

WEARE GIFFARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Weare Giffard Village hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 7th.
September 2005

Present:

Acting Chairperson: Mr A Nickels.

Councillors: Mr. R. Randall, Mrs M Herman, Mr D Curtis, Mr. H. Curtis, Mr. J. Ruston,

Parish Clerk: Mr B Wittram

Also present. County Councillor: Mr. H. Barton District Councillor: Mrs P Paddon

Apologies: Rev. P. Dobbin District Councillor Mr. W. Isaacs

The minutes of 25th May 2005 had been previously circulated. The Clerk drew to the attention of the meeting that the Council had agreed to pay the Clerk the sum of £10 per month in respect of expenses and petty cash expenses. The minutes were then accepted as a true record.

Declaration of Interest: None

Matters arising:

1. Badger Sign –Has been repainted. Clerk to follow up Village Sign at Park

2. Parish Hall Grant Funding- The Clerk had contacted DCC. Clerk to attend a DCC Seminar re. funding opportunities 20/09/05. Also Clerk to contact Chair of the Village Hall Committee to see if one of their members would also like to attend.

3. Parish Path Sunnyside- The Clerk reported that no tender had been received. Councillor Curtis and the Clerk agreed to take the project on.

4. Planning Issues re 2 Properties – The Clerk reported that despite chasing the Planning Dept. of T.D.C. he still had no reply. District Councillor Paddon had contacted the Planning Dept. and confirmed their assertion of being too busy. Councillor Paddon urged the Clerk to continue to follow up.

AGENDA ITEMS.

5. Resignation of Mrs. K. Hocking -had been received. The Clerk to write on behalf of the Council thanking her for her valued work for the village as a Councillor. Council agreed the Clerk to advertise in the Crier and on the Noticeboard for volunteers for a co-opted volunteer to fill the vacancy, in light of the letter from TDC (22/06/06) informing Parishes that they would have to meet the full cost of a by-election.

6. Vacant Chair of Council – Acting Chairperson Mr. A. Nickels said that he no longer wished to continue to act as Chair. As no nominations were forthcoming it was agreed to rotate the Chair, in alphabetical order.

7. Audit Report – The Clerk reported that the External Auditor Mr. Abrahams had carried out his work and sent his report. The Parish was deemed Low Risk with one recommendation re. the double initialling of cheque stubs. The Clerk to advertise on the noticeboard that the accounts can be viewed by electors for the last 2 weeks of Sept. The Clerk to send info. to the Audit Commission.

8. Best Kept Village 2005 –Weare Giffard achieved an excellent result in the Council for the Protection of Rural England's (Devon Category) annual competition, scoring 93 marks out of 100 and finishing in the top 5 of small villages. There was special praise for the Community Spirit. Clerk to address the negative factors and report back at the next meeting.

9. Parish Plan- Clerk reported that there will be the first Steering group meeting on Tues. 13th. Sept.

10. Parish Grants- Agreed to give £100 to the Weare Giffard Village Hall Committee for the year 04-05 as the Clerk had received a copy of the Annual Accounts.
Clerk to advertise in the Crosslet and via the Noticeboard for applications from local groups for the 06-07 grants.

11. Community self-help plan- Council agreed to proceed with this as it will act as a risk assessment, thus it may help the village secure assistance from statutory bodies. Clerk to co-ordinate sub-group of the Council to complete this.

12. Planning –

1/1280/2005/ful Council recommended approval. Granted By TDC.
1/1888/2004/FUL Approval granted by TDC

13. Finances – 7-09-05

Previous Balance 25-05-05
Inv. Acc. £1378.24
Bank Acc£1557.70

Cheques in:
Nil.

Cheques out:
25-05-05 100028 Allianz Cornhill Ins. £378.21
12-07-07 100029 Gist Funeral Services £88.13
01-08-05 100030 Mr. K. Abraham Internal Audit Service £28.00
25-08-05 100031 Weare Giffard Village Hall Hire 6-04-05 & 25-05-05 £22.00

BALANCES
Inv. Acc. £1378.24
Bank Acc.£1041.36

14. Strimmer- Clerk reported that a new heavy duty strimmer would cost £350. Agreed to approach the Cricket Club re. a sharing arrangement for next year.

15. Grassroots - no action

16. Sustainable Communities Bill- Council to support its aims. Clerk to contact local MP.

15. AOB.-A complaint had been received re. the state of the grass verge around the Noticeboard near Chopes Bridge. Co. Mr. D. Curtis to pursue

Meeting ended 8.30pm

Date of next Meeting

WED. 25th Nov 2005 at 7.30pm. in the Village Hall.

Signed
Acting Chairperson.