

Annual General Meeting of Ogbourne

St Andrew Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7pm on 12th July 2017 at The Haven.

Present: John Hetherington (Chair)
John Edmunds
Steve Heaven
Yvonne Parsons
Nick Parsons
Jenni Clarke
Janice Hetherington

Apologies: Sid Vincent
Alan Brown

1. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

2. Matters arising.

A cheque for £500 was sent to the PCC and it was gratefully acknowledged. Alan Brown got a quote from a friend to cut the grass in the church yard and it came out at much the same price as the PCC are paying now so they have decided to keep things as they are for the time being.

3. Election of the Chairman.

John Hetherington put himself forward for the post of Chairman and there were no other nominations. He was proposed by Janice Hetherington and seconded by Yvonne Parsons and duly elected as the Chairman of the Parish Council.

4. The Chairman's Report

John Hetherington congratulated the parish councillors on their re-election in the recent poll held on the 22nd June. He acknowledged that their work is largely unrecognised and thanked them for standing again. He thanked former parish clerk, Allison Grainger, for her excellent contribution and wished her well in the future. He also welcomed Jenni Clarke, the new clerk.

JH noted that there had been three main achievements in this past year. The first being the creation of a new parish website which we hope will raise the profile of the village. Secondly the go ahead to improve the footpath and bin storage area opposite the war memorial below Crawlings Piece and thirdly the installations of speed indicator devices (SIDs) on the A346 at either end of the village. Most people feel that the SIDs have resulted in a noticeable reduction in vehicle speed through the village and John noted that we are grateful to Amanda Field for driving this project to a successful conclusion.

John said that our first priority was to maintain a convivial and pleasant community in which to live and he felt we had achieved that, the year passing off smoothly with little controversy. The only concern had been the mass felling of trees on the Rockley Road which has brought about a significant change in the landscape. On investigation, it was found that the correct consultation had been taken and the official certification granted so there was little the parish council could do to influence proceedings. Although replanting is due to take place, it will take years for the area to recover.

Overall it had been a good year and John thanked everyone for their support.

5. New Website

The new website is now up and running and has generally been very well received. Our thanks go to John Hetherington for his hard work in setting up all the information. Jenni Clarke will administer the website, with JH's help, and anything you want uploaded should be sent to her. There is still a lot to learn and understand but we do have the back up of NetWise to support us when we get into trouble. The website address is

www.osa.org.uk

6. Grants from Wroughton Solar Park

Science Museum Group Wroughton Solar Park is a joint development between Public Power Solutions and the Science Museum Group, which owns the former World War 2 airfield at Wroughton on which the solar park is situated. As part of the project a requirement was agreed by the Science Museum Group and PPS for a Community Benefit Fund and Rockfire Capital, a major investor in the project, will provide this funding which will benefit projects and communities in the area over the next 30 years.

Grant funding is available for local community groups for applications up to £2k and for applications up to £20k through the Wiltshire Community Foundation website. The solar park started to generate power in July last year and has now released its first funds to benefit the community in the surrounding area. They have a total sum of £50 000 to give away to the local parishes.

The parish discussed whether there was any worthwhile project we could embark on but did not come up with anything definitive. The land that was designated as a children's play area

was mentioned. However the change of use and upkeep of the land is too expensive for the village to maintain so a decision has been made to leave it as is because the village children are already using it as a natural play area. It was decided to ask on the website for suggestions on how we could utilise this money.

7. Planning

There was only one planning application to consider. Neil King is proposing to build all-weather gallops up on Smeeth's Ridge. There were no objections.

8. Finance

Funds available to the PC as at 12.07.17 were confirmed as:

• Current account	£3,110.72
• Savings account	£2,045.61
• Total	£5,156.33

£500 having been paid to the Parochial Church Council to help with the churchyard maintenance. There were a few bills to pay this month, namely NetWise support and maintenance, Alex Hegarty for newsletter printing costs and the clerk's pay for the months April – June.

9. Jobs for the Parish Steward

It did not appear that any of the last jobs requested had been done. Responsibility for the bus shelters remain a bit of a mystery, it is not Wiltshire Council or the bus company. The bus company is only responsible for changing the timetables, the timetable holders if they break and the flag notices. However, Yvonne and Nick Parsons have kindly spent time cleaning out all the leaves, as has some other kind villager and they noted that the shelter in the direction of Swindon was also in need of some repair to the roof as it is not waterproof. Alan Brown was volunteered for the job!

New jobs for the parish steward are

- digging out the ditch in OM opposite Box Drive because it has silted up
- weeding the pavement on the main road between Maizey and St Andrew

10. Correspondence

We received a letter from the Wiltshire Bobby's Van drawing our attention to their work in supporting communities and this has been posted on the noticeboards.

11. Any Other Business

Yvonne Parsons said people are not sticking to the speed limit as they go through the village. She requested that we order some 20 mph stickers for the wheelie bins in the village. This has been done.

Alan Brown mentioned that mini gas canisters have been found lying around in the village. Apparently cyclists use these to inflate their tyres after a puncture but lately they are also being misused by youngsters. So far there have been very few found and we will keep a look out to see if the situation escalates.

John Edmunds brought up the state of the OM noticeboard again and it was agreed that Steve Heaven would look at it and try to revamp it because essentially it is a very good strong structure.

Jenni Clarke went to Sharon Priest of Bridge Cottage and asked to whom the wood and chippings from the willow tree belong. Sharon said it was hers as she paid for the felling of the tree but she did not want any of it and people could help themselves if they wanted to. She did not know who the land belonged to either as it's not hers nor is it Wiltshire Council.

It was suggested that we hire a skip for a weekend for any villagers to use to get rid of unwanted clutter but it was stressed that it was not for someone doing a big building project. JC to find out how much this will cost.

Lastly it was suggested that each councillor should be responsible for a particular role within the PC. Therefore it was decided as follows:

Steve and Alan were responsible for repairs and maintenance

John Edmunds – planning applications

Nick – roads

Yvonne and John H – village matters

Sid – rural/countryside matters

Jenni – clerk and the website

12. The remaining meetings for the year will be held at 7pm at The Haven, Ogbourne Maizey on the following dates:

Tuesday 12th September 2017

Tuesday 14th November 2017

Tuesday 9th January 2018 ? TBC

Tuesday 13th March 2018

The meeting was closed at 8.40pm.