

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES of meeting held on 3rd January 2012 at 7.30pm in Library Room, Wendover

PC12/173 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Worth

Present: Cllrs Ballantine, Carroll, Clayton, Duggan (in the chair), Grant, Green, Gregory, Lewis, Saunders, Stamper, Statham, Walsh, District Councillor Richards (AVDC), Martin Dalby (AVDC Planning Dept.) and 12 members of the public

PC12/174 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests in items on the Agenda and their nature.

Councillors Clayton, Ballantine and Grant in Item PC12/186c

Councillors Grant, Carroll and Duggan in Item PC12/186e

PC12/175 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was adjourned for public question time.

Millie Andrews (resident) – it was suggested that the Council considers the production of a Neighbourhood Plan as this is a policy document unlike a Community Plan.

A resident of Dunsmore informed the meeting that they did not receive a copy of the consultation document.

It was decided that questions to Martin Dalby (AVDC) would be allowed after his presentation.

PC 12/176 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

a) Martin Dalby (AVDC) addressed the meeting to clarify the current situation on Neighbourhood Plans in relation to the Vale of Aylesbury Plan. Confusion has arisen because legislation (Localism Act) was pushed through quickly in order to remove the regional planning system and allow “bottom up” decisions to be made about future housing needs. It is now the responsibility of District Councils to determine housing need. The previous Core Strategy for Aylesbury Vale has been abandoned and in the vacuum, developers submitted plans for huge developments. AVDC then set about creating the Vale of Aylesbury Plan (VAP) to determine the overall strategy for the Vale including housing, education, recreation, leisure and employment.

In November 2010, workshops were held to start the process of engagement with Town and Parish Councils and in February 2011, Wendover Parish Council took back their opinion to AVDC. In August and September 2011, further workshops were held to consider options. In December 2011, the public consultation on VAP was launched. Wendover Parish Council unfortunately, had missed the deadline for its consultation and consequently, the 2 consultations are running together which is unfortunate although not insurmountable.

The Wendover questionnaire has been distributed and an analysis of the results is being carried out. An overall view needs to be submitted to AVDC by the deadline of 26th January 2012. AVDC will then consider the response compared with the VAP and submit to Cabinet in May 2012. Narrow options or preferred options will be prepared in Oct/Nov 2012. In 2013, the final document will be presented to the Secretary of State and the Planning Inspectorate and adopted in 2014.

Martin Dalby explained that a Neighbourhood Plan does not have to be produced and it would be too expensive for small Parishes to complete. However, the document does give policy power and is a legal document which has to be regarded by AVDC and government. However, a Neighbourhood Plan cannot conflict with VAP but can allow more development than the VAP. The costs may be £17,000 to £63,000.

A Community Plan covers all issues – social, transport, dog walking and employment.

Standing Orders were suspended. The following points were made by members of the public:

- Does the community view consultation have to be taken into account when putting forward the Parish view?
 - Results of the Parish consultation need to be considered but do not have to be the Council's response.
 - Concerns about costs and funding were raised
 - The constraints of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty were noted
 - The effect of HS2 on the VAP was questioned and the possibility of greenfield site development was addressed
 - Land can be allocated in VAP for infrastructure needs but a Local Development Order would secure the site for specific purposes
- Martin Dalby was thanked for his attendance and he then left the meeting at 8.18pm

b) Processing of Parish Council response to VAP – an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council will be held on 17th January 2012 at 7.30pm to consider this matter.

PC12/177 LOCAL POLICING

a) No report was received

b) Change of hours at Wendover Police Station – it is understood that a proposal has been made to close the Police Station to the public on Mondays and Fridays from April 2012. It was agreed that the Parish Council would express their objections to this proposal.

PC12/178 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Clayton reported that BCC has launched a Toolkit for the 2012 Jubilee and Olympic Year, the LAF meeting on 5th January 2012 will allocate funding (Wendover Decides) and the BCC Budget consultation runs until 20th January 2012.

PC12/179 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Councillor Richards reported on the following:

- AVDC planners are aware of the containers at Brook House and have allowed as temporary storage for remedial work to be undertaken
- The railway development companies can be given development powers. There are instances on HS1 where development has been allowed on greenfield sites
- The Parish Council should seriously consider the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. Some technical studies have already been undertaken by AVDC which would reduce the cost and the Parish Council would be in charge of their own destiny.

PC12/180 MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th December 2011 were approved and signed as a true record.

PC12/181 PLANNING COMMITTEE

To receive approved minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November 2011 and 5th December 2011 – taken as read

PC12/182 AMENITIES COMMITTEE

To receive approved minutes of meeting of 22nd November 2011 – taken as read. Councillor Walsh reported that the Christmas Event went well and thanks were extended to Jill Bottomley (Deputy Clerk) for the excellent lights display. The Manor Waste consultation is on-going. The outcome of the grant request for works to the London Road Skate Park from AVDC is awaited.

PC12/183 FINANCE COMMITTEE

To receive approved minutes of meeting held on 22nd November 2011 – taken as read

PC12/184 WORKING GROUP REPORTS

- a. **Premises & Car Parking** - Cllr Clayton will organise these following a meeting with AVDC
- b. **Policies and Procedures** – an initial meeting has been held and the Standing Orders are being considered
- c. **Communications** – the back page compilation in Wendover News has been well received. The new website is close to the pilot stage.
- d. **Staffing** – appraisals, contracts, pension and payroll are being considered.

