

2008/09 SHEET 29

Minutes of a meeting of Tackley Parish Council held in Tackley Village Hall on 27th October 2008 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:	Cllr Jim Howard	Cllr Robert Clow
	Cllr Richard Banbury	Cllr Bill Denver
	Cllr Robin Gibbons	District Cllr Charles Cottrell-Dormer
	County Cllr Ian Hudspeth	

In the absence of Cllr June Collier (Chairman) and Cllr Paul Joslin (Vice Chairman), Cllr Jim Howard declared the meeting open and asked the council for nominations for someone to chair the meeting. Cllr Richard Banbury proposed that Cllr Jim Howard chair the meeting and this was seconded by Councillor Bill Denver. There being no other nominations, this motion was carried.

08/095 APOLOGISES – Apologises received from Cllr June Collier and Cllr Paul Joslin.

08/096 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interests.

08/097 SIGNING OF MINUTES - There was just one spelling error in the minutes of the meeting held on 1st Sept 2008. It was proposed by Cllr Richard Banbury and seconded by Councillor Bill Denver that the minutes be signed as a correct record subject to the one correction. This motion was carried.

08/098 DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS - Dist Cllr Charles Cottrell- Dormer reported that the District Council was understandably worried about the collapse of the Icelandic banks as they did have some money invested. He said that they always tried to spread the risks and the investments were in lots of different institutions. There is a total of 9 million invested. There were no other District Council matters to discuss at present.

08/099 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS - County Cllr Ian Hudspeth also commented that the County Council also had money invested in Icelandic Banks and although the risk is spread and investments made in lots of different places, the collapse of the Iceland was not foreseen. It is thought that the assets of the banks should cover the cost of the deposits, but that the interest on those deposits will never be recovered. This shouldn't affect the services provided by the County Council in the short term, however there may be long term effects.

Cllr Hudspeth also reassured councillors that the Transform Oxford project would not be diverting money from other areas of spending. Transform Oxford aims to provide better pedestrian areas and better transport facilities for the City Centre.

Cllr Robert Clow asked for assurance that the street lights in Tackley would not be switched off as a saving exercise. Cllr Hudspeth said that there was a small project experimenting with a small number of street lights (300 out of a total of 56,000) to see where savings could be made by switching off street lights between the hours of midnight and 5.00 am. He assured the councillors that any such scheme in the future would only be implemented with the full approval of the Parish Council.

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Cllr Huspeth also reported that he was having a meeting on 14th November with Richard Rowland from GWR and invited any queries about the trains to be forwarded to him before this meeting.

08/100 PARISH AMENITIES

- Car Park Project – this project has been progressing. There was a meeting a couple of weeks ago between Terry Willemite of Fergal's, Cllr June Collier and Cllr Jim Howard. A revised quotation is to be prepared. In the meantime the clerk has spoken to O.A.L.C. to ask about the procedure for applying for the Public works loan. A letter of borrowing approval is needed from O.A.L.C before a loan can be applied for. Cllr Richard Banbury and the Clerk will fill the application form for this letter as soon as we know the final cost of the project. A proposal that this project should go ahead providing the cost doesn't exceed £60,000 was proposed by Councillor Robert Clow and seconded by Cllr Richard Banbury. It was also proposed that a loan from the Public Works Loan Board could be applied for providing it doesn't exceed £50,000. Proposed by Cllr Richard Banbury and seconded by Cllr Robin Gibbons. After some discussion it was decided that this loan would be taken over a five year period. This motion was voted on and carried by 4 for and 1 against. It was also decided that there should be three nominated signatories to sign the contracts. It was proposed that Cllr June Collier, Cllr Paul Joslin and Cllr Richard Banbury should be the three, two to sign. It was proposed that a special meeting would be called when the final figures were in.
- Children's Play area fencing project – This project is also progressing. The grant which was applied for to help pay for this project has been awarded and we have a total of £2250 towards the costs of this project. The estimator from Zaun Fencing Ltd has been out to measure the site and a revised quotation has been sent. The council were asked to approve the final quotation and the plans that had been sent. It was agreed that the clerk could sign the Order Acknowledgment so that the project could proceed. It was also agreed that the £50.00 extra would be paid to have a Mechanical off load of the fencing when it arrived on site.
- Rail update – Cllr Robin Gibbons reported that it is planned that a representative from Network Rail should attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 18th May 2009, so that people have an opportunity to talk about the crossing.
Cllr Robin Gibbons and Richard Mcrory will be meeting with Richard Rowland to talk about future timetabling for Tackley. One of the biggest issues is the big queues, which form at the ticket barriers at Oxford Station. This becomes a problem if you have to catch a connecting train. There is also a problem with the surface on the down platform. The surface is coming apart and people have been seen to trip on it. On a positive note the train service has improved no end in the last three months and overall people are very pleased with this.
- Footpath Report – Cllr Richard Banbury proposed that a copy of the Footpath Report be sent to Mr and Mrs Peake and to the Oxfordshire Countryside representative.

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08/101 – MATTERS OF FINANCE – The following invoices were proposed to be paid by Cllr Bill Denver and seconded by Cllr Richard Banbury.

- Green Scythe Ltd – Mowing - £802.15
- BDO Stoy Harward Ltd – External Audit - £188.00
- Oxfordshire County Council – Rent for allotments - £50.00
- Tackley Village Hall – Hall Hire - £42.00
- Julie Farren – Salary for Sept/ Oct - £361.80
- Robert Clow – Travelling Expenses - £12.43
- Royal British Legion – Donation towards poppy wreath for remembrance day - £50.00

The following payment was made on 07/10/08 to Green Scythe Ltd and needs to be ratified. Cllr Richard Banbury proposed and Cllr Robert Clow seconded.

The Clerk reported that the External Auditors have now returned the accounts for 2007/08 and the Council was asked for final approval and acceptance of these. Cllr Richard Banbury proposed and Cllr Robin Gibbons seconded.

08/102 – OTHER MATTERS – The eco-town at Weston Otmoor - It looks as though this project is being shelved. It may be that a small development to the North West of Bicester is more preferable.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.56 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is the Budget meeting and will be held on 1st December 2008.

Signed by the Chairman

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Date