

2013 – SHEET NO. 36

Minutes of Tackley Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2013 at 7.00 p.m.

Present : Councillor June Collier (Chairman)
Councillor Paul Joslin (Vice Chair)
Councillors Neil Wilson, Les Summers, John Cook
District Councillor Charles Cottrell-Dormer

13/087 - APOLOGIES

County Councillor Ian Hudspeth, Councillor Bob Clow

13/088 - SOLAR PANELS

Councillor June Collier introduced everyone to Cieran Dillon from Lightsource who explained about the solar panels that would be placed, hopefully at Wootton Baulk. Information had gone to the Parishioners and the Parish Council relating to the site. The pre-application process has been completed with West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC). Lightsource feel that the key issue is the public right of way running through the site. WODC do not require an environmental site impact **report**. **The proposal** will now go through the planning process, but Lightsource consider that engaging with the community beforehand is important and to this end a Community Event to be held on 15th October 2013.

Councillor Neil Wilson stated/asked:

- Plans did not give information on fencing to the site and right of way for footpath and what to expect when walked through. This information would be available at the Community Event? Fence height always 2m and timber and wire fence is the option which is usual used. Track not visible from the main road.
- Would there be any buildings on site? Informed that probably three container style buildings would be used for this site. Also no mention of link cabling, this would be underground trenched to about 1m.
- Has the access track for day to day maintenance been decided and would this be visible? The access would not be prominent and no signage would be used.
- Will there be any additional planting? Hedge row planting where necessary, will be accommodated and this will appear as part of the planning proposals.
- Is this proposal commercially viable without subsidies ?. Was told it was not.

Councillor John Cook declared that he was personally not happy with this type of development and was not convinced it was an appropriate use of agricultural land. He had, however, been approached by some parishioners who considered that there should be some form of “planning gain” for the village should the scheme be approved. Cieran Dillon stated that some Community Benefit may be available for this type of development – up to about £25K ! – but this would not be part of the planning process. It would be included in the Heads of Terms – and would not be an offer to influence a planning permission.

District Councillor Charles Cottrell-Dormer was not in favour of these types of schemes as if we get rid of agricultural land we would not be able to feed ourselves.

Councillor Les Summers asked about the efficiency of these plants. Unfortunately Ceiran was not able to answer this question as he is dealing with the planning side not the technical one. All

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equipment would be tier one which has to have particular quality and standard to drive efficiency. The aim of the company is to own, manage and operate sites and it is in their interest to ensure the output is as high as possible.

Councillor June Collier asked how the ground is maintained if sheep not grazed there. Was told maintenance would be carried out by Lightsource and it could be strimmed if necessary by hand.

Councillor Paul Joslin thanked Ceiran for presenting the information to the Council and Parish.

Councillor Neil Wilson stated that the name of the site had been spelt wrongly and informed Ceiran of the correct spelling. Wootton Balk

13/089 – CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9TH SEPTEMBER 2013

Councillor John Cook proposed that the Minutes of 9th September 2013 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Seconded by Councillor Neil Wilson. All in favour.

13/090 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES

Councillor Les Summer informed Council that the report from the Village Hall was that the new seat paving slabs have been put in place. The container will be shielded once the play area is completed, but sometime next year. Seeding and reinstatement of the area where the container stood would be undertaken shortly as it is known about. Clerk will email Barbie Vaughan to ascertain when work will be undertaken.

Councillor John Cook stated that the information regarding the potential sale of the pub was not placed in the Newsletter due to a publication issue.

There was an article in the newsletter from Play Area Committee concerning funding as agreed.

Repair to footpath adjacent to the school will be carried out on 11th October 2013

13/091 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

13/092 - COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillor Neil Wilson stated that the street light at the end of Medcroft Road is still on, on occasions, and is an example of wasting electricity. County Councillor should be made aware that we are unhappy it is not being fixed. Councillor June Collier has been asked if some of the light columns could be cleaned as vegetation has grown around some of the lights. The Clerk to write to the County Council requesting that they undertake this work. A discussion for another Council meeting will be whether the street lights in the village should be turned off during certain times of the night.

Councillor Les Summers expressed his disgust at the pothole reinstatement by railway crossing which has been filled in and it looks worse now.

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Councillor John Cook stated that we should ask County **Councillor** Ian Hudspeth what the procedure is for checking the works once they have been done.

13/093 – DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

District Councillor Charles Cottrell-Dormer stated that Planning Officer, John Westman has left West Oxfordshire District Council to go to the private sector.

Weavely Farm Burial Ground has been granted permission on appeal against the initial refusal.

Another session with Thames Water has been held and they are talking of lining the sewers which apparently helps it to flow better. They admitted they did not have enough tankers for pumping out when problems occur and no proper plans in place.

13/094 – PLANNING MATTERS

17 Medcroft Road – 13/1362/P/FP – No adverse comments.

13/095 - PARISH MATTERS

Railway Crossing – Councillor Neil Wilson reported that trees have been removed for installation of a container for house communications equipment. Councillor John Cook had a concerned Parishioner asking him what is happening with railway crossing. Unfortunately the Parish are unable to provide parishioners with information as Network Rail have not made a decision.

Play Area Update – Councillor June Collier reported that the Playgroup Committee have received another grant.

Village Hall Car Park – Agreed no automatic right to park in the Village Hall Car Park, but applications can be applied for to park for residents who have no off street parking and they have good reason. Notice to vacate can be given at any time by the Parish Council.

Speed Indicators - Councillor Neil Wilson has been approached by Parishioner with regard to speed indicators in the village. What is available to the Parish to show speed of vehicle to prove one way or the other the speed of vehicles. Councillors thought a speed analyses should be undertaken and would ask County Councillor Ian Hudspeth if this would be possible.

Councillor June Collier had received a letter from a man in Harborne Road with trees overhanging. She will go and have a look.

Tree around Lower Hades Road at the bottom of the footpath growing around the street light etc. from parishioners garden Councillor June Collier to speak to the resident and ask them to cut back.

Councillor John Cook reported that the lock on the gate at the allotment is broken and the holders are unable to unlock the gate. Councillor John Cook to resolve problem.

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Councillor June Collier reported on a letter from Playbus placing a mobile santa’s grotto in the village. It was felt that this be deferred to the Village Hall for consideration and Councillor Les Summers will discuss this at their next meeting.

Councillor June Collier said with regard to the letter from English Rural a note to be put in next newsletter stating that anyone who wishes to be considered for a low cost house should register with West Oxfordshire District Council.

13/096 - MATTERS OF FINANCE

19	01.10.13	101349	Green Scythe Ltd	968.96
20	07.10.13	101350	Clerks Wages	173.04
21	07.10.13	101350	Ox County Council	50.00

Councillor John Cook proposed that the above be ratified for payment. Seconded by Councillor Les Summers. All in Favour

Clerk reported that the Audit report had been received back from the Auditors and there were no causes for concern.

13/097 - OTHER MATTERS

Councillor Les Summers stated that the heater in the Village Hall was legal and during the winter months on a Monday he would be happy to turn the heater on.

13/098 - MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None

Meeting closed 8.35 p.m.

Signed

Date