

A Meeting of the Town Council was held at the Memorial Hall, Lechlade
on Monday, 7th July 2008 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Jones
Cllr Miss Coakley
Cllr Dover
Cllr Gould
Cllr Maskell
Cllr Roberts
Cllr Mrs Seale
Cllr Sullivan
Cllr Whistler
Cllr Mrs Wilson

CDC Cllr Palmer
GCC Cllr Theodoulou

2 members of the public

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter of resignation from Cllr Cawsey for personal reasons. The Chairman expressed his great thanks to Cllr Cawsey for his long service and valuable contribution to the Council as a councillor and past chairman and wished him well for the future.

It was agreed that item 10 should be moved to the end of the agenda for reasons of confidentiality.

1. Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllrs Lambert and Mannall.
2. Declarations of interest
The Clerk had received a declaration of interest in item 13 from Cllr Maskell.
3. Approval of minutes of meeting held on 2nd June 2008
The minutes were approved and signed.
4. Matters arising from minutes of meeting of 2nd June 2008
 - a) Cemetery
The Clerk had received plans from the landscape designer and described the main features. Funeral cars would be able to drive right round and there would be room for a composting area and an additional shed. The gravel on the path would be replaced with a more satisfactory surface. Discussions were ongoing with New College about their wish to retain access to the southern end of the cemetery. The Clerk suggested that the Cemetery Committee (Cllrs Gould, Jones and Sullivan, and the Clerk) should look at the plans, particularly as they included a large number of
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shrubs and trees. An application would need to be made to CDC for planning permission to turn the land into a burial ground. It was agreed that the Cemetery Committee should take matters forward.

b) New road signs

The Clerk confirmed that he had received the colour artwork from the designers. A suggestion was made that standard tourist symbols indicating the facilities available in the town should be added to the signs, possibly replacing the reference to the inland port. There was general agreement that this suggestion be pursued. The Clerk commented that the current design already had approval from Highways. The total cost of providing the required five signs would be approximately £3300.

c) Allotments

The Clerk had written to the Gardening Club with the suggestion that residents wanting more land could be put in touch with residents with large gardens. This would also be mentioned in the Newsletter.

5. Committees

a) Cycleways

It was agreed that the committee should write to Sustrans to enquire about their interest in the development of the railway land and information should be sought to determine ownership of the land.

b) Playground

The committee was commended for its well-considered proposals. Subject to consultation with the Trustees, who were responsible for maintenance of the playing field, the proposed location of the playground was agreed. Funding options had been identified and it was agreed that these should be pursued. It was agreed that the minutes of committee meetings should be published on the website to increase public awareness.

c) The Finance Committee (item 10) and Emergency Planning Committee (item 12) had also met.

6. GCC Councillor

Cllr Theodoulou reported that the catseyes had been replaced on the road to Fairford. County had appointed a person with specific responsibility for cleaning out gullies and ditches, and the budget for flood-related work had been increased. Unison members had been balloted for a possible strike over pay. If their claim was successful, Council Tax would need to be increased by around 2%. A proposal for the provision of pensions for elected council members had been defeated.

7. CDC Councillor

Cllr Palmer reported that CDC would endeavour to provide printed documents for
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large planning applications. Planning notifications in the Standard had been reduced in size due to the expense, but information was always available online. The month's trial by Londis of recycling rather than burning cardboard had been successful and there would therefore be no burning of cardboard in future. Cllr Mrs Carter had met with the police about lorries parking overnight at Butler's Court and the police had undertaken to monitor this. It was reported to Cllr Palmer that the footpath leading to the garden centre had been washed away near the roundabout. Cllr Palmer said that a sympathetic approach should be taken by CDC to residents who might be confused by the new waste arrangements. Residents with long drives who had difficulty placing green bins at the kerbside should use brown sacks. It was reported that the garage was still parking more than three cars for sale in Sherborne Street. Cllr Palmer had spoken to the garage previously and the number of cars had reduced for a time, but he would now involve the Enforcement team. Cllr Theodoulou said that he had discussed policing along the riverside with the Chief Constable, and asked to be kept informed about the frequency of patrols.

