

ENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held Thursday 12th November 2015 at 7.15 pm at The Parish Hall

PRESENT:- Councillors N. Knott (Chair), A. Lee, P. Butler, R. Parker, P. Johnson, T. Gilbert, P. Shaw, M. Ivings, C. Glendinning, District Councillor Andrew Beaney and one member of the public.

APOLOGIES: All members present

IN ADDENDANCE: Mrs Beth Sinclair, Parish Clerk

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr. Parker declared an interest in Item No. 6 – Cuckolds Holt Farm, Gagingwell. Cllr. Gilbert declared an interest in Item No. 6 – Church Cottage, Church Enstone.

123. Public Discussion:-

- Cllr. Shaw reported that a chevron had fallen over beside the B4030 at Gagingwell. Cllr. Parker agreed to look into this further.
- Cllr. Glendinning reported that part of the boundary wall at the Paddocks along the A44 had fallen over. Cllr. Knott to contact Persimmon Homes regarding this as it was part of the communal grounds, now the responsibility of the management company on behalf of residents at The Paddocks.
- Cllr. Knott explained that a further meeting had been arranged at the parish hall with S.J. Treloar & Persimmon Homes.

124. Co-Option of Parish Councillor – this was delayed as the position needed to be advertised on the noticeboards and in the parish magazine.

125. Parish Transport Representatives Meeting – Oxfordshire County Council:-

- Cllrs. Butler and Ivings agreed to attend this meeting.

126. Planning Applications:-

- **1 The Long Barn, Oxford Road, Old Chalford.** Erection of two storey detached office building with additional parking. Mr. Douglas attended the meeting and expressed his concern at this current planning application including the restriction of views, increased traffic flow, increased parking and the preservation of the trees. Following discussion the Council voted as follows:- Against = 2; Abstain = 3, No objection = 4. The majority vote was therefore to not object to the planning application.
- **Church Cottage, Church Enstone.** Convert store to bathroom and utility room to kitchen. No objection
- **Cuckolds Holt Farm, Gagingwell.** Internal alterations to enlarge existing kitchen and insertion of additional window and two rooflights. No objection

127. District Councillor's Report:-

- Cllr. Beaney was welcomed to the meeting. He explained that the Local Plan had now been submitted to the Secretary of State and a decision was awaited.
- Local District Councillors, Cllrs. Geoff Saul and Liz Leffman had enquired whether Enstone PC would consider the proposal for a recycling centre at the site of the Quarry. The Council agreed unanimously that this would not be safe and there was already a huge volume of lorries travelling to the Enstone Airfield Industrial Estate. The Council considered that the preferable site would be at Greystones, Chipping Norton.

128. Budget Setting for 2016/2017:-

- The clerk had circulated the draft budget to all members of the Council prior to the meeting. With the vast cuts being imposed on the County Council, previous grants awarded to Parish Councils would cease from April 2016. The only grant that the Parish Council receives was towards grass cutting maintenance.
- The County Council was requesting that Parish Councils consider their budgets carefully with regards to highways' work including hedge cutting, pruning of trees, sign cleaning, winter maintenance (grit and salt) and repairs to kerb sets. The Parish Council was also discussing the current speeding issues and the lorries travelling through Church Enstone and what monies would be required to improve this.
- The precept calculation for 2015/2016 was £18,500.00.
- After discussion it was agreed to increase the precept to £22,000.00 to cover the costs as detailed above and to have £5,000.00 in reserves to cover emergency Highways Work that would no longer be covered by the County Council.
- District Councillor Andrew Beaney explained that Enstone PC had one of the lowest precept calculations within Oxfordshire and that he would send the details of all town and parish councils to the clerk.
- An article in the Ensign magazine in November had asked for residents to contact the clerk should they wish to discuss these cuts by the County Council that would be passed down to Parish Council level but no responses had been received.

129. Cllr. Knott thanked everyone for attending the meeting which ended at 8.20 pm. The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday 26th November at 7.15 pm at The Parish Hall.

It was already agreed not to meet on December 14th as this was too close to November 26th but to meet twice in January on 7th January and 28th January 2016.