

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL AT 19.30 HOURS ON WEDNESDAY 9 MAY 2007.

Present

Brian Archer
Bruce Batting (Chairman)
Ken Clark
John Dodd
Richard Gaiger
Ivan Gosden
Sandy Johnston
Tracy Lander-Sims
Lorraine Smith

In attendance

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

5153 Sandy Johnston proposed Bruce Batting as Chairman for a further year, seconded by Brian Archer and unanimously agreed. Bruce Batting signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

5154 Brian Archer proposed Ivan Gosden as Vice Chairman, seconded by Ken Clark, unanimously agreed.

3. APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

5155 A document listing the committees of the parish council, plus areas of interest and representation on outside bodies, had been circulated. It was unanimously agreed that committee membership would remain unchanged.

4. TO INSPECT ANY DEEDS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE COUNCIL

5156 Deeds to the allotments, footpath between Northfield and Reading Roads, and the Land Registry certification for the woodland were available for inspection by the Parish Councillors. The Chairman advised that the legal department still had to arrange for the voluntary registration of the footpath and allotment land. The Chairman would enquire whether mortgaging is possible.

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

5157 Members were sorry to learn that Percy Sims was unwell and therefore unable to attend the meeting. Ivan Gosden would need to leave the meeting at 8.30pm and Lorraine Smith at 9 pm.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

5158 Ivan Gosden declared a prejudicial interest in item 19, and John Dodd, Bruce Batting and Richard Gaiger declared a prejudicial interest in item 16, "Greenway".

7. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 APRIL 2006

5159 Two amendments were made to the minutes: Minute 5148: Payments - Tadley CAB, S142 not S137; Skip Hire - £144 plus vat. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman as a true record of the proceedings.

8. TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER

5160 Neighbourhood Watch report The report for April had been circulated. It was noted that during the recent encampment on the green by travellers, eleven local children had been assaulted by the travellers' children. Consequently, the convoy was moved on immediately by the police. Sandy and Janet Johnston were thanked for removing graffiti from the play equipment.

ACTION

BB

Sandy Johnston reported on a meeting of the Community Safety Forum. Crime figures had increased, particularly for domestic violence. He was also sorry to report that, for health and safety reasons, the fire service can no longer allow engines to attend village fetes, etc, as an attraction. There remains an intention by Hampshire Police to provide at least one PC and one PCSO per ward. The Chairman thanked Sandy for his continued contribution and interest in the Forum.

OPEN FORUM

No members of the public were present and the meeting continued.

9. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Planning Committee

5161 The minutes of a meeting held on 11 April and 1 May had been circulated. A revised version of the 1 May minutes had been tabled.

Details of discussions were noted as follows:

Application No: BDB/65723 **Location:** Lilly Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon

Proposal: Conversion of cattle barns into stables, formation of outdoor exercise area and erection of circular horse walker.

PC Decision: Although the property is within the parish of Bramley, Sherfield PC had been invited to comment on the planning application. No objection.

Application No: BDB/65785 **Location:** The Rectory, Breach Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon

Proposal: Omission of 3 no. trees from the landscaping scheme approved under BDB 55429.

PC Decision: Objection. It was not clear why the developer wished to remove the trees. The committee agreed that the trees served as a necessary screen between the new development and the neighbouring chapel and therefore would lodge an objection to the application.

Application No: BDB/65529 **Location:** St Leonard's Church, Reading Rd, Church End, Sherfield

Proposal: Repairs to boundary wall of the Octagon, Church End.

PC Decision: No objection.

Application No: BDB/65868 **Location:** 31 Otterbourne Walk, Sherfield-on-Loddon

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension and insertion of roof light to office over existing garage. Part conversion of garage to living accommodation.

PC Decision: No objection.

Application No: BDB/65913 **Location:** Land west of Meadow Cottage, Taylors Lane, Sherfield

Proposal: Erection of a bat roost.

PC Decision: It was noted that this was, in fact, a retrospective application. No objection.

Application No: BDB/65915 **Location:** Taylors Farm, Taylors Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon

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

PC Decision: No objection.

Comments invited from Hampshire County Council:

New inlet works building and blower house, Basingstoke Sewage Treatment Works, Chineham

PC Decision: No objection/comment.

APPROVALS

Application No: BDB/65020 **Location:** Land west of St Leonards Churchyard, Reading Road.