PC12/185 WITCHELL

Following discussion at the Finance Committee on 22nd December 2011, solicitors have been appointed to deal with Land Registry and Charity Commission matters. A full report will be available at the next Parish Council meeting.

PC12/186 FINANCE

- a. Approval for payment of accounts as listed was given.

Cheque signing records					
Meeting	Date	To	Cheque	Amount	Item
PC	03.01.12	G A Bottomley	8168	£65.20	Salary correction Apr-Oct 2011(4135)
		Numbers Ltd	8171	£300.00	Payroll services & salaries (4135)
		Staples Direct	8172	£29.99	Stationery (4130)
		Altdigital Networks Ltd	8173	£23.99	Copier (4123)
		G A Bottomley (personal credit card used)	8174	44.16	Events (4521) safety barriers
		Thames Water	8175	£38.89	Water Ashbrook (4701)
		Sanders Print People Ltd.	8176	£810.00	Newsletter (4158) Questionnaire
		Briants of Risborough Ltd	8177	£44.84	Repairs materials & tools (4704)
		Cuckoo Fair	8178	£22.20	CIO Stock (1052)
		HMRC	8179	£1,724.73	Salaries (4135), Employers NIC (4136)
		G A Bottomley	8180	£147.00	SLCC Subscription (4157)
		Bucks CC Pension Fund	8181	£1,767.17	Salaries (4135) & ER Pension (4137)
		BT	DD	£112.03	Telephone (4124)
		Komputer Consultancy Services Ltd.	SO	£30.00	Broadband (4124)
		Telepay & cheques	8169, 8170	£6,875.24	Salaries (4135)
		TOTAL		£12,035.44	

- b. Churchyard Care Agreement – this matter was deferred to the next meeting

c. Youth Club re. funding for 2012/13 – this matter was referred to the Finance Committee meeting on 16th January 2012. The funding granted so far (£1500) is to pay youth workers until 31st March 2012. If the Youth Club folds in future, there would be no onus on the PC for financial support.

d. To finalise precept request for 2012/13 – the Finance Committee recommended leaving the precept as for the current year (£271,159.00) as there is a predicted surplus of £70,000 at the yearend (31st March 2012). This would mean a small decrease at household level as there are now more houses in Wendover. It was pointed out that taking on additional households bears a financial responsibility and that the EMR should be spent on specified projects. There are also several unknowns to be taken into account e.g. repairs to Clock Tower which could deplete reserves.

Councillor Lewis then proposed that the precept remained the same absolute amount as last year irrespective of the number of households. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Statham.

Councillor Clayton then proposed that the per household level remains the same which would result in an overall increase in the precept request. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Walsh.

A vote was then taken which resulted in a split decision. The Chairman (Councillor Duggan) then made a casting vote to carry Councillor Lewis` proposal. Therefore, the precept request for 2012/13 will be £271,159.00.

It was proposed and agreed that all Councillors should undertake training on Finance.

e. Wendover Celebrates – thanks were extended to the PC for the funding (£2500) which has allowed deposits to be made and equipment secured. A proposal for future funding requirements will be available at the next Parish Council meeting.

PC12/187 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

To receive reports back from Wendover Parish Council representatives on outside bodies Councillor Statham recommended that the subscription to the Friends of the Ridgeway is continued (£15.00 per year)

PC12/188 CORRESPONDENCE & CLERKS REPORT

a) Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust – thanks for pitch at market on 15th December 2011. £80.00 was raised for the Charity

b) BCC Have your say about County Council and Health Services www.bucksgov.uk/scrutiny

c) Speedwatch – training has taken place. Volunteers should contact Wendover Police Station to arrange further training sessions

d) Buckingham Palace Garden Party – nominations of Councillors are required by 1st February 2012

e) Outdoor Lighting Solutions – wine and sweets donated to the Parish Council will be used as prizes at the Wendover Celebrates Quiz Night on 24th February 2012

PC 12/189 MATTERS OF REPORT

The following matters were reported to the meeting:

- The debris left after the New Year's Eve celebration in the High Street caused concern to Councillors. Neither BCC nor AVDC will take responsibility for clearance as they do not organise the event. The event has grown in recent years and now attracts revellers from outside the town. Additional Police are required to monitor the situation and take necessary action. The matter will be considered as an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting.
- Draft Financial Regulations have been circulated and will be considered at the next meeting.
- Numerous potholes will be reported to TfB
- Hampden Pond has risen in the last few days.
- A request has been received to repaint the road markings in the Car Park

- The bollard outside Rumseys has fallen over again
- The footbridge at the Railway Station is in a poor state of repair and is part of the footpath network. What will happen when the new bridge/lift is complete?
- The Parish Council has been made aware that the by-pass is due to be re-surfaced in 2 years' time and a request was made for quiet surfacing
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PC 12/190 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next full Parish Council meeting is 6th February 2012

PC 12/191 STAFFING and FINANCIAL ISSUES.

Councillors are to approve the following resolution:

In view of the confidential nature of the current situation regarding staffing the meeting will be closed to press and public under section 1(2) of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

An update on current issues was given by the Chairman and thanks given to Councillors Lewis, Carroll and Saunders for their help in dealing with these matters.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

As there was no further business, the meeting closed at 9.51pm.

Chairman: DRAFT

Date: