

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SHERFIELD SCHOOL AT 19.30 HOURS ON WEDNESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2007.**

**Present**

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

**In attendance**

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)  
A member of the public and a member of the press were in attendance.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**5285** Parish Cllrs Ken Clark, John Dodd and Brian Archer, Borough Cllr Marilyn Tucker, County Cllr Keith Chapman, and Chris Horton.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

**5286** Bruce Batting and Dick Gaiger, item 8, and Ivan Gosden, item 18.

**3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JULY 2007**

**5287** The minutes were approved as a true record of the proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

**4. TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER**

**5288** Neighbourhood Watch reports for July and August had been circulated. It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Safety Forum would take place in October.

**OPEN FORUM**

The meeting was temporarily adjourned.

**5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**(a) Planning Committee**

**5289** The minutes of the meetings held on 8 and 28 August had been circulated and the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September were tabled. The following decisions were reported:

***Application No: BDB/66645 Wildmoor Place, Wildmoor Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hook, RG27***

***Proposal: Relief of condition 5 of planning approval BDB/54120 for the erection of a summerhouse.***

***PC decision: No objection.***

***Application No: BDB/66692 1 Wheelers Court, Reading Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hook, RG27 0EX***  
***Proposal: Erection of two storey rear extension and side porch.***

***PC decision: Members were concerned that the extension would result in part of the communal courtyard, a space shared by the residents of Wheelers Court, being enclosed on three sides, two storeys high, severely restricting natural light to the area. Additionally, it was felt that the proposals would be overbearing to neighbouring properties, resulting in an unbalanced appearance of the row of cottages from the front but also as viewed from Horse Pond, this being described as a vista providing an "important general view especially of the wider landscape setting" within the BDBC Conservation Area Appraisal 2000. Within that document, Wheelers Court is highlighted as a notable building and committee members were also advised that Wheelers Court is currently under consideration for inclusion in the Borough's Local List of buildings of local interest. An objection to the application would be lodged.***

**ACTION**

**Application No: BDB/66635** *The White Hart Public House, Reading Road, Sherfield, Hook, RG27 0BT*  
**Proposal:** *Installation of 2 no. 5m x 5m tensile membrane parasols to frontage on existing front seating area.*

**PC decision:** *It was agreed that the parasols, which members believed were to serve as a shelter for smokers, were out of keeping. It was not appropriate to have them placed at the front of this Grade II listed property, in the centre of the village. Additionally, it was feared that the shelters would encourage many more people to congregate at the front of the pub, causing prolonged and increased noise nuisance to nearby residents. An objection would be lodged.*

**Application No: BDB/66714** *35 Otterbourne Walk, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hook, RG27 0SE*

**Proposal:** *Erection of rear conservatory.*

**PC decision:** *No objection.*

**Application No: BDB/66708** *Hafod, Sherfield Green, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hook, RG27 0EN*

**Proposal:** *Erection of single storey rear extensions to kitchen and garage. Erection of rear conservatory.*

**PC decision:** *No objection.*

**Application No: BDB/66807** **Location:** *6 Breach Gardens, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hook, RG27 0AW*

**Proposal:** *Erection of a rear conservatory.*

**PC decision:** *Noted very little garden space would remain. No objection on planning grounds.*

**NB:** *The covenant banning the use of "Rectory" in the address has been lifted. If residents wished to change the address name they would need to contact the Borough Council in the first instance.*

**Application No: BDB/66870**

**Location:** *2 West View, Bramley Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hook, RG27 0DD*

**Proposal:** *Erection of a single storey front, two storey side and single storey rear extension.*

*Construction of driveway, new cross over, vehicle turning area and lowering of existing kerb.*

*Demolition of existing outbuilding.*

**PC decision:** *No objection.*

**Application No: BDB/66868 (and also referenced 66869 under Listed Buildings Act)**

**Location:** *Court Farm House, Goddards Lane, Sherfield, RG27 0EN*

**Proposal:** *Erection of single storey rear extension following demolition of existing.*

**PC decision:** *No objection.*

### **ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

**Location:** *Lamorna, Bramley Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon*

**Details:** *Erection of conservatory without consent.*

*To report no breach of planning control.*

### **BDBC APPROVALS REPORTED:**

**Application No: BDB/66235** *Mill View, 12 Reading Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27 0AA*

**Proposal:** *Erection of single storey rear extensions.*

**Application No: BDB/65915** *Taylor's Farm, Taylor's Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27 0JF*

**Proposal:** *Approval of reserved matters (Phase 6) for the siting, design, external appearance and access of 75 no. dwellings pursuant to outline planning permission BDB/55134.*

