Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday 7th April 2014

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

1. APOLOGIES: None

Present: Trevor Gill, Alastair Whetstone, Chris Campbell, David Hutt, Clerk, Councillor Williams

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: Trevor Gill declared an interest in planning application 14/00635/FUL Orchard Lodge, withdrawing from the discussions on this application.

3. CONFIRM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The minutes were accepted by the meeting and signed and dated by Alastair Whetstone.

4. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

5. MATTERS ARISING:

Community

a) Community Policing/Neighbourhood Watch: Nothing to report at this months meeting.

b) Playground (including monthly check): Trevor Gill has examined the play area and found it was fine.

c) Superfast Broadband: Trevor Gill confirmed that the project is ongoing and that there was nothing to report to the meeting. Chris Campbell shared information about a leaflet he had found which stated there would be a £14m investment in Oxfordshire.

d) Post Office – update: No update on this matter. Trevor Gill asked the meeting to consider the opening hours of the Post Office in the autumn.

e) Update on additional signage/speed reduction scheme: Councillor Williams explained that the project will be undertaken within the financial year.

f) Emergency Plan: Trevor Gill confirmed that he had sent the draft report to the council for checking and had not received any comments yet.

g) Open Gardens - use of cemetery car-park on 13th July 2014. In addition, two further dates were flagged up: 14th June for the Soap Box Derby and 2nd August for wedding guests.

h) Roads: Traffic, Roads and Drains

- Water flowing onto road close to St John's Church: Councillor Williams stated that he had met with the engineers and there were concerns about the amount of water coming down the hill. The plan is to install an additional drain.

Trevor Gill reported that there was an accident reported to him regarding a cyclist who had come of their bike, sustaining a head injury and an ambulance had been called.

Environment/Maintenance

h) Green areas: Trevor Gill has received complaints from some residents about parking and driving over the village green, causing it to be churned up. There is a suggestion about installing a flower bed in the centre. Trevor will speak to the residents and find out what their suggestions are and report back to the Parish Council.

i) Reading Room maintenance: Trevor Gill confirmed that the storage heaters have now been disconnected. Trevor suggested that it would be an idea to formulate a list of projects that need to be undertaken at the Reading Room so that if and when grant funds are available, the parish council can make an application. This was accepted as a good idea. It was decided to dispose of the storage heaters. The meeting decided that alternative heating should be bought before the winter.
ACTION: Trevor Gill to remove and dispose of the storage heaters.

j) Community Flood Resilience Workshop: Councillor Williams will be in attendance.

k) Audit: The Clerk confirmed that the papers have arrived from Grant Thornton. Trevor Gill and the Clerk will run through the figures on Thursday. An appointment will then be booked for the internal audit to be undertaken.

6. COUNCIL REPORTS

1. **Electoral Arrangements for Stratford-on-Avon District Council –** The final recommendations have now been presented by the Local Government Boundary Commission inasmuch as the total number of councillors representing the Council's voters as well as the number of councillors representing each Ward will be agreed by the District Council at their full Council Meeting on Monday 14th April 2014. The recommendations are:

   (a) There should be 36 councillors instead of 53.
   (b) There should be electoral equality for voters
   (c) Promoting effective and convenient local government.

   As far as Avon Dassett is concerned, it has been decided that it will now be part of the Red Horse Ward, not part of the newly named Napton & Fenny Compton Ward. The Red Horse Ward will be centred on Shpston-on-Stour rather than Southam and it will mean a change of your Community Forum from the Southam & Feldon Forum to the Shipston-on-Stour Forum. I did make representations against these changes to no avail.

2. **County Council Boundary Review** – The County Council has presented their proposals for Boundary Changes to the Commission and I am pleased to say that there are no major alterations to the Kineton Division. The Boundary changes have come about because of the growth in housing expected in Warwickshire over the next 5- 10 years and it is expected that from 2017 the number of councillors will be reduced from 62 to 57 affectively, one councilor from each area. The proposal is to eliminate two member Divisions throughout the County.

