

## Minutes of the meeting 29 April 2003

### Present at meeting:

Parish Councillors: C Martin, B Lester, B Avery, C Hatton, L Cole J Lacey and C Minto (Chair) Also Present: H Shayler (Clerk)

Apologies for Absence - were received from L Booker, Sgt. S Redding and M Florey – Local Councillor -

Before the meeting commenced, the clerk apologised for the fact that the Election papers had not been circulated to enable them to be filed. There had been no other people on the estate stand for the Parish Council either and so the election would be void until a later date in June. This would mean that as from the 5 May the Parish Council would effectively not exist. However, the City Council required at least 6 names to put in place a temporary Council that could operate between the 5 May and the next election date. All those present had details taken to be passed to the City Council, L Cole stated that his wife would also like to become a Councillor and therefore her name was also put forward to be on the temporary Council -

1) Co-option to fill Vacancies: No one present at this meeting

2) Minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2003

Four spelling corrections were made to the minutes that were then signed as a true record.

3) Matters Arising:

a) Photographs were presented at the meeting showing a large amount of rubbish 'dumped' in the Northfield Brook. Some areas of the stream are not visible during certain parts of the year. However, these photographs clearly show a large amount of tyres and other rubbish just thrown into the water causing a major obstruction. The environmental agency had been informed and they have instructed the City Council to clear the area — this should happen in the next week. It was stated that there are grants available for the many types of work including landscape planting, dredging/clearing of waterways to ensure the free running of water — B Lester and C Martin would find out more information and bring any application forms to the next meeting.

b) A discussion was held on the planning application for the Bus Company to move the depot to Watlington Road. B Avery had been chasing the air pollution report. It had been stated that the nearest pollution test was Donnington Bridge — this was not felt to be a comparative area. The question was asked if the Parish Council could undertake the test for Air Pollution, information was available for discussion. It was stated that in order for the Parish Council to take on this level of cost, then there must be awareness and want by the local residents. B Lester and B Avery offered to put together a letter for the residents along the Watlington Road and would gather the responses for the next meeting before any final decision was made.

c) B Lester stated that in the last two weeks there had been 24 hits on the web page but he was having difficulty with his machine keeping up with demand. B Avery proposed that the Parish Council purchase a lap top computer, along with a digital camera all up to the value of this was second by L Cole and carried with a unanimous vote. B Lester was thanked for all the work he had done on getting the web page up and running successfully.

d) B Lester commented that NEAT were doing a cleaning campaign later in the month and it would be good for the Parish Council to be involved. It was stated that in such a campaign it may be useful to have skips around the estate for local

people to use. J Lacy proposed that the parish council should support this initiative with the availability of £1000 towards skip hire, this was 2 by C Hatton

e) L Cole reported that S Craft had put asked why the Hotel parking was not available for visitors to the Kassam stadium and photo's had been taken of the congestion being caused due to lack of parking facilities: S Craft was also putting forward the option to Magdalen College (land owners) to allow parking on the Science park area.

The clerk was asked to write to the Littlemore Parish Council to see if they were suffering the same parking problems, if so then maybe by working together it would be more productive in getting results.

f) Spindleberry Park — A short discussion was held asking if this area could have flowers such as bluebells and wild flowers introduced to encourage the up keep and use of it — C Hatton would enquire about this.

It was stated that the landscaping was still not in place and it would appear that the City Council are , taking action over the construction company in North Oxford keeping up required works and yet still the Kassam stadium is not being pressured to carry out their requirements.

#### 4) Public Discussion

At the meeting were papers for residents to take in order to stand to be a Parish Councillor at the coming elections in June. The ward name shown on the documents appeared to be incorrect and the clerk was asked to clarify which set of forms should be used and inform the relevant people that took forms if they required another one or not.

It was stated that since the changes in the ward boundaries, Spring Lane was now in Littlemore Parish Council and the Kassam Stadium was in the Northfield Brook Ward.

#### 5) Police Matters

No police present at this meeting with no estate issues raised.

There was a short discussion held relating to an incidence on the estate between the husband of a Parish Councillor and an officer now allocated to the Blackbird Leys Area. The clerk was asked to write to the Chief Constable requesting that the particular officer be asked not to attend future parish council meetings to avoid unnecessary friction and distress.

#### 6) Planning Applications

The following applications had been circulated before the meeting and no objections had been received:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
03/00726/FUL	Conservatory at Rear	18 Woodpecker Green.
03/00742/FUL	Two storey side extension	2 Frys Hill
03/00748/FUL	Single storey front & rear extensions	154 Sandy Lane

It was commented that no response had been received from the City Council relating to the questions and concerns raised over the two storey side extension at 24 Merlin Road (Application Number 03/00228/FUL) or conversion of property to two separate residential units at 8 Knights Road. (Application Number 03/00223/FUL)

## 7) Financial Matters

The following payments were proposed by J Lacey, 2 C Hatton by and agreed with a unanimous vote

a) Clerk Salary —£248.94 (b) Postage- (c) AOL (B Lester) - £15.99 (d) Tel answering - £35.25.

e) OALC Subscriptions - £1494.71 (f) Photocopying - £37.58 (g) 'Thank you' for M Thorn - £17.24

it was agreed that Grants would be discussed during the first meeting after the Parish Election

## 9) Correspondence

No issues were raised from the information circulated.

## 10) Any other Business

No other issues were raised

## 11) Date and Venue of next Parish Council Meeting -

Tuesday 3 June at the Shopfront, Blackbird Leys Road.

There being no there being no other business the meeting was closed at 09.10pm