Proposal: Change of use of land from agriculture to burial ground.

Application No: BDB/65337 **Location:** Lantern House, Wildmoor Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon
Proposal: Erection of single storey front extension and single storey rear infill extension.
Amendment to planning permission BDB/56017 to alter window design and number of windows (part retrospective).

Application No: BDB/65532 **Location:** Old School Cottage, Sherfield Green, Sherfield
Proposal: Erection of a first floor extension with Mansard roof to form link between existing roofs, construction of dormer window to side elevation and roof light to front elevation.

NOI – new application TCA 2278 to fell 1 apple & 1 conifer at Chestnut Cottage, Sherfield Green
PC Decision: It was noted that this application referred to Chestnut Cottage, adjacent to Plantation. No objection.

NOI – to report no objection by Borough Council:

TCA 2261 to 20% crown reduce 1 pear, reduce in height by approx 1/3 1 conifer, fell 1 apple, reduce by 20% 1 birch, reduce by 10% 1 Norway spruce, thin by 10% 1 cherry and reduce 6-8ft 1 bay at Hazel House, Sherfield-on-Loddon

REFUSALS

Application No: BDB/64730 **Location:** Land at Taylors Farm, east of Pettys Copse, Sherfield
Proposal: Erection of 56 no. two, three, four and five bedroom dwellings with associated garages and new access.

Application No: BDB/65124 **Location:** Taylors Farm, Taylors Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon
Proposal: Reserved matters application for the access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of new single storey community and sports facility, sports pitches, play areas and car park pursuant to outline planning permission BDB/40788.

5162 Wheelers Court: The Council was pleased to learn that the Development Control Committee at the Borough Council had rejected Berkeley Homes application to lift the restriction on the use of the land imposed by a Section 52 Agreement

(b) Leisure Facilities Committee

5163 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22 May.

(c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

5164 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22 May.

(d) Village Green Committee

5165 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 May.

(e) Allotments

5166 To receive letter requesting installation of shed

A tenant had written to ask permission to install a shed on plot 42. This was unanimously agreed, providing the tenant complies with the guidelines within the allotment agreement.

LM

5167 To receive update on permanent waste collection area

It was reported that the Borough requires updated quotations for works required. The Clerk would approach the three contractors who had provided quotes over a year ago.

LM

(f) Play area and BMX track

5168 To discuss installation of NoMow surfacing, cableway

No Mow had provided a quotation of £5,710.62 plus vat for covering 95.6 m². The cost included a 30mm layer of grit sand, a geotextile membrane and NoMow safe 1.0 surfacing plus rubber

granules. The area would be pegged and surrounded with treated timber edging. The price also included removal of soil from the site. The Sales Manager had confirmed that there would be a slight reduction in cost if soil is dispersed on the green. The figure was slightly cheaper than the quote previously provided by PlayDale. It was unanimously agreed that NoMow would be asked to complete the works, and arrangements would be made for the dispersal of soil on the green. Ivan Gosden agreed to take any unwanted soil to the farm.

LM

5169 To report result of grant application, tarmac surfacing, basketgoal court

The Sports Development Officer, BDBC, had written to confirm that a Leisure Facilities and Community Buildings Grant of £9,863 will be given to the Parish Council for work on the basketgoal area. The grant was subject to a number of conditions, including investigation of planning requirements. The Clerk is awaiting a view from the Borough's Planning Department. It was unanimously agreed that, if required, the Clerk should submit a planning application and fee in order to comply with the terms of the agreement.

LM

5170 To discuss new quotations, BMX track schemes

Richard Gaiger had received a quotation of £3,260 + vat from Dave Miller for completing "Scheme A". Mr Miller considered Scheme B to be an inappropriate design and was not prepared to submit a quotation for it. The commencement of the works depended upon the basketgoal grant money being received. In the meantime, it was agreed that Scheme A would be presented for the public to view at next week's Annual Parish Meeting. (Post meeting note: the quotation does not include upgrade to existing track, previously quoted at £660 + vat, December 2005).

