

LAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Members of the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk had been available in Launton Village Hall before the start of the formal meeting (from 7.00pm until 7.30pm) to meet with the public. All plans and correspondence were available for viewing and comments. Three parishioners availed themselves of this opportunity. The formal meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2010 at 7.30pm in Launton Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Miss Wendy Foster – Vice Chairman, Mrs Audrey Tutt, Mr Ian Stubbings & Mr Howard Hill

In attendance: Mr Keith Dixon - Clerk, District Councillor David Hughes (part-time)

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Councillors Mr Simon Turner & Mrs Molly O'Connor.

In the absence of Councillor Turner, the Chair was taken by Councillor Foster.

The Clerk reported that he had received a formal request from Councillor O'Connor, that the Council accept apologies for absence, extended beyond the allowable 6 months, on the grounds of ill health.

It was resolved that the apologies be accepted.

Proposed: Councillor Tutt
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Stubbings
Motion carried.

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

There were none.

3. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting - Thursday 7th January 2010

The above dated minutes were unanimously agreed as a true record and were signed and dated by the Chairman.

Proposed: Councillor Hill
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Tutt
Motion carried.

4. Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton

There was none.

5. Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton

Councillor Hughes gave a report and summarised the work going on in planning the Bicester South West development and the redevelopment of Bicester Cottage Hospital.

6. Financial:

- a. To confirm and approve expenditure for February and review income during January.

Expenditure for approval and payment in February 2010

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
200081	Mr Jefferies – Bus Shelter	£ 80.30

200082	K Dixon	£ 294.53
200083	HMRC – K Dixon	£ 71.40
200084	K Dixon	£ 82.00
S/O	Launton Lines	£ 110.00

Total Payments for February 2010 **£638.23**

All above cheques drawn on The Co-operative Bank

Income Received

Source	Reason	Amount
Co-operative Bank	Interest January	£ 0.63
Bank of Ireland	Interest January	£ 0.01

Total Receipts for January 2010 **£ 0.64**

Income was reviewed and expenditure approved

Proposed: Councillor Tutt
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Stubbings
Motion carried.

- b. To acknowledge scrutiny and acceptance of previously circulated bank statements.
Banks statements were reviewed and unanimously accepted.
- c. To review and approve the Bank Reconciliation
Bank Reconciliation was reviewed and unanimously accepted.
- d. To review and approve year to date Budget outlook
The outlook for the balance of the year was reviewed and unanimously accepted.
- e. To review and consider the Clerk's working hours
In an item carried forward from September's meeting, the clerk apprised the Council of his actual working hours over the past 12 months.
It was resolved to increase the Clerk's paid hours from 35 to 37.5 per month

Proposed: Councillor Stubbings
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Tutt
Motion carried.

7. Planning

- a. To discuss and decide upon Planning Applications received;
None were received .
- b. Planning Decisions
 - i. Application No. 09/01719/F
Applicant: Mr Martin Whitford
Proposal: Single Storey front extension to bungalow
Location: 34 Sycamore Rd
Decision: **Application Granted**

c. NW Bicester Eco-town

To consider and discuss current understanding of the Eco town development and to decide on the Council's position regarding support or objection to the proposals.

Councillor Foster reported that she had attended the last joint council's meeting, the minutes of which had been circulated to the Council.

Councillor Hughes described Cherwell DC's thinking towards the eco extension and asked that the Council should pass any concerns or objections to him in order that he could represent the parish's views.

Up to the date of the meeting no comment had been received from members of the public.

At the previous meeting Councillor Turner had proposed making a report of his attendance at the Bicester Summit meeting. In his absence, it was resolved to defer further discussion on this topic to the next meeting.

8. Village Matters

a. Calor 'Village of the Year' competition- to review progress.

Councillor Foster reported that the proposed 'Launton People' public meeting to discuss ideas has still to be scheduled.

The Clerk reported that The Council's application for a 'Youth Activators' programme run by Cherwell DC had been accepted. This would result in a 10 week programme of outdoor activities scheduled to commence in Spring.

Further details to be advertised in Launton Lines and www.Launton.org nearer the time.

