



## Great Shefford Parish Council

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: Mrs Kim Lloyd  
16 Nodmore  
Chaddleworth, Berkshire RG20 7ES  
Tel No.: 07867 310121  
E-mail: [greatsheffordpc@hotmail.com](mailto:greatsheffordpc@hotmail.com)

### Minutes from Thursday 6 July 2017

**Present:** Cllr S Ackrill (Chairman) Cllr G Knass, Cllr B Williams, Cllr S McCarthy, Cllr P Storey, Clerk K. Lloyd and 5 members of the public.

- 1) **Apologies**
- 2) **Declarations of Interest** – on agenda items
- 3) **Open Forum** (time limit at Chairman's discretion)
- 4) **A talk on the overview of the project '4Legs Radio'** (Internet Community Radio Station to the Lambourn Valley)

Chris Capel introduced himself to Council, It's been a goal of mine to provide an internet Community Radio Station for the Lambourn Valley. Now I'm hoping it will come to fruition this summer! The Radio station is called 4Legs Radio being Lambourn, Eastbury, Garston and Shefford, the 4 legs idea coming from the valley of the race horse. My plan in the short-term is to pilot the Radio Station for approximately six months and broadcast one day per week. The objective is to offer programmes that serve the needs of the Lambourn Valley currently not provided by other radio stations. From items of local interest and news, together with sport and music, the intention is to educate, stimulate, and entertain the listeners to reflect the diversity of the Lambourn Valley community. I will be aiming to offer programmes that engage with some of the elderly and less mobile members of the community, and because we live in the Valley of the Racehorse there will be a slot that covers racing as well.

This is a very exciting initiative and I'm confident that it will be supported by the community. This being the case the aim will be to extend broadcasting to a minimum of three days per week in 2018. It would also be my intention to register the Radio Station as a non-profit making Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

This is great opportunity for young people to have a voice and I would therefore like to involve local schools and youth groups next year.

The current status update for the pilot is as follows:

- The required web site is currently being developed

- Estimated costs for equipment, furniture items, software, licenses etc. have been obtained
- Short-term premises have been confirmed.
- Funding – I'm personally contributing 20% of the funding required and I'm looking at other potential options / sources. This is the biggest challenge but I'm confident the required funding get the Radio Station up and running will be achieved.

Further progress updates will be provided via Village Views, Penny Post, the Lambourn Community Facebook page and the Lambourn website: [www.lambourn.info/](http://www.lambourn.info/)

***Community Radio is coming to the Lambourn Valley!!!***

For more information or if you would like to get involved please contact Chris Capel via Facebook @4LegsLVCR

5) **Defibrillator Update -3rd Defibrillator -Background**

1) Update on the overall defibrillator project, including status of the third Parish defibrillator - two defibrillators already in place - one outside the Village Hall, the second in the telephone box at Shefford Woodlands.

2) Delay in finalising 3rd defibrillator installation due to the complexity of the project. After extensive research by Terry Bullock, we have now had formal confirmation that planning permission is not required (contrary to information previously provided). Written confirmation confirming this has been received from West Berks and is on file. Location approved by PC in January.

3) 3rd defibrillator has been ordered and will be delivered shortly. Serial number/value will be communicated to PC Clerk to add onto PC asset register as agreed at the 12 January PC meeting.

4) There will be some additional costs involved with the 3rd defib. These will be funded, in part by a grant from the Scottish Southern Electricity Communities Resilience Fund. These costs include the provision of a new electricity supply and associated ducting, from a nearby electricity pole, as well as a new pole to support the defibrillator. The cost for providing the new electricity connection etc. will be approximately £1,000. The works have been ordered but the date of completion is not yet known. The Clerk will be advised in due course so the PC can be kept informed. The £1,000 includes the ducting and pole works being undertaken by West Berks for which we have allowed £500, including contingencies such as potential extra costs associated with the nearby tree, and the £444 we will need to pay SSE to supply the cable and connection. We will also need to pay an electrician to connect the defibrillator itself.

5) As previously agreed by the PC, electricity costs for the 3<sup>rd</sup> defibrillator will be included within the PC billing - defib group will transfer £200 to the PC (£20 per annum for 10 years).

6) Budget planning for the entire project, as well as 10 years of future costs e.g. replacement batteries/pads etc. has been achieved by the generosity of so many community groups who helped fund raise, as well as various successful grants allocated.

Jane Turton/Terry Bullock  
Great Shefford Defibrillator Group

### Thank you

Parish Council on behalf of the Parish thanked Jane and Terry and the rest of the defibrillator team for all their ongoing hard work. To have 3 defibrillators in the village is such a great achievement, thank you and also thanks to all the residents that contributed and supported the project.

Well done Great Shefford!

#### 6) Planning – APP/W0340/W/17/3176451

##### **Wessex Saw Mill**

Wantage Road  
Great Shefford  
Hungerford  
Berkshire  
RG17 7DQ

##### **Description of development:**

Change of use of Old Wessex Saw Mill from the repair, storage and sale of agricultural and heavy goods vehicles to an animal by-product, intermediate plant and horse cremation facility.

