

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ARNCOTT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 6th
OCTOBER 2015 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT: John Cooper (in the chair), Martin Byrne and Lee Savidge

APOLOGIES: Rob Hill;

Tim Hallchurch (OCC)

ALSO PRESENT: David Hughes (Cherwell District Council),

Major Dilkes and Lt Col Ray (MOD)

Representatives from the MOD (Major Dilkes and Lt Col Ray) introduced themselves to those present at the meeting. Major Dilkes explained that St George's Barracks is planned to become a demolition training site, with a new Cadet Training Team about to arrive. Additional sections of the Royal Logistics Core (2 transport teams and 1 logistic support team) will be arriving in 2016. Numbers have risen from 420 to 1600 soldiers.

Col Ray confirmed that the MOD is consolidating its land holding in the area and has spent over £100M developing its facilities to create a UK Centre of excellence in munitions, including defence, ammunition/ explosive safety, bomb disposal and munitions search for army, navy and air force units. He offered to host a Parish Council meeting/organise a tour of his facilities.

Major Dilkes explained to the meeting that he had had a long term connection with the area, and was happy to be involved with the Parish trying to resolve problems that occurred. He was aware that residents used some of the MOD land for dog walking , and there was no problem with the use of the established route to Bullingdon, although persons not known to security staff may be stopped and questioned. He had also recently been involved with a fly tipping incident, where, following liaison with travellers on the local Travellers site, fly tipping had been cleared. He confirmed that the Army had a rapport with the Travellers and would be happy to liaise with them on behalf of the Village if necessary.

A resident raised the issue of numerous empty drink cans; this was not thought to be soldiers, who were generally running when passing through the area, but the Mod would ask soldiers to look out for litter and pick it up.

In response to a question about cleaning the “Gate Guardians” it was suggested that the area may be cleaned and tidied as more people move onto the site. However the derelict buildings contain asbestos and have been declared “out of bounds”.

Lt Col Ray confirmed that there were no plans to increase the noise from explosives, but he would include Parish contacts on his list of people to be notified in the event of an exercise. He confirmed that there were no “live” explosives on site; live training takes place at Shoeburyness. Although soldiers will be moving over to Arcott from Kineton, the site in Warwickshire will remain as a depot.

The speakers confirmed that the MOD proposes to build a “superhanger” at Telford, but C site is planned to remain in long term military use and may have more inhabitants. Furthermore, although there will be additional logistics core members adjacent to the village, most of the MOD fleet is “actively manages” on its behalf and there will be no more heavy goods vehicles coming through the Parish.

David Hughes commented that it was good for the local area and local businesses to see that regiments are moving back to the local sites.

74. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

75. Co-option of Councillor

The Parish Council agreed to co-opt Paul Wilson onto the Parish Council.

76. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st September 2015 were agreed.

77. Matters discussed at earlier meetings

The Clerk advised that Sanctuary Housing have indicated that the ditch at Buchanan Court is owned by Cherwell District Council, who are now looking into the issue.

The loose panel in the bus shelter in Norris road will be removed.

The Clerk was asked to report the visibility of rats in Green Lane to CDC's Environmental health.

78. Highway and Footpath matters

The drain in Ploughley Road has been repaired, but the road surface is not satisfactory. There is also a loose kerbstone by the bus stop in Ploughley Road.

There is an overhanging tree in Patrick Haugh Road – which needs to be cut. The Clerk agreed to ask Mr Dempsey to do this.

79. Motocross

No current issues.

80. SSE Resilience Fund

The application has been submitted.

81. Planning Applications

None.

