

**Minutes of the Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 17th September 2013.**

Present: Mr John Watts – Chair.
Mrs Shirley Collins.
Mrs Jean Burley.
Mr Ben Lay.
Mrs Valerie Maher.
Mr Julian Mellor.
Dr Stephen Fraser – Clerk.

Mrs Melinda Tilley – Oxfordshire County Councillor

One member of the general public.

Apologies

No apologies had been received.

Minutes of the Last Meeting:

These were signed as a true record by the Chair.

Matters arising.

Mrs Maher had received an email which appeared to indicate that an access gate across the old Main Road, Fyfield, west of St. Johns Close, would be installed by Christmas 2013. However, in discussing the repairs to the gate and fence at the west end of Main Road, Fyfield and its junction with the A420, which had been claimed not to be a safety issue and of low priority, it became unclear as to which gate the email referred. Mrs Tilley would enquire further about both projects. The Clerk reported that the VAS on the A420 had been installed and was operational.

Mrs Maher reported that there had been no progress in getting the silt and weeds removed from the gutters in Main Road, Fyfield and St. Johns Close. The silt build up led to weed growth which exacerbated further silt. Silt and leaves also accumulated in the drain gulleys. The blocked gulleys at the Digging Lane – Main Road crossroads had been cleared but only after the road had flooded. Mrs Tilley would attempt to expedite a cleanup, possible using finance from the Stewardship Scheme.

Mrs Maher was informed that the request for a dog waste bin in Tubney which transformed into a litter bin, would not be sanctioned as a site visit indicated that there was not a litter problem in the area. She was informed that Biffa had a responsibility for litter picking in any public area where there was a problem.

Mrs Collins reported that there had been no repairs to the defective pavement in St. Johns Close where tree roots were breaking up the surface. Mrs Tilley would enquire.

Mr Mellor raised the issue of the proposed footpath along the A420 between the Tubney bus stops and the two businesses to the east. Several users of the bus to these businesses had expressed concern about the safety of crossing and walking along the A420 at busy times with the County Council. Mrs Tilley would try and establish when work would commence.

Mr Mellor also queried who to approach concerning the possibility of a footpath between Fyfield and Tubney Church using fields and the old A420 roadbed. He would make further enquiries.

Mr Lay had still not found the owner of the area in front of Fyfield Church where it was proposed to install a village war memorial. He would make further enquiries of St. Johns' agents. Mrs Tilley indicated that she had a fund which could contribute to this scheme.

Mr Lay had had no response concerning the culvert under the Appleton Road near the electricity substation. He had photographs of substantial field flooding indicating that the culvert was either

still blocked or of inadequate dimension. Mrs Tilley would enquire.

The Clerk had received a letter concerning the Trailer Park at Pickwick Farm. The original enforcement officer had left and another had been passed all open cases. Following an inspection, and claims by the owner, enquiries were being made as to whether the park was covered by existing planning permission or if new permission was required. The Clerk to seek an update on progress.

Planning.

To record the following applications returned with No Comments

- P13/V0620/HH 12 St Johns Close, Fyfield
- P13/V0998/HH 6 St Johns Close, Fyfield
- P13/V0937/HH Corfe Cottage, Tubney
- P13/V1612/HH Holly Cottage, Fyfield
- P13/V1669/HH 4 Abingdon Road ,Tubney
- P3/V1759/HH Woodhouse Barn, Fyfield

Finance.

The Clerk reported that the bank balance was currently £1,332.22. Since the last meeting, the following transactions had been made:

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| • Clerk – Reimburse Web Site Charges | £106.16 |
| • J Mellor – Reimburse fitting Tubney Bus Stop Seat | £72.14 |
| • Donation to the WVV Transport Assessment Fighting Fund | £100.00 |
| • Receipt of Precept Part Two | £250.00 |

The Clerk reported that the external audit had been completed without comments.

Appleton Volunteer Driver Scheme

Mrs Maher outlined the workings of the scheme which covered Fyfield and Tubney as well as Appleton and Eaton. Whilst most of the users of the scheme came from Fyfield and Tubney, the majority of drivers came from Appleton and Eaton. The organisers had requested help in identifying additional volunteer drivers from our parishes.

The scheme had been advertised in a newsletter in 2012 but no volunteers had come forward. It was felt that a further leaflet drop at the moment would be unsuccessful. Mrs Maher would obtain notices for the two notice boards whilst the Clerk would update the web site.

Community Governance Review

The proposed terms of reference for this review had been circulated and they included the transfer of a large area of the parish south of the A415 to Kingston Bagpuize. Such a transfer, whilst probably sensible covering the proposed development at the Sports Ground, would impact the parish as the local precept would rise due to the reduced household count. A possible suggestion to the review was that only the land to the south of the A415 and west of the Fyfield Wick road be transferred.

Community Emergency Plan

Details of the request from Oxfordshire County Council had been circulated. The Clerk had approached The White Hart and had received their agreement to act as a centre of refuge. He had also contacted the vicar regarding use of the churches. Confirmation of their availability would be subject to a PCC meeting in October.

It was felt that there was no need for a Parish Plan as there was no area of the village subject to flood warnings.

AOB.

The play Bus had offered to visit the parish with Father Christmas. It was felt that there were

insufficient young children to make such a visit viable.

The meeting closed at 8:40pm.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 19th November 2013.