**Application No: BDB/51998** *The Rectory, Breach Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27 0EU*

**Proposal:** *Permission to demolish The Rectory and erect 10 no. dwellings and associated parking.*

**MINOR AMENDMENT TO APPROVED PLANS – Rear elevation: change window to French doors.**

**Application No: BDB/66275** *Highway verges at Bow Drive, Carpenters Close and Bullsdown Close, Sherfield-on-Loddon.*

**Proposal:** *Conversion of highway verges and open space verges into additional parking areas and demolition of 5 no. garages to create additional parking areas. Alterations to carriageway.*

**NOI – APPROVAL BY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

*No1 TCA 2313 to fell 1 cherry, 1 pine and 1 willow at the Willows, Greenway.*

**S106 ARRANGEMENTS FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF WIMPEY-  
WOODROW DEVELOPMENT AT GERMAN ROAD, BRAMLEY**

*The Chairman had details of the developer’s contributions recently agreed by the Borough and County Councils, including funding for transport, contribution to the local primary school, etc. The figures seemed inadequate and members felt disappointment for Bramley Parish. It was noted also that time limits had been set for the spending of funds. Although within the Parish of Bramley, members were concerned about the detrimental effect that the development would have on Sherfield too, in particular the increased volume of traffic on the village roads. However, it might be possible to seek assistance via the BEST policy (Basingstoke Environmental Strategy for Transport).*

**(b) Leisure Facilities Committee**

**5290** The minutes of the meeting held on 24 July had been circulated. A contractor had treated mole hills on the football pitches, and more information about future treatment is awaited. NoMow surfacing had been completed beneath the cableway this week. The tarmac is to be laid between the two basket/goalmouths this week.

In the light of the recent outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in Surrey, the Chairman said that people should be urged to avoid using footpaths which cross farm land.

**(c) Finance and General Purposes Committee**

**5291** The minutes of the meeting held on 24 July had been circulated. Finances were to be reviewed to see whether works could be carried out to a number of trees within the Parish Council-owned woodland at the southern entrance to the village.

**(d) Village Green Committee**

**5292** The meeting called for 17 July had not been quorate, however notes were made and these were produced for the Parish Council. The suggestions of replacing a dead tree by the tennis courts, removing small dead larch trees opposite the war memorial and replacing dead privet plants by the memorial were supported and the Clerk would make enquiries about costs. A reply is awaited from Barry Bulpitt re; removal of branches to allow mowing beneath trees on the Green.

LM  
LM

Percy Sims advised members that many years ago an attempt to close the “trunk” from Greenway to Goddards Lane had been prevented when the matter had been taken to court.

With regard to horses being ridden on pathways, Sandy Johnston said that he would be prepared to produce a map to show where horses may be ridden locally. Percy Sims offered to bring his large-scale map to the committee and would see whether bridleways are marked.

SJ  
PS

**(e) Allotments**

**5293** The Chairman had presented the prizes at the Sherfield Show last weekend, including the Best Allotment results:

4<sup>th</sup> place Peter Chessell, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Carolyne Neill, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Maria Nind (received plaque) and 1<sup>st</sup> place Bill Watson for a third year (received cup, plaque and £20 gardening vouchers). The annual allotment holders meeting would take place next month and it was thought that tenants might suggest an alternative arrangement for judging the award.

**5294** Update on legal advice, disability access. The Chairman reported that discussions were ongoing with the Head of Legal Services at the Borough Council.

BB

**5295** Members were disappointed to learn that Borough funding would not be available for the waste area now until the new financial year. It was agreed that a skip should be hired for the allotments.

LM

**5296** A tenant had written to request permission to install a shed and greenhouse on plot 28. It was noted that a shed had already been erected. Permission was granted.

