

MINUTES of the meeting of North Leigh Parish Council held in the Youth centre at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 8 October 2015 at 7.30 pm.

Present: R.Soper (Chairman), D. Gough, R.Langley, C.Frost and I Hogg

In attendance: Lynda Scott, Clerk to the Council.

1 Apologies: B. Norton, H. St John, G. Matthews and S Cusick

2 Declarations of interest: none.

3 Minutes

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 September 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

4 Matters Arising

(i) Volunteers

CF raised the question of whether the Parish Council should lead an initiative to bring together a group of volunteers to undertake weeding, tidying and general 'clean up' work in the village on a regular basis. Following discussion, it was agreed that CF write an article for the Nor 'Lye news to assess residents' interest.

(ii) Evenlode Close grounds maintenance

The Clerk confirmed that the Probation Service has agreed to weed and clean up the area at the entrance to Evenlode Close; it will also clear the path between Park Road and Windmill Road. The Clerk will arrange for the provision of green waste bags and their collection.

(iv) Play area lease (outstanding matter from APM)

CC Louise Chapman has invited RS to meet with her and the Leader of OCC together with relevant officers to discuss a solution to the issue of the lease of the Children's Play area by the school. RS will contact Louise to arrange a meeting over the next few weeks. Outstanding

5 Thames Valley Police Report

None received. NAG minutes circulated

6 Planning Decisions:

Wilcote Manor: renovation of Manor House: no comments/objections: Granted

34 Perrott Close: single story extension and conversion of garage to living accommodation and first floor extension. No objection but concerns re parking space and in/out arrangements. Granted

The Malt House, East End: Single story extension: No comments/objection: Granted

7 Planning Applications & Correspondence:

Tally Ho, The Green, East End: Erection of single and two storey extensions: Questions re access/parking submitted

Home Close, Green Lane: erection of a replacement dwelling with detached garage/store to allow raising of ridge height: no comments/objections

35 Perrott Close: Conversion of garage into living accommodation: no comments/objections

The Cottage, Wilcote House: Alterations to reinstate opening to allow use as one dwelling: no comments/objections

8 Finance

8.1 Accounts for payment: approved: see attached.

8.2 Spend against budget report; approved: see attached

8.3 Risk assessment schedule and Assets Register review

Both schedules were reviewed and discussed:

The nine new salt bins were added to the Assets Register.

The Risk assessment schedule was reviewed without amendment

9 Open Spaces Reports:
Received from CF and IH

9.1 ROSPA report: IH reported that no urgent matters had been raised other than the need to top up the bark in the landing bed for the zip wire. He has contacted Bob Allsworth who will arrange for the work to be done.

10 Cemetery/ Churchyard

10.1 Report received from HStJ

- The Churchyard has suffered some disruption over the past 10 days whilst new surface water soakaways have been installed. The work has now been completed and the site restored though it will take some time for the grass to re grow and the dug soil to settle. The cost of the work is over £16,000 and the Parish Council is asked if it wishes to contribute towards the costs. Following discussion, members confirmed that they will not make a financial contribution to the work.
- HStJ has received a quotation of £250 for felling the pine trees that need removing in the churchyard. HStJ said that the trees are several yards from the church and therefore their removal should have no implications for the church foundations. RL expressed concerns about heave and that there might be implications for the wall near to the trees. The Clerk reported a response from the Rev. Margaret Dixon questioning the quotation from C&M Trees and Landscapes. The PCC have agreed to the four trees being felled but are very concerned that the quotation may not include proper treatment of the roots to prevent harm to the church foundations and the crypt. They also raised the question of the contractors insurance and advised that a faculty for approval of the work needs to be applied for prior to any work taking place. The Clerk wrote to the Rev. Dixon in June requesting that she make application for the faculty from the Diocesan Advisory Committee before any further discussion takes place. The Parish Council is still awaiting a response.
- The hedges around the cemetery car parks have not been cut back: Clerk to ask WODC to address the matter

10.2 Planting of a commemorative tree in the Cemetery – members discussed the possibility of planting the tree in the Churchyard rather than in the cemetery; at a site between the church and the road. Clerk to write to the PCC. The PCC does not wish the tree to be planted in the churchyard; RS to speak with Geoff Barrell of the British Legion.

11 Traffic & Roads Reports and other Highways Matters

11.1 Community speed watch

RS will circulate dates for further speed watch on Church Road, New Yatt Road and at East End.

12 Consultation: Diversion of Footpath No 26

Members have no objections

13 Correspondence

None received

14 Remembrance Sunday

The Clerk confirmed that the PC wreath has been ordered; Harry or Carol will attend.

15 Any Other Business

IH advised that the NLYP were increasing the rent of the Youth Project room considerably. The Clerk confirmed that she had not been notified of this but would make enquiries. IH to speak to BN

Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 12 November 2015 at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chairman Date