- 8. Planning applications and decision notices.
These had been circulated.

- 9. Correspondence.
The list had been circulated. The Clerk said that comments needed to be sent to CDC on the Core Strategy settlement profile as it contained inaccurate and out-of-date information. Highways had agreed that the provision of 'margins' on St John's Bridge would create a false sense of security for pedestrians. Concern was expressed that there would be no parking restrictions in Hambidge Lane during the Air Tattoo and that the road was designated a signed rather than an emergency route. The Chairman said that he had already emphasised these concerns to the organisers and would remind them.

- 11. Hyder flood report
The Chairman reported that a response to the report commissioned by CDC was being prepared and a meeting had been arranged with CDC on 21st July. Residents of Downington were keen to be involved in discussions.

- 12. Emergency planning
Cllr Coakley said that the emphasis of emergency planning would be on community resilience. A small co-ordinating team would be established. Good preparation was essential, with the focus on communications, networks and practical support. Local groups such as the Lions and the WI had been approached and were willing to be involved. Public meetings would eventually be held and individuals would be asked to volunteer their support.

- 13. Town Wharf and building
Cllr Jones reported that he and Cllr Maskell had met with Paul Cobb to try and
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- find a pragmatic solution. The trailer could be removed and the scouts could install racking to store canoes on one side of the building, leaving the other side available for Council storage. Cllr Dover proposed and Cllr Roberts seconded that up to £100 should be made available from the Youth budget for the purchase of racking. This was agreed.
14. CDC Core strategy
Discussed under item 9.
15. Meetings attended
Cllr Jones had attended the RAF Fairford liaison group. There would be a military operation at the end of September. He had also attended the opening of the new Fairford Community Centre, which was a tremendous facility for the town. Cllr Roberts had met with residents of Downington about flooding issues and praised the Chairman's response to the Hyder report. Cllr Wilson had attended a meeting of the East Cotswolds Strategic Partnership, and terms of reference were being drawn up to formalise the group. Cllr Sullivan had attended the Cotswold Water Park Joint committee and reported that Scott Wilson had finished their contract and had been asked for a list of the amendments included in their updated report.
16. Matters outstanding
Cllr Jones said that the next meeting of Lechlade 2000+ would be held on 28th July and focus on youth services. Mrs Debbie Jones, Youth Club leader, would be giving a presentation. The Clerk reported that the PCSOs would be holding an area meeting in Lechlade on 17th July. Two signs in Downington needed repair, including the sign to the vets' surgery. Highworth Link magazine had expressed an interest in becoming involved with Lechlade publications. One of the flower tubs in the Market Place was preventing wheelchair access to the lowered pavement. In answer to a query about the provision of more dog litter bins, the Clerk said that this should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. It was reported that cars were still being driven the wrong way round the Market Place. Summer Funtastic would take place on 23rd August on the recreation ground. The WI had asked for Council support for their 'tidy-up' in September. The Pimms 'n Jazz evening on 11th July was nearly sold out. It was confirmed that Mrs New had been thanked by the Trustees for her work over many years dealing with Hall bookings. The question of the triangle plot at the edge of the Memorial Hall car park was once again raised. The Clerk said he would get the hedge trimmed back and invoice Fosseyway for the cost.
17. Date of next meeting
Monday **8th** September 2008 at 7.30pm.
10. Appointment of Clerk
There had been 17 applications. 3 applicants had been invited for interview on 4th July. The selection committee had reached a unanimous decision to
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recommend one of the applicants, who had long service in local government with CDC, for appointment. Cllr Gould proposed and Cllr Seale seconded that the Clerk be authorised to offer the position. This was agreed.

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