LM

**(f) Play area & BMX track**

**5297** It was noted that the grass in the play area was in good condition, although mole hills remain a problem. New surfacing installations had been reported under item 5290.

**5298** An updated quote for improvements to the bike track had been circulated. The new total cost of the work would be £4060 + vat. It was confirmed that money is available, and Dave Miller is keen for work to be completed sooner rather than later. This was agreed, although it was suggested that all finances should be reviewed at the FGP Committee this month in the light of the emergency situation at the village hall.

LM  
FGP Ctte

**5299** Suggested wording for a sign at the track was considered and the clerk would obtain a quotation in time for the FGP Committee meeting. It was agreed that the notice should advise that, for safety reasons, riders must not make alterations to the ramps.

LM  
FGP Ctte

**(g) Football and cricket grounds/pavilions**

**5300** A report had been circulated and photographs tabled following visits to modular pavilions at Swindon and Greenham Park. Councillors were in agreement that the unit provided an excellent, cheaper alternative to a traditional brick building and would not look out of keeping, providing the right brick facia and roofing finishes are used. The Chairman advised that a new planning application would need to be submitted. Members agreed that this should be pursued. Funding bodies would require sight of comparative quotations.

LM/BB

A document showing pavilion project expenses to date had been produced for information.

**(h) Tennis courts**

**5301** Fees of £347.20 had been collected since the last PC meeting.

**(i) Schools**

**5302** Members wished to record their thanks to Sherfield School for providing accommodation to a number of local groups since the temporary closure of the village hall. The Sherfield Show had been staged in the sports hall last weekend and the event had been a great success.

**(j) Sherfield Park/Taylor's Farm**

**5303** The Chairman reported that the Community Association continues to pursue planning issues of concern within the development. There are plans for social and fund-raising events this Christmas. The group had been very grateful to receive £575 from the proceeds of the Sherfield Village Fete. A new Secretary for the Community Association is sought.

**(k) Village Hall**

**5304** Ivan Gosden updated members on the situation of the closure of the Village Hall due to fuel-contaminated water supply. This had occurred following the July floods but both the Environment Agency and the Hall's insurance company had been slow to reach any conclusion and the insurers had, today, advised that no claim could be made on the Hall's insurance policy. An estimated repair bill of £70,000 had been received and so, mindful of the importance of the Halls to the community, the Parish Council were of the view that they should seek to become corporate trustees, take on a management role and raise funds to enable the Halls to re-open as quickly as possible. It was noted that Ivan Gosden, Percy Sims and Sandy Johnston are members/trustees of the charity and therefore have a personal and prejudicial interest. As co-owner of the neighbouring petrol station, John Dodd would also have an interest to declare. However, members remaining agreed that the matter should be discussed with the Village Hall Management Committee next week.

A letter had been tabled from John Dodd, in which he explained that he is doing all he can to co-operate over the situation.

The clerk would make enquiries of various organisations to see what help might be available. Sandy Johnston would ask to see a copy of the Halls insurance policy.

LM  
SJ

#### **6. TO RECEIVE MONTHLY SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT**

**5305** Reports for July and August had been circulated. Regarding the reference to Poplar Close, the clerk would clarify which pathway is overgrown.

LM

#### **7. TO REVIEW RESPONSE TO JULY FLOODS**

**5306** Members were advised that the Borough Council will be reviewing its response to the floods. It was suggested that residents are invited to provide information to the PC if they suffered flooding. Richard Gaiger suggested that a lockable bin is positioned in the car park next to the White Hart PH to store the village's supply of sandbags and Bruce Batting agreed to discuss this with Steve Raw at BDBC. Members felt that the Borough and County Council had responded well to the emergency and Richard Gaiger was thanked for his hard work on the day.

BB

#### **8. TO RECEIVE REPORT ON GREENWAY MEETING HELD 16 JULY**

**5307** Draft minutes of the meeting had been circulated, together with two quotations for improvements. These would be considered at the next FGP Committee meeting this month.

FGP Ctte

#### **9. TO RECEIVE REPORT ON BDAPTC MEETING HELD ON 28 JUNE**

**5308** Members had received minutes of the last meeting for information. It was noted that Post Office closures would be reported in October.