LM

5171 Sandy Johnston and John Dodd would meet to look at the damaged fencing surrounding the play area.

SJ/JD

5172 It was reported that Barry Bulpitt had provide a quotation for repairs to the wooden slide. It was apparent that much of the structure is rotting and so the slide would need to be dismantled. It was estimated that the job would take approximately a week to complete and would cost in the region of £1000. Sandy Johnston would discuss with Barry whether modifications could be made to the metal structure, to provide a platform at the top of the slide. Barry's quote for improvements to the surface of the central concrete path would be considered by the Finance and General Purposes Committee. In the meantime, the Clerk would ask Barry for a price to tarmac the surface of the pathway. Grant funding would be investigated.

LM

(g) Football and cricket grounds

5173 The clubs are pleased with the mowing this season.

(h) Tennis courts

5174 Sandy Johnston confirmed that a laminated sign is due to be posted on the court gates. Tennis fees of £77 had been collected from the shop.

(i) Schools

5175 Nothing to report.

(j) Sherfield Park/Taylor's Farm

5176 The Chairman had not attended the most recent meeting of the Community Association. However, he reported that residents are against the inclusion of a northern distributor road and a local petition against the proposal has begun.

(k) Village Hall

5177 Nothing to report from the committee.

5178 To report unsuccessful POPPI grant application

Unfortunately, the Parish Council's application for a POPPI grant to assist with signage and lighting for the village hall had been unsuccessful. The Clerk was making enquiries with an alternative funding body.

LM

10. TO RECEIVE MONTHLY SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

5179 It was noted that the seat in the bus shelter in Goddards Lane had been broken. The Clerk would ask Barry Bulpitt to provide a quotation for its repair.

LM

5180 Twenty metal spikes had been located using metal detectors in the woodland and a verbal quote of £200 for their removal had been received from Barry Bulpitt. This would be given consideration at the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

FGPC

11. TO DISCUSS MEASURES TO PREVENT ACCESS TO THE VILLAGE GREEN BY TRAVELLERS

5181 Since the travellers had been evicted, Barry Bulpitt had placed a mound of soil on top of the piped ditch half-way along Bramley Road, and had dug a deeper ditch along the track by Holt Cottage, at a cost of £300. It was agreed that the Chairman and Richard Gaiger would meet with Barry to discuss other possible points of access to the green and how they might be blocked. Quotations could then be discussed at the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 22 May.

BB/RG

12. TO DISCUSS INSURANCE RENEWAL, ALLIANZ CORNHILL

5182 The renewal policy had been circulated and councillors were asked to review the document to ensure that all insurable items have been included and adequately covered. It was reported that a cheaper quotation had been received for a policy with Norwich Union (Came and Company brokers) as a result of negotiations by HAPTC on behalf of Hampshire Councils. However, the NU policy included a higher excess and did not include the No Claims bonus protection. It was agreed that the Allianz policy remained preferable as it offered a lower excess. However, the Clerk was asked to contact Allianz Cornhill to ask whether they could offer a reduced premium.

LM

13. TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM RESIDENT REGARDING REPAIR OF WALL, FALLEN BRANCH

5183 The resident had written to request the repair of his wall at the expense of the Parish Council, as the wall had been damaged by a branch from a tree on the village green. The Chairman agreed to seek legal advice on the suggestion of asking a local contractor to make the repairs.

BB

14. TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM CHINEHAM PARISH COUNCIL SEEKING VIEWS ON POSSIBLE ALLOTMENT SITE WITHIN SHERFIELD PARISH BOUNDARY

5184 Chineham Parish Council had identified an area to the north of the Taylor's Farm development as a possible site for allotments and wished to know whether in principle this would be acceptable. None of the members felt that this would be acceptable. The Clerk would reply and would also advise that plots within Sherfield allotments are available to anyone, although there is currently a waiting list.

LM

15. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON CENTENARY PAVILION

5185 The Conservation Officer had indicated that more information on the modular pavilion was needed but considered it unlikely to be acceptable if the roofing material and walls are very different to the original design. Thurston Building will be constructing a pavilion at Greenham Common next month. The sales representative had indicated that he would be willing to meet with parish councillors to discuss any queries and to show material samples. It was important to note that the traditional brick-built pavilion would last considerably longer than a pre-fab structure. It was also thought that not all expenses had been included within Thurston's quote.

The sales representative would be invited to the Leisure Facilities meeting when these questions can be addressed and parish councillors could also be told when they may visit the Greenham Common pavilion.

