

MINUTES OF SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL AT 19.30 HOURS ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2005.

Present

Brian Archer
Bruce Batting (Chairman)
Richard Gaiger
Ivan Gosden
Sandy Johnston
Tracy Lander-Sims
Percy Sims
Lorraine Smith

In attendance

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)
One member of the public was in attendance.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4526 Apologies for absence were received from Ken Clark, WPC Mandy Jewell, Chris Horton and Cllr Marilyn Tucker.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4527 Ivan Gosden declared a personal interest in agenda item 18.

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2005

4528 The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

4. TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER

4529 The Neighbourhood Watch report for November had been circulated. In addition, an email from PC Coleshill had been tabled in which he advised that personal belongings should not be left in cars. Lorraine Smith reported that pens for marking property had been delivered within Neighbourhood Watch areas in the village. Anyone who had not received one was advised to contact WPC Jewell. The matter of parking and traffic flow problems experienced during NADFAS meetings was raised again. John Dodd said that he would cone the road adjacent to the garage workshop entrance. It was noted that the Village Hall caretaker also had cones which should be placed in strategic places during NADFAS meetings. Sandy Johnston reported that "community speed watch" had been discussed at a recent BDAPTC meeting; he would give a full report from the meeting at the Parish Council meeting in January.

OPEN FORUM

The meeting was temporarily adjourned to allow questions from the public.

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council agreed to bring forward agenda item 5(e).

5(e) Allotments

To receive response from allotment holder regarding maintaining allotment in accordance with allotment agreement

4530 Following concerns voiced at the annual allotment holders meeting, the Parish Council had written to a tenant explaining that his plot cannot be fenced and used as a private garden. The tenant's response had been circulated. As the tenant was present at the meeting, he was invited to contribute to the discussion. The tenant believed that he was not in breach of the allotment agreement, and explained that the plot is used to grow produce. Parish Councillors were concerned that the plot was fenced, which was a breach of the agreement. The tenant

ACTION

JD
SJ - Vill
Hall
SJ

offered to remove some of the fencing, although Councillors accepted that some of the existing fencing in closest proximity to his property could be retained for personal security. The tenant confirmed that he did not intend to claim ownership of the land, and continued to pay an annual rental on the allotment plot.

To consider quotations for revised specification, waste collection area

4531 The Finance and General Purposes Committee had requested quotations for a revised specification for the waste collection area. Two quotes had been received, and a further quote was expected. It was agreed that these would be considered at the next FGPC in the first instance.

LM
FGPC

(a) Planning Committee

4532 The minutes of the meeting held on 6 December had been circulated and the following applications were noted:

Application No: BDB/62234

Location: Summerfield, Sherfield Green, Sherfield-on-Loddon

Proposal: Conversion of loft to living accommodation involving raising of the roof.

Alterations to bay window and erection of new porch. Erection of first floor to detached garage.

PC Decision: No objection.

Application No: BDB/62288

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

Location: Redlands, Reading Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27 0JQ

Proposal: Erection of a five bedroom detached dwelling with detached garage and swimming pool buildings and ancillary landscaping following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings.

PC Decision: It was noted that the existing dwelling is a building of significant local interest. However, the Chairman would circulate the plans and accompanying correspondence to Committee members for consideration before reaching a decision.

Approvals by Borough Council:

Application No: BDB/61829 White Hart, Reading Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Change of use of grassed area to car park spaces and repositioning of planter tubs (Retrospective)

Application No: BDB/61867 16 Northfield Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Erection of a side conservatory.

Notice of Intent – for report:

To fell 14 Leylandii at Gravelmead, Sherfield Green: No objection by Tree Officer.

For information: Forestry Commission registration – new planting (5.90 ha broadleaves) at Riverside House.

The Chairman reported that he is awaiting news on placing a preservation order on the wall at the entrance to the telephone exchange, Reading Road.

BB

(b) Leisure Facilities Committee

4533 The minutes of the meeting held 6 December 2005 had been circulated. The three sports club representatives had attended the meeting.

Sandy Johnston reported that his contact at the Football Foundation continued to make enquiries about funding the new pavilion.

Sandy Johnston had met the sales representative from Playdale last week and a proposal for

purchasing two basket/goalmouths at a cost of £11,125 was put to the Parish Council. In order to keep costs down, soil could be deposited at the BMX track and John Dodd offered the use of his garage for storage purposes. The proposal was seconded by Tracy Lander-Sims and supported by the Council.

LM

Members were invited to visit the proposed site this Saturday at 11am to agree the position for the installations. Sandy Johnston advised that the works would be carried out in February/March.

Next LFC meeting: Tuesday 24 January.

(c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

4534 Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 December had been circulated.

