

Minutes of the Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council Meeting
held on Thursday 2nd December 2010.

Present: Mr John Watts – Chair
Mrs Jean Burley
Mrs Shirley Collins
Mrs Rosemary Kitto
Mr Ben Lay
Dr Stephen Fraser – Clerk

Three members of the public.

Apologies: Mrs Valerie Maher was detained by adverse weather in Scotland.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: These were signed as a true record by the Chair.

Matters Arising: The Clerk proposed that donations were considered under Finance and the Newsletter under AOB. In the absence of Mrs Maher and Mr Peter Ronald from the OCC Traffic Team, there was no information on Highways and Footpaths, the A338 speed limit and the Dog Waste Bins.

Gating the west end of the old A420: and A338 50mph Speed Limit: These items were deferred to the next meeting when it was hoped that Mr Ronald would be able to attend.

'Change of Use' of Fyfield Post Office Stores: The Clerk had circulated a briefing note outlining Savills pre-application letter to the Vale to convert the Stores to staff accommodation for the pub. This had been rejected citing policy S14 of the local plan concerning 'loss of village stores'. The decision means that Savills must actively attempt to lease the property as a shop for six months before any change of use will be considered. It was agreed that a village shop in Fyfield was not viable, it was unlikely that anyone would take on the lease and that it was undesirable for the premises to remain empty. It was resolved that the Clerk would write to the Planning Department in an attempt to get policy S14 waived for these premises.

Planning: 'Permitted' notices had been received in respect to applications by 4 Abingdon Road, Tubney (FYF/1246/2) and 27 Church Cottages, Tubney (FYF/11336/2).

Applications for Tubney Manor Farm (FYF/8220/13), The Barns, Netherton Lane, Fyfield (FYF/14856/4-LB) and Willows Edge, Tubney (FYF/10836/2) had been circulated and no objections raised.

It was noted that the last tranche of planning applications had taken longer than 21 days to circulate. It was resolved that the Clerk would verify Councillors' availability by email/telephone before circulation to avoid unnecessary delays.

Finance: An account had been opened with the National Westminster Bank and £1,550.00 transferred from the Santander Savings Account. The residue of the savings account, £26.85 including £0.64 interest, was now in cash awaiting deposit. £500.00 had been paid the Fyfield Church Clock Fund and acknowledged. A further £76.38, being the BDO Audit Fee, had been reimbursed to Mrs Kitto. The current balance was £1,000.47.

The 2009-2010 Audit had been returned and the notice inviting inspection was on display on the Fyfield notice board. Three issues had been raised: the return incorrectly contained quantities in pence, the balance carried forward was again deemed too large and there was no internal audit. It was resolved that the small number of transactions per year did not justify the cost of an internal audit. The zero rated precept has already reduced the account balance.

It was resolved to request 3rd June 2011 as the audit date for the current year.

Donation requests had been received from Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers, Oxfordshire Association for the Blind and South and Vale Carers Centre. It was resolved to donate £50.00 to the South and Vale Carers centre.

Correspondence: The Local Transport Plan was in circulation. Comments are required by 9th January 2011.

Details of the Local Government Boundary Commission, a Consultation on Concessionary Fares, the School Sport Partnership, Broadband for All campaign and the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council were circulated.

The Vale reported that the New Waste Service had resulted in recycling rates rising from 39% to 75% and that free Christmas parking would be available in Faringdon on the 27th November and in Abingdon and Wantage on the 4th December.

AOB: It was resolved that a one off news sheet be produced containing contact details for the Clerk and Councillors, dates for future meetings and information about the forthcoming elections. Mr Lay volunteered his children to assist with the distribution.

The proposed dates for next year's meetings are as follows: January 18th, March 15th (including the Parish meeting), May 17th, September 20th and November 22nd.

The meeting closed at 8:15pm.