#### **10. TO CONSIDER BDBC INVITATION TO COUNCIL CORE STRATEGY WORKSHOP, 18 OR 22 SEPTEMBER**

**5309** Members were asked to let the Clerk know if they wished to attend the workshop.

#### **11. TO CONSIDER BDBC INVITATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT, FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER**

**5310** Sandy Johnston agreed to attend the workshop.

SJ

#### **12. TO CONSIDER BDBC QUESTIONNAIRE ON OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION PROVISION**

**5311** The Chairman, Sandy Johnston and Loraine Smith would complete the questionnaire on behalf of the Parish Council.

BB/SJ/  
LS

#### **13. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR NEW BENCH, PLUS PERMISSION TO HOLD A CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH**

**5312** Fred Berntsen had written asking the Parish Council for permission to carry out the wishes of the late Tony Sumner, which were to have a bench installed halfway along the football ground and to have a charity match next year. This was unanimously agreed.

LM

#### **14. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS**

##### **5313 To receive update on traffic calming unit, the Shop**

A meeting had taken place on 26 July but there had been no further information from Highways about alternatives to the in-effective unit by the Shop. Peter Eade had however confirmed that line painting and improvements to the Bramley Road build-outs would go ahead in due course. A height barrier had now been installed in the "bus turnaround" and a second bund would be put in place as soon as possible.

##### **5314 To consider BDBC Review "Streets for People, Roads for Cars" initiative**

It was noted that the proposal was to impose an advisory 20 mph limit outside schools and businesses. Additionally, signs advising drivers of their speeds were to be more widely used.

**5315 To consider request to lay pathway between Campbell Road and Bow Grove**

Members discussed how this suggestion had been investigated in the past but a number of objections and difficulties had arisen including the possible consequence of losing the school bus service for children from Sherfield. Therefore, the suggestion of re-investigating the idea was not supported.

LM

**5316 To receive HCC invitation to comment, review of Countryside Access Plan**

Sandy Johnston and Tracy Lander-Sims agreed to review the map provided by HCC and the Clerk would confirm the closing date for comment.

SJ/TL-S  
LM

**15. TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL REPORT**

**5317** A report for July and August had been circulated:

2007/2008	HSBC A/C	BoI Deposit A/C	Consols	Grand Total	Uncleared cheques (HSBC)	Uncleared receipts (HSBC)
Bal B/F from June	2,116.01	37,131.07	24.17	39,271.25	3,227.29	
*Credits Jul/Aug	35,121.49	24,382.62	0.00	59,504.11		
*Debits Jul/Aug	28,953.39	8,000.00	0.00	36,953.39		
<b>Balance C/F</b>	<b>8,284.11</b>	<b>53,513.69</b>	<b>24.17</b>	<b>61,821.97</b>	<b>11,511.40</b>	
					Uncleared Balance	

**\* Including transfers**

**HSBC Bank Statement at 31 August 2007: £11,511.40**

It was agreed to transfer the sum of £14,000 from the BoI to HSBC.

The following payments were approved:

- £169.20 Skip hire for allotments (£144 + vat)
- £60.97 L Marshall for purchase of 1 tonne sand for sandbags, Keyline (£51.89 + vat), 20 July
- £44.99 For petty cash - ink cartridge (£21.27 + vat), gardening vouchers Allotment Prize (£20)
- £746.69 Clerk salary
- £131.32 Litter Warden salary
- £232.81 Tax and NIC

LM

**16. TO VIEW PARISH MAP**

**5318** This had been discussed under item 5292. Percy Sims would see whether his map included details of ancient bridleways and would report at the next meeting.

PS

**17. TO AGREE ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

**5319** Items to the Clerk at least five days before the next meeting.

**18. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON BURIAL GROUND**

**5320** It was reported that the vendor's solicitor is liaising with the Legal Services Department at the Borough. The Chairman explained that, as there are only two parties involved, it had been agreed that there was no need for exchange of contracts and that the matter would proceed straight to completion. The vendor's solicitor has been asked to confirm a final figure for fees, which will be chargeable to the Parish Council.

**19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**5321** Next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 10 October, 19.30 hours, venue to be confirmed. Meeting closed: 21.20 hours.