

ULEY PARISH COUNCIL(DRAFT)

Minutes of a meeting held on 2nd September 2015 in the Uley Village Hall at 7pm.

Present: Councillors Jonathan Dembrey (JD) (Chairman), Mike Griffiths (MG), Melanie Paraskeva (MP), Belinda Holley (BH) Charles Goldingham (CG).

In attendance: A. McKay (AM) (Clerk), D. Sykes (DS) (Footpaths Officer).

1. Apologies: Janet Wood (JW) (Vice-Chairman), Jim Dewey (RJD), Steve Lydon (SL).
2. Public Representation. Juliet Browne, Thoss Shearer.
3. Declarations of Interest. CG Item 12.
4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th August 2015, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. AM noted that the draft minutes had been posted on the Parish Council website prior to the meeting.
5. Matters Arising. Item 5. MP reported that the overgrown pathway at Rockstowes along the road to Dursley has been cut back today. The pathway is still dangerous for walking along and there was an incident by the bus stop a Fop St. recently when a child was nearly hit by a car. GCC have agreed to reassess the route for safety. MP to set up a meeting with Steve Lydon for advice on how to proceed. JD reported that Neil Carmichael MP has received a letter from GCC in response to his request for a cycle route from Uley to Dursley. It invites Uley Parish Council to submit a formal representation to the strategic infrastructure team at GCC Highways. NC had also received responses from ministers to letters he sent on behalf of the Parish Council: (i) extending the right to buy to Housing Association tenants. The response notes the issues raised by the Parish Council and assures that they will be taken into account when the forthcoming legislation is drawn up; (ii) Transparency regulations; the Minister Brandon Lewis did not support the points raised by the Parish Council. Item 12. Ragwort. Juliet Browne thanked the Parish Council for arranging for the ragwort to be cut back on The Bury but was still concerned that there are still areas that have not been cut back. Although most landowners in the valley were doing their best to bring it under control there are still pockets. This is a concern because of the increasing numbers of horses grazed in the valley for whom ragwort is particularly toxic. Village Notice Board. AM reported that the replacement notice board outside the Village Hall has not been ordered owing to some queries over the colour of the frame. It was agreed to order one with a blue frame matching the new Village Hall livery as closely as possible.
6. District and County Councillors Report. SL was not present but had circulated a written report prior to the meeting. AM reported that Cllr. Tim Boxall had sent a note announcing that SDCs free bulk refuse service will cease on 14/09/15.
7. Footpaths, Playground and Bins. (i) Footpaths. DS reported that there are no current issues with Footpaths. MP reported that the footpath at the side of the playground and the allotments is being reinforced with stone to even the surface. Bins. AM reported that no response has yet been received from the PCC regarding the discarded flowers for the Burial Ground.
8. Planning. (i) Decisions. S.15/1818/TCA, The Street. Consent; S.15/1721/TCA. Consent. (ii) S.15/2375/FUL. Marsh Farm. BH noted that the officer had written to the applicant indication that lights would be acceptable if their height was limited to 2.5m above the ground. As a decision has still not been made a letter making further objection should be submitted; (iii) S.15/1587/FUL, Bencombe Barns. Thoss Shearer was present to speak about

his objections to this application. The location is well outside the settlement boundary, the highways access is inadequate being on a blind bend and the original retrospective consent to construct the barns placed a condition that they should be demolished if not being used for agricultural purposes. It was agreed to object strongly drawing the planning officers attention to the original consent and conditions for application S. 09/0597/FUL, specifically

1. 'used solely for the purposes of agriculture and shall not be converted to residential use';
2. 'no window or door openings shall be formed in any elevation', breached by the inclusion of window lintels in the original construction;
3. 'The development ...should be used solely for agricultural purposes... if the building becomes vacant for a period exceeding 2 years the buildings should be demolished and all materials removed from the site';
- (iv) S.151982/HHOLD Angeston Court. Withdrawn.

