

Lechlade Town Council Minutes
Monday, 1st December 2008

Present: Cllr Jones
Cllr Miss Coakley
Cllr Dover
Cllr Mrs Eatwell
Cllr Gould
Cllr Mannall
Cllr Mrs Seale
Cllr Sullivan
Cllr Whistler
Cllr Mrs Wilson

CDC Cllr Carter
CDC Cllr Palmer

Mrs James - Clerk to the Council

1 member of the public

1. Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllrs Lambert, Maskell and Roberts, and GCC Cllr Theodoulou.
2. Declarations of interest
No declarations of interest had been received.
3. Approval of minutes of meeting held on 6th October 2008
The minutes were amended in line with the comments put forward by Cllr Lambert and were then approved and signed.
4. Matters outstanding
The Clerk reported that Cllr Lambert had emailed stating that he wished to resign as a councillor at the end of the year. The Clerk would seek clarification on the actual date on which his resignation would take effect.
5. Matters arising from minutes of meeting of 3rd November 2008
 - a) Highways
The Clerk reported:
 - Highways had now 'hot' repaired the Market Place. She will also contact them again regarding the pothole outside Colleys.
 - Four of the new town entry signs had been put in place and the fifth would be installed shortly.
 - Ivy and leaves had been cleared near the pedestrian crossing
 - Highways were contacting the Chester-Master family regarding the lime trees in Burford Street in need of pruning.
 - b) Coln Park visit
Cllr Roberts was still trying to arrange a date for Councillors to meet with Philip Duncan.

6. Committees

a) Communications

The deadline for the next newsletter was 19th December.

b) Cycleways

Cllr Coakley reported that the committee had met on 20th November and were still discussing use of the old railway line. Stage one would be from the old station in Lechlade to Little Faringdon, but land ownership needed to be established. Stage two would be from Lechlade to Fairford. The Ernest Cook Foundation owns most of the land in Fairford. A diversion would be required where the line crosses Roman Way and the Cursus. Cllr Lambert was thanked for all the work he had achieved so far.

c) Emergency Planning

Cllr Coakley reported that the committee had met on 30th October

- Co-ordination, Communications, Place of Safety and Practical Support teams had now been established.
- St John's Priory Park would be represented on the committee.

Cllr Mannall proposed and Cllr Wilson seconded that the minutes were accepted, and this was agreed.

d) Planning

Cllr Coakley reported that the committee had met on 12th November.

- It was clarified that the committee had not submitted a new objection to the Coln Park development, but had confirmed the objection approved in September 2008.
- The CDC planning training session on 24th November had been very helpful.
- Cllr Eatwell said that public awareness of major applications such as Coln Park would be improved if they were discussed at full Council meetings. Cllr Coakley responded that there was already significant public interest in the Coln Park development and other individuals and organisations in the town had made representations. The application for discharge of treated sewage effluent had been submitted to the EA prior to Council agreeing to major developments coming to a full town council meeting.
- The Chairman suggested that the developers should be invited to the Lechlade 2000 meeting in February 2009.

Cllr Coakley proposed and Cllr Sullivan seconded that the minutes were accepted, and this was agreed.

e) Playground

- Cllr Wilson reported that she had attended an excellent CDC play seminar and had visited Lechlade Youth Club, who had recently won a 6-a-side football tournament.
- Lechlade Youth workers had asked for young people to be invited to the Neighbourhood Management meetings. Cllr Eatwell agreed to pass this on to the PCSO's.
- The Clerk reported that the Swansfield playground had been repaired.

f) Traffic

- Traffic issues would be the focus of the Lechlade 2000 meeting on 9th December.

g) Christmas Lights

The Chairman thanked the Christmas Lights committee for their organisation of the excellent Switch-On event on 29th November.

h) Town Centre

Cllr Whistler reported that the recent repairs had greatly improved the safety and appearance

of the Market Place.

i) Cemetery

Cllr Jones reported that the committee had met on 28th November.

The project would be phased:

Stage 1 - purchase of land and provision of stock-proof fencing.

Stage 2 - Storage building and archaeological survey.

Stage 3 - multi-purpose mowing equipment.

Proposals for the first two stages would be brought to the January Council meeting.

j) Footbridge

Cllr Mannall reported that the Heritage and Development Trust had agreed to fund the costed proposals for the Halcrow sales prospectus, and sample designs were now awaited.

7. GCC Councillor

Cllr Theodoulou had sent his apologies.

8. CDC Councillors

Cllrs Palmer and Carter reported:

- CDC website links to the updated Hyder report were now functioning.
- CDC would be taking responsibility for environmental crimes such as dog fouling and littering from 1st December and could enforce on-the-spot fines. Residents should be encouraged to report offenders to the CDC Dog Warden.
- Discussions had taken place between the CDC Drainage Engineer and residents of St John's Priory Park. CDC have:
 - Written to those responsible for maintenance of the ditch behind the site and reinstatement of the ditch at the side of the site.
 - Written to Oxfordshire County Council and to the owners of The Trout about maintenance of their ditches
 - Asked Highways to ensure that the three culverts are cleared
 - Requested that the ground level of the new development should be raised to lower the risk of flooding.
- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee were calling in the Environment Agency and also Mark Tuffnell. Questions for them should be sent to Cllr Carter via the Clerk.
- The Cotswold Housing Advisory Service was moving back to Trinity Road.
- Residents would be able to put out up to twelve additional black bags for the collection immediately after Christmas.

9. Correspondence

- The Faringdon community bus would be actively promoted within Lechlade
- The Council for Voluntary Services has requested funding support. The Clerk will request copies of their accounts before their request for funding could be considered.

10. East Cotswold Strategic Partnership

The draft constitutional statement had been circulated along with a request to contribute £100 to fund a part-time administrator. The Town Council needs to respond independently to some projects on behalf of the town and could therefore not relinquish powers to another body. Responses from individual town and parish councils would carry more weight than one overall response representing several bodies. Whilst input from elected representatives at district and county level was welcomed, they could not represent Lechlade on the ECSP. It was agreed that the Clerk would invite the other three Chairs to a meeting, to discuss the proposed arrangements and report back in January 2009.

11. Hyder Report

The CDC Flood team had received responses from several groups and individuals and this had led to confusion. There is a need to co- ordinate responses, and individuals must submit the Town Council's views via the Clerk and not directly to CDC. The Chairman agreed to arrange a meeting with CDC to discuss Councillors concerns.

12. Meetings attended
The Clerk had circulated details.
13. Date of next meeting
Monday 12th January 2009, 7.45pm

