

Parish Council Meeting 9th June 2014

Present : Chairman M Simmons, Vice-Chairman I White, Parish Councillors T Flower, J Larkworthy, C Sterling, R Broome and A Hall

Also present 2 parishioners.

Apologies – Cllrs Stuart Barker, Mary Colclough and Dennis Smith

Declarations – Members to declare any interests in matters for Discussion. Vice-Chairman Ian White declared an interest in the Planning Application for 11 Coniston Road.

Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting 12th May 2014 – Approved and signed by Chairman

Report from County Councillor – see apologies

Report from District Councillors – see apologies

Report from PCSO – The PCSO reported to the Chairman that he had notified parishioners parking in a dangerous manner to move their vehicles and would start issuing tickets if they persisted. He also advised that there had been a theft of scrap metal from a vehicle parked outside the Pub and this had been reported to the Police.

Planning – 14/01553/FUL – 9 Coniston Road - Single storey extension to the side and replacement conservatory to rear – it was noted that the side extension would abut onto the property Boundary but other properties have similar extensions and we had no other comments.

14/01438/FUL – 11 Buttercombe Close – Two Storey rear extension. - No adverse comments.

14/01690/FUL – Ogwell Meadow, Mill Lane – Retention of Barn – this is on 5.5 acres of land and we will comment that a covenant should be placed on the barn to prevent it having future development rights to turn into a dwelling.

Discussion of Teignbridge response to Ownership of Public Toilets at the Jolly Sailor

Teignbridge will let us have the Toilet Block Freehold for £1.00 but there are conditions, particularly protection of employment rights which could be onerous and it was agreed that Teignbridge should resolve this matter before granting us the freehold. We need to survey the building and get a dilapidation report and assess value for insurance purposes. It was felt that with the various skills of the Councillors, we could arrive at a satisfactory report without employing outside help.

Maintenance – Planters and plants now in place on Croft Road and Notice Boards have been refurbished and replaced. The Notice Board at the shop is to be moved slightly as the shop owners do not wish it to remain outside the shop entrance. Jet-washing of benches is still outstanding. We should consider looking at Simon Jones's work schedule to check that it is still covering all the areas we want covered.

Weeds – The recent spraying programme was deemed effective and we could now do with a sweep-up of dead weeds by the Parish Sweeper.

Paths and Highways –

Beating of the Bounds Report – 20 parishioners joined in, the weather was fine and representatives of adjoining Parishes met up on route so a success and organiser Cllr. Sterling thanked all who took part and will consider doing this again, although not as a yearly event.

Creation of Ogwell Walking Group – 12 parishioners started the group with an inaugural walk on Sunday to set the ball rolling.

Communications - Parish Newsletter – Discussion as to costs and proposed dates – It was proposed by Cllr. Sterling that a further three editions should appear at a maximum cost of £1,200 including delivery, seconded by Cllr Flower and all agreed.

Bonfire Night - Proposal to hold Parish Council Event on the Green – Cllr. Sterling proposed that a separate Committee should be set up and £600 donated by the Parish Council to run the

event including obtaining a Licence to cover possible change of date because of the weather. This was seconded by Cllr. Hall and all agreed.

New Parish Email Address – it was agreed that @ogwell.org should be set up as the Parish contact email address.

Democracy

Finance Report

Cheques written and agreed since last Meeting – Teignbridge District Council £313.20 for weed treatment, Simon Jones £412.00 grass cutting, Clive Creese £396.73 for Planters and plants. The Audit Return is now with the Audit Commission who have confirmed receipt. Following the resignation of Barry Long, Richard Broome is now the third signatory for Ogwell Parish Council Bank Accounts and the appropriate paperwork has been lodged with Lloyds Bank Newton Abbot.

Also following the resignation of Barry Long, a Casual Vacancy Notice has been placed on Notice Boards and advised to TDC. From 23rd June 2014, if no notification that parishioners have requested a by-election, the Parish Council can co-opt a new Councillor.

Neighbourhood Planning - the group hope to have a stall at the Summer Fair to bring parishioners up to date with progress.

Teignbridge Safety Advisory Group require advance notification of events which will include Summer Fair, Bonfire Night and any other function put on in the Parish.

Invitation to Annual Meeting of the Parishes with local MP on 26th June 2014

Cllr. Richard Broome advised that he will be attending this meeting as the issue of Broadband in Rural Areas is to be discussed.

Request for Council to consider hosting Cluster Meetings – agreed that this is a good idea.

Any Urgent Matters at the discretion of the Chairman – A Barristers Opinion has been received and relayed to CROWD, Abbotskerswell PC and ourselves re challenging the local Plan re possible building at Wolborough/Abbotskerswell. The challenge rests on the lack of a Bat Survey and could succeed but considerations are:-

- A. Costs £35k upwards and could be much higher
- B. Locus – How close is Ogwell to the matter involved to be a co-claimant.
- C. What does being a Co-Claimant mean for us legally, can we get Legal Indemnity for the Action to be taken? (our Insurance will only cover us for claims against us, if we instigate a legal action the Insurers would not assist)
- D. Why should we challenge the Plan? Because of the future congestion of roads around our Parish but if this challenge succeeds houses will still need to be built to meet Governments targets so will it just mean a delay while they put surveys in place or even building elsewhere in Teignbridge, possibly in Ogwell Parish?

Conclusion – CROWD are determined to go ahead anyway so why risk parishioners' funds. We should step back and leave our future involvement as moral support but no legal involvement – this was agreed by all.

Date of next meeting – The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 14th July 2014 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

Chairman
14th July 2014