82. Planning Decisions

15/01454/out

Outline development of 5 dwellings at the Tally Ho Inn Ploughley Road – rejected by planning inspector

83. Finance

The current financial position of the Parish Council is as follows:-

Balance brought forward	£101012.09
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Add Income	
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Terraform power	£41988.00
Precept	£ 7000.00
Donation AVH	£ 750.00
Total	£150750.09

Less payments

Date	Payee	Reason	Cheque Number	Amount
1/9/15	Matthew Brogden	New garage door	101369	895
1/9/15	Mr F Milloy	cleaning	101370	140
1/9/15	Came and Company	Insurance	1101427	1981.78

Total payments £3016.78

Balance £147733.31

Cheques were signed as follows :-

CDC	(dog bins)	101428	£384.38
BCC	(legal work)	101429	£15.84
Agility Surveys	(energy audit)	101430	£330.00
ROSPA	(playground)	101431	£163.20
BDO LLP	(Audit)	101432	£240.00
Royal British Legion	(wreathe)	101433	£ 25.00
Mr F Milloy	(cleaning)	101434	£140.00
Mr M Dempsey	(grass)	101435	£755.00

The Parish Council noted completion of the annual external audit.

The Parish Council resolved that it would change its banking arrangements to Unity Trust bank Plc , and all Councillors would complete the applications forms for the next meeting.

84. Councillor's Report

David Hughes apologised for the lack of action by CDC on the parking issues in Woodpiece Road. The Leader of CDC is now involved and he is hopeful that there will be some developments soon. He agreed to clarify the rumour that restrictive covenants are preventing residents from parking on grass verges.

He confirmed that he was hopeful that London Road Bicester would re-open shortly and confirmed that he had not heard of plans to close it.

He confirmed that he would report the poor state of the footpaths between Arncott and Bicester.

85. Village Hall

Regular bookings have returned and the VHC has about £7000 in its account.

The Council considered 3 quotations for the installation of Solar panels to the roof of the Village Hall. The cost of all the quotes was in the region of £13000 and the estimated income from the generation of electricity was about £2000 per annum.

After discussion it was resolved that the Council would proceed with the quotation obtained from Empower, provided that no poor references for the company were obtained.

86. War Memorial

The foundations for the war Memorial should be in by the end of the week, the stone is also being delivered to the stone mason this week, and the Memorial should be completed within about 2 weeks. This means that the new memorial should be in situ by Remembrance Sunday. A wreath has been purchased, and the Chairman agreed to contact the Methodist Minister to officiate, and is chasing the Royal British Legion for confirmation that they will be represented.

87. Correspondence

The Council resolved that it would complete the agreement with OCC to take over responsibility for grass cutting from 1st April 2016.

After consideration the council decided that additional salt and grit bins were not necessary at this stage.

88. Public Participation

- The Clerk was asked to raise the question of ownership of Constables Croft open space with CDC and Barratts Homes.
- It was reported that the tree on the playing field past the play area needed some pruning.
- Concern was expressed at the state of Woodpiece Road (and footpath) on the bend.
- The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council had decided that the old car park on the village green would not be turfed yet – the Council would review the situation in the spring and take action to minimise weed growth.
- It was reported that the “Arncott” sign is obscured by vegetation, which needs to be cut back.
- Councillors confirmed that they were not sure that a microphone was a practicable solution to enabling the public to hear proceedings better. It was agreed that they would look at making changes to the layout of the tables for the meeting.

89. Any Other Business

It was noted that work was required to “Les Honor’s bench”.

The Council agreed to buy a speed gun and jackets to enable a Community Speedwatch group to start up. The Clerk is to be emailed details of equipment to be purchased.

90. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 3rd November 2015.

Chairman

Action register

Date	Action	Who by
7/7/15	Agree locations of dog bins	MB/LS
6/10/15	Ask CDC re ownership of ditch	AD
6/10/15	Remove loose panel in bus shelter	LS
6/10/15	Report rats in Green lane to CDC	AD
6/10/15	Ask CDC/Barratts about ownership of Constables croft open land	AD
6/10/15	Complete application forms to Unity Trust bank	all
6/10/15	Confirm solar panels contract with Empower	JC
1/9/15	Look for caretaker for VH	JC
1/9/15	Permission from Printrun for plaque	JC
6/10/15	Check Empower references	PW
6/10/15	Report footpath/highway defects	AD
6/10/15	Ask Mr Dempsey to prune trees	AD
6/10/15	Advise clerk of equipment for Speedwatch	LS
6/10/15	Order equipment as above	AD

