

A Meeting of the Town Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Lechlade on Monday 5th March 2007

Present: Cllr Jones
Cllr Chase
Cllr Cawsey
Cllr Dover
Cllr Gould
Cllr Mrs Mabon
Cllr Mrs Seale
Cllr Sullivan
Cllr Mrs Wilson

CDC Cllr Mrs Eatwell and Cllr Mrs Carter

GCC Cllr Theodoulou

Reporter Tom Shepherd

- 1 Apologies for Absence
Cllr Bennett, Cllr Gillard and Cllr Roberts
- 2 Declarations of Interest
Cllr Gould in item 4b.
- 3 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
These were approved by Cllr Cawsey and seconded by Cllr Dover and passed nem con.
- 4 Matters Arising
 - a) Cemetery
The pot-holes in the drive had been filled. The Mayor was still in discussion with the proposed contractor regarding the internal path.
 - b) Skateboard Park
The Clerk reported that he had met the contractor at the site and, to make a lasting solution to the problem, it would be necessary to remove the existing surface and replace it. This would cost £5,000 + VAT. This was agreed nem com.
 - c) Market Place
The turning circles of the buses needed to be checked. Owing to the recent damage, the sign post needed to be made more secure. It was decided not the repair the sign until other matters in the Market Square had been resolved.

Signed.....

Date.....

d) Fairford and Lechlade Business Club

It was agreed that the request for £200 be authorised by the Finance sub committee when they were satisfied that the Grant conditions had been met.

e) Meetings Attended

Cllr Cawsey had attended the Cotswold Water Park Seminar. They had employed a consultant to map the area. A summary of the seminar had been circulated. The Councillor had also met with Cllr Gillard and they had prepared a list of redundant road signs, which had been passed to County.

Cllr Mrs Wilson had been to a meeting with David Phillips, Chairman League of Friends of Fairford Hospital, who was trying to raise the profile in Lechlade by obtaining co-ordinators and collectors.

Cllr Sullivan had attended the meeting regarding the skateboard park and endorsed the Clerk's comments.

The Mayor had attended a meeting regarding the Market Place at which County officers had been present. The question of flooding in the Butlers Court area was raised. May Cottage and Claydon House had not suffered flooding before. The responses were not very satisfactory and County did not accept that the problems were due to the Wern development.

5 Seed Money

There had been a request from LHDT to match fund monies for the feasibility study regarding the bridge. There were three companies quoting for the study, which was expected to be in the region of £15,000. It was proposed by Cllr Cawsey and seconded by Cllr Chase and passed nem con that £2,500 be made available if required.

As the County and the District Councillors had to attend other meetings, items 14 and 16 were taken out of sequence.

14 County Councillor

The County budget was set to increase by 3.9% and the Police budget by 5%.

The proposed re-organisation of local government had led to heavy debate, the result of which was a two-tier system instead of the unitary one. A joint improvement board between District and County was proposed. Price Waterhouse had indicated that this would produce substantial savings. It was not easy to squeeze any more savings except in the areas of waste disposal and road maintenance. County officers were now discussing the new footbridge. The relief road had once again been deferred.

Cllr Theodoulou also gave a number for people to contact in extreme adverse weather conditions regarding flooding, fallen trees etc which is 08000 514514.

Signed.....

Date.....

CDC

Council tax rate set at 2.5%. Coln Park site was issued with a Stop notice on 27/2/07. A response from EA regarding drainage on the site is due 9th March.

With regard to sandbags, the EA do not supply them and currently neither do CDC. However they may review the policy.

Christmas Lights committee is looking into extending the illuminations.

- 6 Notice board at Perrinsfield
The board was in a bad state of repair and its supports had rotted away. The Clerk was requested to seek means of renovation and placing it on the adjacent wall rather than on wooden posts.
- 7 Public Enquiry
The Clerk had received a telephone call from County regarding a hall suitable for a public enquiry into the footpaths at Coln Park. The main hall is suitable but owing to bookings, is not available on two consecutive days. It was felt that owing to the importance of the enquiry, hirers of the hall would have to be requested to vacate the booking when suitable dates were arranged. The Clerk would liaise with County.
- 8 Election
Members were reminded of the action that needed to be taken if they wished to stand for re-election.
- 9 Playgrounds
The annual inspection had taken place and work was necessary in both areas. The Clerk was given permission to seek companies who could undertake the work.
- 10 Trees in Lodersfield Park
The Clerk reported that one had fallen in the recent adverse weather. He felt that the others should be inspected by a Tree surgeon and a report made.
- 11 Annual Parish Meeting
This would be held on 25th April at 7.30pm in the main hall. The Mayor was arranging for speakers on the Fairford hospital and on the Upper Thames Heritage Trust.
- 12 Planning Applications and Decision Notices
The notices had been circulated and there were no objection to the actions the list would be attached to the minutes.
- 13 Correspondence

Signed.....

Date.....

The list was discussed and the only item requiring a decision had been actioned under item 5.

16 Matters Outstanding

The Mayor raised the question of having the Office open on five days per week. It was decided that the Finance sub committee would examine the workload of the Clerk and report back at the next meeting.

The question of almost no publicity about Lechlade being reported in the local paper was again mentioned.

Cllr Cawsey raised the matter of non-insurance of the sign in the Market Square. This would be examined when the renewal quotation arrived. He also mentioned that, of those people attending the First Response courses, all six had qualified.

Cllr Mrs Wilson raised the question of e-mails being not passed on or lost in spam on the Council's server. She would seek possible solutions.

17 Date of Next Meeting

April 2nd at 7.30 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....