Section 106 money:

The committee had recommended the spending of Section 106 money as follows:

- Five-a-side goals - £6,143 (remainder of cost from playground reserve)
- Mansers Land - £5,000
- Remedial works to Mansers Land - £1,416 (remainder of cost from PC funds)

LM

Precept for 2006/7

The final version of the precept calculation spreadsheet had been circulated. It was proposed that the precept required for 2006/7 would be £23,965, an increase on last year's figure but less than the figure for 2004/5.

LM

Alterations to the previous draft were highlighted:

- The previous draft had shown an increase of £184 to the tennis court reserve fund next year, but this was now removed.
- It was proposed that works to repair the concrete spur by Greenview Cottage and to lay scalplings in the car park and at the pond steps be brought forward into the current year. Having obtained 3 quotations for scalplings, it was recommended that the Clerk should order 2 tonnes from Meakins at £59 + vat.
- The Bulpitt Brothers had quoted £200 to repair cracks along the concrete path and this was recommended for acceptance, to be carried out this year.

LM

LM

Proposed Ivan Gosden, seconded Sandy Johnston, unanimously agreed. The Clerk was thanked for her work on the document.

With regard to necessary remedial works to "Manser's Land", the FGPC favoured the quotation presented by Bob Berry Fencing; Closeboard fencing on concrete posts (£3521.02), clearance of rubbish including old fencing and steel fencing (£495) and Cutting and chipping wood on site (£1400) = total £5416.02 plus vat. BT will be approached to see whether contractors could gain access to the land via the telephone exchange forecourt.

LM

Richard Gaiger had obtained a quotation from Dave Miller for work to the BMX track, but the Committee would discuss further the options for improving the area. The sum of £200 had been allocated for the project in next year's budget but money from playground reserves and from the Millennium Fund could also be used if necessary.

RG
LM
FGPC

The above recommendations were proposed for acceptance by Ivan Gosden, seconded by Tracy Lander-Sims and carried.

Next FGPC meeting: Tuesday 24 January 2006.

(d) Village Green Committee

4535 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 December, 19.30 hours, Garden Room.

(e) Allotments

This item had been discussed following Open Forum, minute 4530.

(f) Play Area

4536 This had been discussed under minute 4533. The Clerk reported that resurfacing work beneath the slide had been completed and the insurer's payment was expected within the week.

(g) Tennis Courts

4537 Nothing to report.

(h) Schools

4538 Sherfield School would be presenting a Christmas concert for the elderly in the village.

(i) Village Hall

4539

Update on Village Hall roof repair

Since the last meeting, Glenn Moody had provided evidence of PLI cover and the roof work had been completed. It had been noted however that the ridge tiles on the porch did not match and it was agreed that Mr Moody would be asked to re-fit with matching ridge tiles. As soon as this had been completed, the Borough would be asked to forward the agreed 30% grant.

LM

Other matters for report: The Village Hall AGM had been held and Jane Brydges had succeeded Esme Ward as Chairman of the Mangement Committee. Gill Fearon and Natalie Lerner were Vice Chairmen; Profits from next year's Village Fete would again be directed to the Village Hall to help with their deficit; Bruce Batting would advise Steve Raw of BDBC of the poor quality of the car park re-surfacing.

6. TO RECEIVE SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

4540 A report following the inspection in October was circulated and photographs taken during the inspection were tabled. Work to repair cracks in the concrete path would be undertaken. John Dodd reported that the seat behind the village hall was loose and required repair.

LM

7. TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM ALLIANZ CORNHILL REGARDING INSPECTION OF VILLAGE GREEN

4541 The insurers had agreed that a monthly inspection of the Green would be acceptable. Parish Councillors suggested that the Litter Warden could be asked whether he would be prepared to carry out the monthly inspection when he is litter picking. Alternatively, Clerk and Councillors could arrange the inspection for report at each Parish Council meeting.

LM

8. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON "MANSERS LAND"

4542 With regard to purchasing the land, the Chairman reported that he expected the completion to take place in January.

BB

9. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON CENTENARY PAVILION

4543 The Chairman reported that the building regulation plans and specification were nearing completion and would be sent out to tender in the new year.

BB

10. TO CONSIDER RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION DOCUMENT; DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2006-9

4544 There were no comments received from Parish Councillors.

11. TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM HAMPSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY REGARDING RESTRUCTURING OF HAMPSHIRE POLICE FORCE

4545 The Parish Council supported Hampshire Police Force in its wish to avoid becoming combined with neighbouring police forces. A letter of support would be written.

LM

12. TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM CLLR KEN THORNBER, LEADER HCC, REGARDING COUNCIL TAX LEVY IN HAMPSHIRE

4546 Councillor Thornber had written to Parish Councils via the Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils seeking support for Hampshire County Council's "Save Our Services" campaign. The Council is concerned at the increasing council tax rises forced upon them from central government. The Parish Council supported the campaign and a letter would be sent to the local MP, Maria Miller, and to the Minister of Communities and Local Government.

