

A Meeting of the Town Council was held at the Memorial Hall, Lechlade on Monday 2nd July 2007 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Jones
Cllr Cawsey
Cllr Dover
Cllr Gould
Cllr Lambert
Cllr Mannell
Cllr Maskell
Cllr Roberts
Cllr Seale
Cllr Sullivan

GCC Cllr Theodoulou
CDC Cllr Mrs Carter
CDC Cllr Palmer attended later.

2 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed Lynda Kent the new assistant Clerk to the meeting.

- 1 Apologies for Absence
Cllr Gillard, Cllr Mrs Wilson and Cllr Whistler
- 2 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.
- 3 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
These were approved and signed.
- 4 Matters Arising from these Minutes
 - a) Assistant Clerk
The Clerk stated that he would be taking the minutes for this meeting but in future Lynda would undertake this task. It was expected that with training and other minor matters that needed to be resolved that the office would be open every weekday by the end of the month.
 - b) Cemetery
The discussions with Mr Clarke had been held and the Clerk's view on the legal responsibility for the upkeep and state of graves passed to the holder of the licence when sold. With regard to the purchase of the land for the extension of the cemetery Mr Clarke would write on behalf of the Council to New College.

- c) Dog bin
A meeting had been held with Mr Sollis, CDC, and a representative of SITA. There was no objection to the siting of the new bin on the cemetery path near the entrance to Lodersfield. and it would be done as soon as delivery was made.
- d) New Footbridge
The letter to Halcrow appointing them to undertake the feasibility study for the bridge had been sent. They had requested a further letter indicating that they were working for the Council direct. This would avoid the necessity of the Utility companies charging VAT. There would be two weekends when visitor surveys would be carried out. Cllr Mannell volunteered to assist, as did Cllrs Dover, Maskell and Seale.
- e) Litter Pick
This had been arranged for the 7th July at 10.00am. The Clerk had ordered six extra sets of picking gear.
- f) Website.
The Spam filter being applied by Mole Productions was having a significant effect. The testing of the forwarding of e-mails had been successful and those requesting this service had been set up.
- g) Public Inquiry
Councillors were reminded that this would take place on 10/11th at 10.00am. Cllr Sullivan would be making a personal presentation. As it appeared that no one would be available the Council would make a written presentation.
- h) Meetings Attended
Cllr Cawsey had attended the URTH Project meeting with Cllr Gillard and they had made a presentation on the new bridge and answered questions. Present at the meeting had been County Officers and some of the side issues had also been discussed. Cllr Cawsey had attended the River Thames Alliance AGM. It was stated that Defra was providing reduced funding.

Cllrs Mannell and Roberts had also attended the URTH meeting.

Cllr Mrs Seale had attended the Guides' camp at Macaroni Woods with Cllr Mrs Wilson. The Guides may well be making an application for a funding grant.

Cllr Sullivan had attended the Water Park Committee but had not been elected to the committee. He had attended the East Cotswold Strategic Partnership with Cllr Mrs Wilson. He had given a report on the Water Park footpaths. The longer term of Riverside car park was discussed with the possibilities of Gateways and bus routes. Cllr Harwood (Fairford) raised the point of having wardens to be funded by the two

Town councils to enforce various offences under the new Act. Cllr Sullivan had produced a map of other footpaths in the area for Fairford to complete. The next meeting was 26th July.

At this point there was discussion about Sustrans and cycle paths. Cllrs Lambert, Mannell, Maskell and Roberts would meet to further the matters.

The Clerk had met with CDC's Enforcement Officer regarding footpaths, the Manor wall and the development at the Tavern.

Cllr Jones had attended a Meeting at RAF Fairford there was a change of Commander and in September there would be increased flying due to exercises involving both euro fighters and transports. The RIAT would be held on the 14/15th July a week earlier than usual. The normal traffic arrangements would be in force. There would be no local car stickers as these had not been effective in the past.

5 GCC Councillor

Cllr Theodoulou had attended the Hospital Action Group and the demise of the Hospital Trust. The local hospital was not supported as it was felt that GWH was sufficient.

GCC was negotiating for a County waste disposal site which was remote and within easy reach of the M5. This may involve a compulsory purchase order and this would conclude the settlement of composting in the County.

Civil parking, this would no longer be a police matter the primary responsibility being held by County but CDC taking over enforcement in October. This would involve hiring of wardens etc. and enforce current restrictions. There were no plans to introduce extra charging for parking. There was to be a meeting on the 9th between the developers of the station site and County Officers. This raised some discussion points and Cllr Mannell on the advice of the Clerk declared an interest but he was not required to leave the meeting as there was not a Council decision to be made.

The County was already looking at the Capital budget for next year to make contingencies for reductions by Government.

6 CDC Councillor

CDC was making written complaint regarding the response times of the Police and the Ambulance service. Cllr Carter asked whether the Council had received any notice of the Inaugural meeting of the Manor Farm Liaison Committee. This would be taken up with Aggregate Industries.

It was now possible to apply for planning permission on line.

In reply to a question from Cllr Lambert regarding the re-cycling of cardboard Cllr Carter indicated that there would be a major recycling push by CDC in the Autumn.

7 Planning Applications and Decision Notices

These were circulated at the meeting and agreed; they would be appended to the minutes in the minute book as usual.

- 8 Correspondence
Copies of relevant letters had been circulated. The offer by the Heritage Trust was discussed but as the Council had made no decision regarding welcome signs as opposed to notice boards, the matter would be placed on the agenda of the September meeting. Cllr Cawsey also remarked that the question of the swan logo had not reached a decision. This would also be raised at the September meeting.
The letter from Mr Lever was noted. The Council at previous meetings had indicated that the Meadow Trust had the responsibility for maintaining the meadow as part of the planning permission and that it was not a matter that the Council would contribute to in the long term. They had given a grant in the past but it had indicated that the grant was a “one off”.
- 9 Lechlade 2000+
The Chairman had circulated a memorandum regarding the make up of Lechlade 2000+ and the possible future it should have. It was intended that this should be discussed by the existing group during July and discussed at the September meeting of the Council
- 10 Market Place
There had been further discussion with GCC Highways. It had been estimated that the basic road surface refurbishment would be in the region of £40,000. There were then several suggestions regarding the sketch plan of the proposed changes with regard to the positioning of one or two bays, the alignment of the bus dropping off bay, and the motorcycle parking areas. At the conclusion it was suggested that the Heritage Trust be asked to source £10,000 towards the cost in order to move the scheme forward..
- 11 Matters Outstanding
Cllr Roberts said that at the recent Fosils School fête he was requested to provide a Christmas tree and asked for suggested suppliers. He also mentioned that grass cuttings had been deposited in storm drains in Downington. This would be investigated.

The Bridge near the Vets had still not been repaired. The Clerk said that this was on Highways list and it had been chased.

Extension of the speed limits was also mentioned. The 40mph to St John’s bridge was imminent. The Clerk would contact SBC regarding the stretch from Riverside park to the bridge.

Cllr Sullivan asked that the office hours be observed. The Clerk indicated that when he had other meetings he tried to arrange cover by one of the Councillors. In future this should be improved by arrangement between the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk.

Cllr Maskell asked about the extension of the lights along the Faringdon road. This was under discussion with County and had been on the agenda for several years.

12 Date of Next Meeting – 2nd September 2007