3. **Emergency Planning –** The Resilience Team at WCC will be carrying out a full practical exercise during May. The operation will be based in Kineton and this first exercise will be to coordinate the resources of Parish Councils. I will advise you of further detail at the next Parish Council meeting. I would like to thank the Parish Council for their efforts in producing an up-to-date Emergency Plan.

4. **Highway Matters –** The Highways Team at WCC are concerned with the current situation of water on the hill. Plans are being drawn up to create a new drainage system from the church side of the road which will involve creating a similar drainage scheme that was installed last year outside the Rectory. The proposal is that this new drain will collect water from the church side of the road and connect it to drainage on the Bitham Hall side of the road. There is a degree of urgency about the matter and the work involved will require the road to be closed for possibly five days.

5. **Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service** – At the Budget Meeting on 6th February 2014, the medium term savings plan for the next four years included savings of around £2.4 million for the Fire and Rescue Service. The impact of reducing this budget has informed a review of how we deliver our services. The Fire and Rescue Service have entered into a Consultation Survey on how we can achieve these savings. There will be Public Consultation and I can confirm that there will be no closure of any Fire Station in Warwickshire. In essence, we are going to change how we use whole-time firefighters. The way that we spend our money on prevention activity and the review of our strategic management team. The proposals include:

   (i) more fire engines and fire fighters available between the peak hours of 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
   (ii) change firefighters' shifts
   (iii) have one fire engine with whole-time duty system crew available 24 hours per day at various locations including an additional response team based at the Jaguar Land Rover facility at Gaydon

   The Consultation is available on line and we would welcome your views on our proposals. The details are on www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fireandrescue

7. CORRESPONDENCE – Paper copies circulated at meeting. Electronic mail circulated prior to meeting. Trevor Gill took away the paperwork on Npower and Zurich insurance which he will return to the Clerk. The bank mandate was completed for the removal of Daniel Robertson as signatory.

8. PLANNING (Declarations of interests): 14/00635/FUL Orchard Lodge: No representation. (Trevor Gill withdrew from the discussions on this application following his declaration of interest).

14/00521/FUL Knights Farm: No representation.

9. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance at close of business 31/3/14

Current Account	£ 7,336.86
Savings Account	£ 749.34 *

This figure represents ring fenced funds for ADPC plus any interest received into the account.

Bank Transactions

Current Account		**Chq/SO/DD**	**In**	**Out**
5 Mar	N Power	DD		47.00
6 Mar		1267		500.68
11 Mar		1268		16.50
13 Mar		1266		7.04
13 Mar		1263		10.38
18 Mar		1260		50.00
27 Mar	D.Tonks	DD		214.06

Deposit Account		**In**	**Out**
10 March	Bank Interest	0.03	

Cheques issued from mtg		**Cheque No**	**Amount**
7.4.14	T. Gill (Elec Work in RR)	1269	100.00
7.4.14	H. Hide-Wright (Clerk Expenses Mar)	1270	22.19
7.4.14	WALC membership	1271	92.00
7.4.14	Zurich Insurance	1272	809.43
7.4.14	J, Sherriff (coffee March)	1273	6.58
7.4.14	J. Sherriff (coffee April)	1274	8.67
Total Cheques			**1,038.87**

New Balances for Ring Fenced Funds:

Neighbourhood Watch	£ 185.00
St John's Steps appeal Funds	**£ 359.05**
Community Grant Fund (Laptop)	£ 5.26
Interest Received	£ 0.03
Play area lease grant from AD Fete Committee	£ 200.00
Total	£ 749.34

10. MEMBER REPORTS: The Parish Council considered the renewal of the lighting maintenance and agreed to continue with SDC for the coming year. **ACTION: Clerk to renew the maintenance agreement.**

Trevor Gill put forward a request from the Avon Pub asking the Parish Council to register the pub as an asset of community value. Councillor Williams confirmed that it has to be registered with SDC.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS – 2014 dates: 12th May, 2nd June, 7th Jul, 4th Aug, 1st Sept, 6th Oct, 3rd Nov, 1st Dec

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.