##### **Application reference:**

16/02954/FUL

##### **Appellant's name:**

J Passey and Sons

##### **Appeal start date:**

27th June 2017

Cllr Ackrill said all previous correspondence is carried over to the inspector and there is nothing more at this point Parish Council can do.

##### Decision notices.

The Clerk reported 17/01147 Partridge Cottage – was granted planning permission.

7) **Minutes** 15 June 2017- to be agreed and signed – The minutes were agreed to be a correct representation of the meeting and were proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Knass.

#### 8) **Finance**

##### a) Bank Accounts on 12 June 2017

Great Shefford Parish Council	£27,602.07
Recreation Ground Account	£10,221.59

##### b) Cheques to Approve

100322	K.Lloyd Parish Clerk £554.98 + audit postage £2.08	£557.06
100323	S & S Management Ltd	£414.00
100324	FCC Recycling	£24.40
100325	Box of Blue	£30.00
Direct Debit	SSE –Southern Electric – Qtr 1 for 2017-18.	£78.59

9) **Audit – Notice of date for Electors Rights** - The Clerk reported the Notice of Elector Rights had been added to the parish council noticeboard and emailed to the administrator of GS website for uploading. The notice started on 30 June and will end on 10 August 2017. Anyone that wishes to inspect the accounts for year ending 31 March 2017 is to contact the Clerk before 10 August 2017.

10) **Flood Alleviation Scheme-** Cllr Ackrill reported positive news following the meeting with Environmental Agency (EA), WBC and CH2M (the Consultants) on 23<sup>rd</sup> June regarding the flood alleviation scheme. Several options were discussed in the meeting and the preferred option was to install a pipe rather than an open ditch. There is a scheme on the table which is financially viable. However the total cost is just over £1.4 million (estimated to include maintenance for 100 years), the majority of the total (£1.4 million) cost can be met by central government grants but although it is agreed in principle we are waiting to have this confirmed in writing the downside is the parish will need to raise £80,000 as our contribution towards the total cost of the project . Cllr Ackrill said he needed to confirm this in an email to the EA to enable them to put the application in and start the ball rolling. Cllr Ackrill has confirmed to the EA we would do whatever was necessary to raise our share of the cost but didn't put a timescale.

Cllr Ackrill said we will have to form a committee that is separate from the PC and probably register as a charity with our own Bank account etc.

The Good Exchange (one of the trusts being Greenham Common) is likely to be one of the first ports of call as looking on their website they have donated large amounts of money for projects in our area.

Cllr Ackrill had been in communications with Richard Benyon who was on board with the project and will give the support.

Scottish and Southern electricity are offering grants of up to £20,000 to any community support groups or charities etc. to improve their resilience .Cllr Ackrill has already spoken to SSE and they have confirmed that our scheme does meet their criteria but there is no guarantee that we would be successful with our application. The current deadline is 13 August 2017 which although tight Councillors will endeavour to meet. SSE considers bids once a year if we cannot meet this year's deadline this is another grant to pursue next year.

11) **CIL payment (Community Infrastructure Levy)** - Cllr Ackrill checked with WBC to find out if the CIL payment is eligible for the Flood Alleviation Scheme and it was confirmed it is eligible. The payment of £7,695.51 should be considered toward the scheme. Everyone agreed.

Jane Turton attending the meeting had previously emailed to make a CIL bid. Following the village hall committee (VHC) meeting Jane reported the VHC had received quotes for the repair to the village hall roof for £2,000 the works needed to be done by the winter.

Cllr Knass asked what funds the village hall committee have in place already. Jane said there were funds but these funds were in place for any contingency plans. The VHC asked PC to match fund the cost as the works to the village hall roof would come under the criteria for the CIL. After full discussion, all agreed that giving £1000 out of £7,695.51 to the Village hall was a small amount and felt confident the £80,000 figure for the Food Alleviation Scheme could be reached through other sources.

The Clerk said she would also ask WBC if the remainder of the S106 money could be used towards the roof, (S106 money has to be used towards improvement to public open space in the village), but is still worth asking WBC if it could be used towards the roof, some of the S106 money is being used for the picnic bench as per item 12. The Clerk will report back.

It was proposed and agreed by all to use the CIL Payment balance of £6'695.51 towards the Food Alleviation Scheme fund. The Clerk will show this amount designated on the cash flow sheet until it can be transferred to a separate bank account.

**Clerk**

Jane thanked PC and will inform the Clerk when the £1000.00 is required.

## 12) Recreation Ground Picnic Table update

Following the last meeting a picnic bench was agreed to order from Broxap but when the Clerk enquired further a delivery cost of £102 for flat packed or £156 fully assembled with a 5 week lead time was given. Cllr Ackrill contacted Barlow's Woodyard in Hermitage to obtain quotes. Cllr Ackrill knows the owners and said they would give discount; an 8 seater round picnic table at £326.70 was discounted to PC for £235.71 plus vat. It was agreed to go for this picnic bench at the discounted price. Cllr Ackrill asked the Clerk if she heard anything from Barlow's following their communication and if they could deliver for free, the Clerk said she had not and would make contact. A cheque was raised and signed in the meeting. The Clerk will inform PC the delivery method once known. Cllr Ackrill said he could collect and Cllr Storey said he would assemble the picnic bench if required.