Clerk to inform Launton Playing Fields Association.

Action Clerk

b. Speed recording devices – To review developments and consider a decision on funding.

The Council is awaiting further information from the Bicester Neighbourhood Action Group on this topic.

c. Better warning of the hazard when approaching the School from Bicester Rd railway bridge. - To review feedback and propose action.

The Clerk reviewed correspondence received from Oxfordshire Highways concerning better warning of the school to motorists.

Councillor Foster reported on discussions with PC Caroline Brown who had been into the school the previous day and had offered to attend the next Council meeting.

The Clerk was directed to invite PC Brown and ask her to be available from 7.00p.m. to hear comments from Members of the public.

Action Clerk

d. To consider ways in which the Council could assist or participate in event of severe weather or similar emergencies.

The Clerk had made enquiries of Oxfordshire Highways and the Parish Council's Insurance brokers on the advisability of snow clearance. Correspondence had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

After discussion the Council concluded this was not an undertaking it was appropriate to pursue.

- e. To receive a report from the Clerk on drainage issues in Station Rd and Bicester Rd.

The Clerk reported that with the exception of two further improvements, one to the roadside ditch and the other to create an overflow into the ditch behind Sharpes Farmhouse, the work undertaken by Cherwell DC was complete. He proposed that when this work was finished an article should be posted in Launton Lines to make the public aware of what had been done and responsibilities for upkeep. The suggestion was accepted by the Council.

- f. To discuss reports of 'Fly Tipping' in the village

Councillor Foster reported having been made aware of littering/fly tipping in the roadway from the Parish Hall to the Sports and Social Club and of the good deeds of a resident in clearing the offending items. The Clerk was directed to post an article in Launton Lines advising residents of the number to call if any relevant information about the issue.

Action Clerk

9. Correspondence

- a. To discuss and, where necessary, decide upon a response to correspondence for consideration:

- i. Cherwell Local Strategic Partnership - Reference Group - 25 February
Councillor Stubbings will attend.

- ii. Viridor Waste Management - Planning Application Appeal
The Council concluded it had nothing to add to its comments already communicated.

- iii. Oxfordshire County Council - Local Transport Plan – consultation
The Council concluded that having contributed to the long list of projects it had no further contribution to make to the rest of the consultation process.

- iv. CDC – Rural Affordable Housing Seminar
No Councillor at the meeting was able to attend.
Clerk to ask Councillor Turner whether he would be available.

Action Clerk

- v. Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – Affordable Housing Report for Launton

The Clerk had received notification from ORCC that the owners of the site known as site 4 had formally declined to make it available for purchase, and a request for information on ownership of site 8.

Action Clerk

ORCC have offered to conduct a housing needs survey in the village.
The council accepted the proposal.

Proposed: Councillor Tutt
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried.

- vi. Aylesbury Vale – Supplementary Planning Documents Consultation
The Council resolved not to make input to this consultation.

- b. Correspondence received for information

- i. Letters of thanks for donations under section 137
- ii. St Mary's Church donation - letter of thanks.
- iii. OCC – Oxfordshire Countryside Matters
- iv. NHS Oxfordshire – Bicester Community Hospital Project Group
- v. The Playing Field
- vi. OALC Members Update January/February 2010

10. Reports

a. Chairman's Report

No report was made this month due to absence.

b. Clerk's Report

The Clerk advised the Council that the Parish Allowance Scheme report had been published and would be reviewed at the next meeting.

The Council have been invited to a meeting chaired by Thames Valley Police on the 26th February. The meeting concerning Neighbourhood Policing will be open to the public from 16.00 to 18.00. Notices publicising the meeting will be posted on the parish notice boards.

ORCC are creating a book to celebrate its 90th anniversary, The Parish has been asked to contribute items about community activity in the parish.

Bicester Rd weed clearance is scheduled for completion before the 16th February.

The Village Hall has been reserved for the 15th or 22nd April for the Annual Parish meeting . Date to be confirmed before next meeting.

11. Date of next meeting - Thursday 4th March 2010 **Launton Parish Hall**

The meeting closed at 9.07 p.m.