LM

13. TO CONSIDER COMPLAINT BY RESIDENT FOLLOWING WORKS CARRIED OUT BY HOUSING ASSOCIATION

4547 It was reported that Sentinel had cleared an area behind Goddard's Close, despite a letter from a resident asking for fruit trees to remain. Councillors were concerned by the poor state of the ground following the contractor's clearance and a letter would be sent from the Parish Council. (NB: Following the meeting, contractors returned and improvements were made to the area.)

14. TO RECEIVE BDBC SUMMARY OF THE INSPECTORS REPORT, LOCAL PLAN INQUIRY

4548 The Chairman summarised by reporting that the Local Plan had been cut by 5 years, the Manydown development had been postponed, several settlement policy boundaries had been removed to prevent development in some villages, although this did not apply to Sherfield-on-Loddon. The proposed development at German Road Bramley had been rejected. The Conservation Area in Sherfield-on-Loddon remained unchanged.

15. TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM BDBC FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

4549 A summary of responses produced by BDBC had been circulated for information.

16. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS

Footpath between Reading and Northfield Road

4550 The Chairman and Clerk had met with the owner of the hedge which overhangs the pathway and he had agreed to cut the hedge in the new year to reduce the overhang no more than 2 ft from the boundary.

The fence to the rear of the car park within Mill Close had recently been replaced with a brick wall but this was significantly encroaching onto Parish Council land. This matter would need to be discussed further.

BB/
LM

Orchard Lea

4551 Brian Archer reported that the Highway Authority had cleared a long-standing problem of surface water flooding, at the junction of Goddards Close and Goddards Lane.

Parking on the Green

4552 It was reported that tradesmen were parking on the Green next to Globe House, rather than parking within the driveway. It was agreed that parking on the Green is only permissible if there is no other access to the property. However, parking should not be encouraged by the entrance to "Greenway" as drivers trying to exit the lane have an obscured view of the road.

It was noted that the "firebreak" track continues to be used on a daily basis and is badly rutted. No further action would be taken for the time being.

17. TO RECEIVE FINANCE REPORT

4553

A report on income and expenditure for November had been tabled. The balances of all accounts at 30th November 2005 are shown in the table below:

2005/2006	HSBC A/C	General Investment A/C	Consols	Grand Total
Bal B/F from Q2, 2005/6	19,304.22	22,743.69	24.17	42,072.08
Income October/November	1,137.33	10,832.50	0.00	11,969.83
Outgoing October/November	16,919.73	0.00	0.00	16,919.73
Balance C/F	3,521.82	33,576.19	24.17	37,122.18

Uncleared cheques: £287.66

HSBC Bank Statement at 30th November 2005: £3,809.48

Approval of Payments

£732.36	Clerk salary
£113.18	Litter Warden
£233.38	Inland Revenue
£1,821.25	Park Leisure Ltd (paid; resurfacing below slide - to be repaid by insurance co)
£162.15	Basingstoke Skip Hire (paid, previously agreed)
£27.00	Sherfield Village Hall (paid, room bookings, VGC/FGPC/LFC)
£287.66	Coleman Roofing Supplies (paid; materials for repair of village hall roof)
£282.00	Broadleaf Tree Management (emergency work to willows)
£1,002.85	Glenn Moody (repair to village hall roof, plus extra materials)
£9.72	Petty Cash (stamps)

A cheque for £33,576.19 had been received from National Savings and would be paid into the HSBC account. It was agreed that £20,000 should be transferred immediately to the new Bank of Ireland account, and necessary transfers would be made in January/February to allow for extra expenditure in the new year.

Approval of payments proposed by Ivan Gosden, seconded Loraine Smith, unanimously agreed.

LM

18. TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF A WORKING PARTY TO CONSIDER BURIAL GROUND EXTENSION

4554 Ivan Gosden declared a person interest in this matter, and left the meeting.

A response from the Gosden family had been received via the land agent, and included details of the area which the family would be prepared to offer for sale, together with the value of the land. The Council agreed that a working party should be formed, comprising Bruce Batting, Percy Sims, John Dodd and Brian Archer, to consider the matter in detail. A date for the first meeting would be agreed in January.

19. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

4555

- **To agree date for Burial Ground Extension Working Party meeting**
- **Safety Inspection Report**
- **Car park wall, Mill Close**
- **Report on BDAPTC meeting**

Councillors were asked to advise the Clerk of any other items for discussion at the next meeting.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

4556 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Liddell Hall on Wednesday 11 January 2006 at 19.30 hours. Meeting closed 21.00 hours.