

A Meeting of the Town Council was held at the Memorial Hall, Lechlade  
on Monday, 12th January 2009 starting at 7.45pm

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

GCC Cllr Theodoulou  
CDC Cllr Carter  
CDC Cllr Palmer

Mrs James - Clerk to the Council

4 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence  
Apologies were received from Cllr Wilson. The Chairman reported that a letter of resignation had been received from Cllr Lambert.
2. Declarations of interest  
No declarations of interest had been received.
3. Approval of minutes of meeting held on 1st December 2008  
The minutes were approved and signed.
4. Matters outstanding
  - Hierarchy and Settlement consultation - The Clerk would consult with councilors and prepare a response.
  - Cllr Roberts confirmed that he was still trying to arrange a date for councillors to meet with Philip Duncan.
5. Matters arising from minutes of meeting of 1st December 2008
  - a) ECSP  
The Chairman reported that the other three Chairs had been contacted to discuss the constitution and funding of ECSP. CDC have expressed interest in the re-establishment of this group.

b) Hyder Report

The Chairman met with CDC on 8th December and the notes had been circulated. Progress would continue to be closely monitored.

6. Lechlade Town Council Precept 2009-2010

The precept for 2008-2009 was £57,621, but actual expenditure up to the end of December 2008 and estimated expenditure up to the end of the financial year amounted to £77,548. Increases in expenditure were largely due to vandalism of the playground, cemetery costs, purchase and maintenance of external facilities, and putting up the Christmas lights. Overall costs for 2009-2010 are projected at £74,116. This includes development of a new play area, and purchase of land and associated costs for the cemetery extension. Further increases result from extra insurance costs, asset maintenance and SEC charges for Christmas Lights. Council agreed that the precept should reflect actual costs, and therefore the proposed precept for 2009-2010 was set accordingly. **The effect for a Band D property is an increase of £12.69 per year or £0.25 per week**

Clr Mannall proposed and Clr Dover seconded that the precept be accepted. This was agreed by a unanimous vote. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for providing clear and detailed documentation.

7. Committees

a) Communications

There had been no recent meeting.

b) Cycleways

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November had been circulated. Committee members are meeting with the GCC Footpaths and Cycling Officer, Emma Shibli on 11<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the disused railway line. The meeting minutes were accepted by Council.

The Clerk reported that a GCC Public Rights of Way officer had walked the Seven Stiles path and considered it to be passable. However, it was pointed out that the ditch that drains the footpath was not being maintained. It was agreed that the Cycleways and Footpaths Committee should take this matter forward.

c) Emergency Planning

Clr Coakley reported that she had walked the Downington area with Highways and CDC representatives. They carried out a thorough examination and would produce a report. The committee would identify flood wardens to check the drainage systems in this area. The Chairman discussed the Hyder report with CDC and encouraged them to look at the hydrology of the Little Lemhill catchment.

- d) Planning  
The minutes of the meeting and held on 8<sup>th</sup> December and the list of decision notices had been circulated. The meeting minutes were accepted by Council.

Claydon Pike, phase 4b.

Cllr Coakley said that the plans had changed from modest to large, L-shaped lodges and this would create sustained damage to the reed beds. Local people were concerned about the scale of the development and the reduced amenity value of the area. They also objected to the reduction in wildlife diversity and the restriction on the use of the footpath, the line of which had been moved from the lakeside to behind the lodges. Cllr Theodoulou confirmed that complaints had been received about the relocation of the footpath.

The Planning Committee asked Council to agree to object to phase 4b on the grounds that the scale of the units now being proposed is not in accordance with that originally indicated, and therefore the environmental impact is greater.

Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Whistler seconded that the Planning Committee's objections should be supported, and this was agreed.

- e) Playground  
The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November had been circulated. The Heritage and Development Trust had been approached about funding and quotations from suppliers were expected soon. It was likely that an archaeological survey would be required. The meeting minutes were accepted by Council.

- f) Traffic  
The Clerk reported that she was still trying to establish ownership of the lime trees in Burford Street.

A number of matters had been raised at the Lechlade 2000 meeting in December:

- Some residents were concerned that parking in the Market Place is restricted to 2 hours on Sundays.
- Town signage and restriction notices could be removed to make drivers more observant.
- A mini roundabout at the entrance to Sherborne Street might improve safety when vehicles were turning round and slow traffic down.
- There had been several instances of inappropriate parking with vehicles obstructing pavements and footpaths.
- That provision of parking at the former recycling site.

It was agreed:

- The Traffic Committee should discuss these matters further.
- To put a reminder in the newsletter about responsible parking.

- g) Christmas Lights  
The meeting to review the Christmas Lights 2008 would be on 20<sup>th</sup> January. The next fundraising event would be the Big Band night on 28<sup>th</sup> February.
- h) Town Centre  
There had been no recent meeting.  
Cllr Whistler informed Council that he was no longer able to Chair this Committee for personal reasons.  
It was agreed that this committee would be discontinued and its functions transferred to the Traffic Committee, with immediate effect.
- i) Cemetery  
The minutes of the meeting and held on 28<sup>th</sup> November had been circulated. Cllr Jones reported that:
- Phase 1 of the cemetery extension was £40,000.
  - Proposals for Phases 2 and 3 needed further development
  - It was estimated that annual expenditure would be about £1800 per annum over 50 years and this sum had been included in the 2009-2010 precept.
- It was proposed by Cllr Coakley and seconded by Cllr Eatwell that Phase 1 should be proceeded with, and this was agreed. The meeting minutes were accepted by Council.
- j) Footbridge  
There had been no recent meeting. Cllr Mannall reported that the Heritage and Development Trust had agreed to fund the sales prospectus.
- k) Finance  
The minutes of the meeting and held on 6<sup>th</sup> January had been circulated. The Clerk reported that the committee would be meeting with the Hall Trustees to clarify financial responsibility for the various facilities. Matters under item 4 of the minutes would be discussed by the committee and proposals brought to the Council.  
The meeting minutes were accepted by Council
8. Adoption of the Model Publication Scheme  
The Clerk reported that this had been introduced in August 2008, and if not adopted by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 the scheme would be applied automatically. Various documents and information must be made available to the public as hard copies as well as on the website.
9. GCC Councillor  
Cllr Theodoulou reported that County was proposing a 2.9% budget increase. The capital budget of £30 million included £20 million for the environment and

roads, £5 million for education and £1 million for small schemes. £5 million would probably be available to continue with drainage schemes.

10. CDC Councillor

Cllr Carter reported that:

- CDC is sending an increasing amount of information direct to parish and town councils.
- Cllr Carter presented a cheque for £2,500 from the owners of Lakes by Yoo towards the Playground project.
- The Enforcement Officer was still investigating various issues in the town.
- Waterside Living leaflets have been produced for riparian owners and are available from the Town Council office.

11. Correspondence

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from Fairford Town Council asking if the Lechlade end of the Court Brook would be cleared. It was pointed out that the Court Brook does not flow directly into Lechlade.

A request for funding had been received for the Tree Warden scheme as CDC funding was discontinued in 2006. The Clerk would request financial details.

12. Meetings attended

Details had been circulated.

Cllr Seale reported that :

- RAF Fairford's next exercise will begin on 15th February.
- RIAT will be held from 17th to 19th July and local farmers' fields will be used for car parking
- Deployed Operations Training (DOT) will take place in September/October.

13. Date of next meeting

Monday 2nd February 2009 at 7.30pm.