS

Mr Paske thanked councillors for their support in his attempt to resolve problems over his new wall.

The state of the bus shelter was again discussed and **The Clerk** was asked to seek Mr Bert Smith's views on possible modifications to make it less attractive to the youngsters who congregate there.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk had written to The Manor solicitor about the lease on Ock Green and awaited a reply.

The Clerk had reported the defective manhole near Glebe Cottage to OCC Highways.

Col Walton had recommended that the Parish Council make representations to OCC re the safety of Pine Woods junction on the A420. The Clerk read out a letter he had drafted, which also referred to the Parish Council's wish to see a speed limit in the village, which was approved.

Longworth Charity had written to seek a parish representative on the Longworth Charity. Mr David Douglas was proposed and elected unanimously.

The Council agreed to make donations of £25 to both Abingdon Citizen's Advice Bureau and Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association. **The Clerk** was asked to deal with this.

OCC have offered to support verge grass cutting in the village, if the parish wishes to place its own contract, thereby increasing the number of cuts. **The Clerk** was asked to seek more details.

NRA staff have been seen in the village, suggesting that they are in the process of carrying out the feasibility study into diverting water to the mill stream.

The Clerk reported that "Mount Pleasant" had again been broken into and he was considering writing to the American Ambassador for assistance in bringing pressure on the owner to do something with the property.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10 January 1996 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.22 p.m.

Signed.....  
Chairman