

A Meeting of the Town Council was held at the Memorial Hall, Lechlade  
on Monday, 2nd February 2009 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Jones (Chair)  
Cllr Miss Coakley  
Cllr Mrs Eatwell  
Cllr Gould  
Cllr Mannall  
Cllr Maskell  
Cllr Roberts  
Cllr Mrs Seale  
Cllr Sullivan  
Cllr Theodoulou  
Cllr Mrs Wilson

CDC Cllr Carter

Mrs James - Clerk to the Council

3 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence  
Apologies were received from Cllr Dover.
2. Declarations of interest  
Cllr Jones declared an interest in item 10a.
3. Approval of minutes of meeting held on 12th January 2009  
The minutes were approved and signed.
4. Matters outstanding  
The Clerk reported that the horse chestnut in Sherborne Park had been inspected by Mr Jim Ludlow, who considered that the tree was healthy apart from one branch. However this was just his opinion, as he had no insurance. Councillors decided that the Clerk should ask CDC to inspect the tree, but if they declined, Mr Ludlow should be asked to remove the branch.  
  
The Chairman announced that Rita Howell, the post lady for the north of Lechlade, had recently retired. The Clerk was asked to write and thank her for her long service to the community.  
  
The Chairman confirmed that he had now received a letter of resignation from Cllr Lambert and thanked him for his positive contributions in many areas over nearly two years. The Clerk explained the procedure for filling the vacancy.
5. Matters arising from minutes of meeting of 12th January 2009
  - a) Precept  
The Clerk corrected the impact of the 2009-2010 precept for a Band D property. This equates to an increase of £0.25 per week.

- b) Coln Park  
We are still awaiting a response from Philip Duncan on the proposed meeting.

6. Committees

- a) Communications

The deadline for the next Newsletter is 16th February.

- b) Cycleways

Cllr Coakley reported that she had agreed to take over from Cllr Lambert as Chair.

Advice on the proposed cycle route would be sought from the GCC Footpaths and Cycling Officer, Emma Shibli, when she visited on 11th February.

- c) Emergency Planning

The committee had met on 20th January and the minutes had been circulated.

- The committee agreed to introduce the CDC Flood Warden scheme
- The first issue of the newsletter for volunteers had just been issued.
- The first Flood Forum for Lechlade was due to meet on 3rd February.

It was agreed that the minutes be accepted.

- d) Planning

The committee had met on 26th January and the minutes had been circulated.

- Following discussion at the January council meeting, the Clerk submitted the objection to phase 4b. The previous objections to phases 4 and 5 still stand.
- Londis signs had been replaced and there was now easier access to the Community noticeboard. The Finance Committee would investigate the replacement of the Town Council noticeboard.
- No decision notices had been received since the last council meeting.

It was agreed that the minutes be accepted.

- e) Playground

The committee had met on 26th January and the minutes had been circulated.

- Funding proposal to CDC had been one of six successful bids in the first round and CDC would now put the proposal forward to GCC for consideration. It was essential to demonstrate consultation with the community and 16 young people's groups would be contacted during February. Consultations would then be held with other interested residents. Initial proposals and costings should be received from five suppliers by the end of February. The Clerk said that CDC funding was available only for the 8-13 year old age group, but there was a possibility of providing some facilities for older teenagers.

It was agreed that the minutes be accepted.

- f) Traffic

The next meeting was due to take place on 18th February.

- g) Christmas Lights

The committee had met on 20th January and the minutes had been circulated.

- Big Band night on 28th February.
- Gala Lights have offered a free audit of the present light system. There is a possibility of replacing them with LED lights.

- Health and safety issues needed to be addressed for 2009 .  
It was agreed that the minutes be accepted.

h) Cemetery

The Finance committee agreed to review cemetery fees and these were likely to increase from April 2009.

The planning application for the cemetery extension would be submitted shortly.

i) Footbridge

Sample designs for the sales prospectus had been received from Halcrow.

j) Finance

The committee had met on 29th January and the minutes had been circulated.

The Clerk reported:

- She would be touring the town with Cllr Mannall, Neville Ashford and Highways to identify the town's assets and establish who has ownership and responsibility for them.
- The Town Council has agreed to insure the public tennis court but the tennis club will need to make their own arrangements for insuring members of the public that use the other two courts.
- A meeting would be held with the Hall Trustees on 3rd February to clarify the management and responsibility for the various facilities and to determine the best way for the Council and Trustees to work together.
- A councillor training session was being planned for March.

It was agreed that the minutes be accepted.

7. GCC Councillor

Cllr Theodoulou had given his apologies due to the adverse weather conditions.

8. CDC Councillor

Cllr Carter reported:

- The waste collection had been seriously disrupted by the adverse weather.
- Highways have carried out drainage works at Claydon Pike.
- The PROW officer had inspected the Bowmoor footpath as it was overgrown. The developers had given an assurance that it would be cleared. PROW will carry out three-monthly checks.
- CDC Council Tax increase is 2.9% and car park charges will rise slightly.

9. Police and Community Consultative meetings

The Police Consultative Committee meeting with the Inspector will be in Cirencester on 4th February. The Neighbourhood Management Committee meeting with the PCSOs is in Bibury on 9th February.

10. Correspondence

- Lechlade and Fairford Business Club had requested a grant of £200. The Council decided by majority vote that the Business Club should not be supported in the current financial year.
- CDC had requested volunteers to participate in an exercise to test plans for a rest centre.
- Residents have been invited to a public Open Day at Sunhill on 21st February.
- CDC would no longer notify the Town Council of proposed tree works unless they affect trees of significant amenity value.

The Clerk also reported Mr Michael Cawsey had asked the Town Council to consider taking over the Flag Festival. This has been referred to the Finance Committee as there are resource implications.

11. Meetings attended

Details had been circulated.

- The Settlement and Hierarchy discussion had resulted in a more positive presentation of the town than in the current CDC document.
- The meeting of the four Chairs and Clerks to discuss the constitution and funding of ECSP still had to be arranged. CDC have offered to facilitate this meeting.

12. Date of next meeting

Monday 2nd March 2009 at 7.30pm.