9. Highway Matters, Transport and Flooding. (i) Overhanging trees in Shadwell. Lesley Price emailed to complain about overhanging trees in Shadwell Lane. AM has reported it to GCC Highways; (ii) Grass cutting at Cross Bank. Jane Little had emailed to complain of high grass obstructing sight lines at Cross Banks. AM has reported it to GCC Highways; (iii) Damage done by builders in Raglan Way. In spite of previous reports to Aqua, damaged curb stones have still not been repaired. AM will contact Aqua to complain.
10. Allotments Progress Report. MP reported that she JD and AM had a site meeting with Terry Mitchell to discuss outstanding work. It was agreed that owing to budget constraints and delays TF be asked to finish off the shed, fencing rails and the stile. Because the pathway has been laid around the edge instead of across the allotments another path way would be required to provide access to the top of the site. AM has some costings for porous paving that could be used, it was agreed to pursue this option, and look at some low cost options for finishing the permissive path. It was agreed that AM ask TM for an invoice detailing work carried out to date.
11. Community Design Statement Progress Report. MG reported that a meeting had taken place on 22/08/15 to go through comments on the draft CDS feedback by Conrad Moore at SDC. Some of the issues raised were not thought to be key and the group are trying to get the right balance between being comprehensive and concise. With these remaining matters and further editing to do MG thinks that the next draft should be ready for further consultation by the end of October. BH thanked David Sykes for setting up the website and uploading more than 1,000 photos. DS proposed that the photo authors give copy write to the Parish Council. It was agreed to accept the copy write.
12. Finance Report. (i) AM reported that the accounts have been audited and received back from Grant Thornton the external auditors. They noted that the precept and other income figures for 2014 had been restated from the 2014, in which the top up grant was included in the precept figure instead of being included in other income, as required. On the 2015 return the word 'restated' should have been inserted at the head of the column to make this clear. Also, that in 2015 the precept figure stated as £15,748 should read £15,576 to take account of the Community Support Grant, and therefore Box 3 the other income column should read £13,141. The 2015 figures entered in the 2016 Annual Return should show these amended figures; (ii) Finance Report September. AM reported that the current balance of uncommitted funds carried forward is £8,943. It was agreed that the following cheques are authorised: Grant Thornton £240 (external audit); A McKay £1,257 (quarterly salary); HMRC £628 (6 months tax); Goldingham Contracts £72 (emergency removal of wasps nest from footpath to the school).

13. Reports from PC Representatives. None. BH noted that Maurice Bullen from the Millenium Green Committee has a comprehensive record of all the trees in the village. It was agreed that AM contact him about it as it could be useful for reviewing TPOs in the village.
14. Correspondence. AM noted that a letter had been received from Mrs Fullard about a near collision at the bottom of Crawley Hill on the bend owing to having to pull out from behind parked cars on a bling corner into the path of oncoming traffic. It was agreed to ask the police to the next meeting to discuss what can be done.

Stroud District Council – September e-news.

Lesley Prices – e-mail re. Shadwell Dog Litter bin and overhanging trees.

Gloucestershire PFA – Playing Field Newsletter.

Neil Carmichael MP – Newsletter.

Jackie Jewitt – Flu Clinics 2015.

Rural Services Network – Weekly Digest.

TCV- Winter Hedgerow and Tree Planting.

Hester Hunt – Chartered Parishes Group Meeting 10/09/15.

Stroud CAB – AGM.

Down to Earth – The Fruit Exchange.

Steve Lydon – 2015/16 Stroud Youth Grant Funding.

15. Parish website and newsletter.

It was noted that the Village News is now available on the St. Giles Church website. DS agreed to continue emailing a copy to PC members. It was agreed to include the following items: (i) DS to write an item inviting people to sign up to have gain access to the VN in a dedicated dropbox; (ii) notification from the Uley Surgery about Flu clinics; (iii) Parking on the bend at the bottom of Crawley Hill; (iv) general request for people to drive carefully in the village.

16. Urgent Matters. None.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.