Clerk/Cllr Ackrill/Cllr Storey

## 13) Allowing Dogs into the Recreation Ground

Following the last PC meeting a resident asked if dogs could be considered to be allowed into the recreation ground. The Clerk read out the following email from the resident.

*A huge amount of resident's money is spent on the park and not all the villagers use the facility. The park is a huge space and there is no way that the children need all the space or indeed use the space. There is nowhere in the village where a dog owner can let a dog off or to play throwing and catching games without losing a ball in the crops or over a fence etc. Dog owners have to, 100% of the time have to keep their dogs on leads / under control at all times, yet 2 children (at times) can have approx. 2.5 acres to play in and maybe use one see-saw. There is the track by the petrol station but you cannot throw a ball as you need to keep your dog close by due to cars, tractors and horses etc. Children are allowed on footpaths too and parents choose to walk with their families on the same paths as dogs walk? What's easier for a young parent with a pram than going to the park putting the baby under a tree for a nap and throwing a ball for the family pet's exercise some days.*

*It is not possible to police the people that already take dogs into the park and if I choose to will I be arrested? Dogs full of energy and bored frustration is more of a risk so let them play too! People would take their children to Snelsmore common where dogs run free and children play, it can work. Many families have dogs and may want to picnic in the ground so if they wish their family dog to sit beside them then why not? It's a huge space and should be enjoyed by all residents for all uses. Dogs are allowed in Victoria park, more locally the **Pre-school, Primary School and Dog owners all mix very well in Brightwalton** the school chooses to take the children over there for sports days and after school clubs, I used to walk the dog and then sit and watch the rounder's game and took the dog to sports day too. Residents from our village work at/attend the school/pre-school and know this to be true.*

***The Recreation Ground is for residents recreational use – if a business decides it wants to use it they then go ahead but the recreation ground belongs to the village and not to just those who have children. There is plenty of space if we use it wisely so this should be a fair and open discussion and with the use of fencing or even signs with Dogs welcome ON leads between 9am and 8pm . Its already happening and dogs go in the park and those who are doing it are getting away with it as the Parish council cannot police it and those who follow the rules are missing out.***

The Clerk then went on to read a further two letters of objection.

*In my opinion, dog owners already have a large network of public footpaths and areas to exercise their pets. We do have to remember that not all children like dogs - indeed I have cared for many who are very scared of them. I would hate for any child to be put off from using the park, which is*

*a great way to undertake informal physical exercise and have fun because a dog, even on a lead, is in view and in an enclosed space.*

*I would also refer you to recent discussions on the Shefford Villagers Facebook page, where dog owners themselves complain about other dog owners not keeping dogs on leads and, more importantly, not cleaning up after their animal. I myself have been concerned about some owners describing the character of their dog to the point where I would not want to leave a child in their company.*

*I believe that it is inevitable that dog mess would be left in the park at some point, and for public health, this is a massive "no-no". I would also worry about an excited dog, breaking away from the owner to chase an excited, running child in an enclosed park.*

*If it is decided that dogs are to be allowed in this space, then may I make the suggestion that there be specified times when they can enter e.g In the summer between 8pm and 8am etc*

2<sup>nd</sup> letter:

*My two main concerns are dog fouling and that inherent danger to children's health, and also that many children from my experience are either nervous of or have a fear of dogs. Further, not all dogs are safe. The play park field should be an area where they can play safely without the worry of dogs.*

*RoSPA state - "Dogs on children's playgrounds represent a major health and injury hazard:*

After listening to the letters read out, Cllr Akrill asked each councillor what their thoughts were, Cllr Knass said Children's safety must come first and to leave it as it stands. Cllr McCarthy and Cllr Storey said fencing is a possibility to divide the area between dogs and children. Cllr Williams was concerned about the amount of dog waste in the area if dogs were allowed in.

After a full discussion it was agreed at this stage to obtain quotes for fencing, after discussing the amount of fencing and areas where dogs could be allowed in, it was agreed to obtain quotes for fencing to surround the smaller play area only. This outcome was thought after discussing the Boxford and Leckhamstead playgrounds where the playground was fenced off but dogs were allowed in the rest of the recreation area. The comment of allowing times when the dogs could be allowed into the Recreation Ground was thought to be not an option as it could not be policed.

Cllr Akrill said he would look into fence quotes – On-going item.

**Cllr Akrill**

**14) Cllr Questions and Reports**

Cllr Storey asked about what happened following the question of planting trees in the Mead, the Clerk chased WBC recently following Cllr Storeys email, but heard nothing again. On emailing WBC last summer it was said WBC would add it to their tree planting list committee meeting in October with a view to plant later in the year. The Clerk did not hear anymore and would assume it did not get approved. The Clerk will follow up with WBC to find out the outcome from their meeting back in October..

**Clerk**

**15) Clerk Correspondence**

None

**16) Matters for future consideration**

Flood Alleviation Scheme  
Recreation Ground Fencing

**Close of meeting**

**Next meeting Thursday 7 September 2017  
(no meeting in August)**

---