LM

16. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS

5186 To receive response from Hampshire Highways regarding traffic calming improvements, village road signs and temporary road works

In reply to the Parish Council's letter, the Highway's Manager had suggested a meeting with his engineer to discuss the traffic calming unit at the junction with Goddards Lane. He also reported that the corners of the pinch points in Bramley Road are to be reconstructed this year and white lines repainted. A No Right Turn sign has been ordered to prevent southbound traffic on the A33 from turning into the sliproad. Two replacement village signs are to be ordered shortly. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the engineer.

LM

5187 It was reported that a road traffic accident had occurred along Goddards Lane, when a driver coming from the Court Farm turning failed to stop and give way at the T junction. The Clerk was asked to contact the Highway Authority to request road markings at the junction. Additionally, a request would be made for a "Concealed Entrance" warning sign to be installed close to Rectory Gardens/Wildmoor Villas, for the benefit of traffic entering the village from the roundabout.

LM

5188 To discuss access, footpath 20

The Rights of Way Officer had been advised of fencing posts extending across the end of footpath 30 but he had replied asking the Parish Council to approach the owner. The Chairman offered to look at the posts and speak with Marilyn Tucker.

BB

5189 To receive update on surface improvements; Greenway and Wheelers Court

It was reported that Dave Miller was not prepared to provide a detailed quotation for major works to Greenway until the Parish Council is in a position to go ahead with the work. A cost of around £40,000 could be expected for tarmacing the track from the entrance in Goddards Lane to Jubilee Cottage. It was agreed that a second meeting with Greenway residents should be organised.

LM

The Chairman reported receiving emails from a resident within Wheelers Court concerned that the Parish Council had not budgeted for repair of the drive. However, the Chairman had explained that the condition of the drive had only just been brought to the council's attention and so the council would arrange for repairs at the earliest opportunity, depending on funds. Richard Gaiger reported that he had spoken to John Rickwood who would provide material for pothole repair as soon as possible.

17. TO FINALISE ANNUAL REPORT TO APM

5190 Two additions were made to the report, which would be presented at next week's meeting.

LM

18. TO RECEIVE FINANCE REPORT, BUDGET REPORT FOR 06/7 AND DRAFT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 06/7

5191 Members were asked to review the draft accounts, which would be presented for approval at the next meeting. The budget report for 2006/7 had also been circulated, together with a document showing the bank reconciliation and payments for the month:

All

2006/2007	HSBC A/C	Bank of Ireland Deposit A/C	Consols	Grand Total	Uncleared cheques (HSBC)	Uncleared receipts (HSBC)
Bal B/F from Mar	2,718.59	24,813.12	24.17	27,555.88	1,530.92	
Credits Apr	19,582.63	102.19	0.00	19,684.82		
Debits Apr	2,715.74	0.00	0.00	2,715.74		
Balance C/F	19,585.48	24,915.31	24.17	44,524.96	21,116.40	

HSBC Bank Statement at 30 April 2007 = £21,116.40

Approval of payments:

£12.00	LGIU Guide to Planning for Parish Councils
£31.83	Petty cash - padlock + keys (car park), paper, stamps
£745.68	Clerk salary
£131.32	Litter Warden
£233.82	Inland Revenue

Payments made – in budget/previously agreed:

£26.13	Sherfield Village Hall, room bookings first qtr
£36.34	Bulpitt Brothers, sport pitch cutting
£105.00	SLCC (£98 in budget)
£273.00	HAPTC
£975.25	Mulberry Tree Services, inc vat - removal 2 oaks, pollarding 2 willows
£20.00	Hampshire Playing Fields Association
£54.34	Bulpitt Brothers, sport pitch cutting

Payments unanimously approved. Recommendation to transfer £12,000 to Bank of Ireland Account unanimously agreed.

LM

19. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON BURIAL GROUND

5192 The planning application had been approved, but the Environment Agency recommended a formal risk assessment of the ground due to its close proximity to the land drain. The Clerk would contact Cemetery Development Services to find out how much the investigation is likely to cost.

LM

20. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

5193

- To receive the Standards Board for England recommendations on implementation of the new Code of Conduct
- Emergency works – horse chestnut trees
- Outcome of discussions regarding allotment access/safety

LM

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

5194 Liddell Hall, Wednesday 13 June 2007, 19.30 hrs. Meeting closed 21.30 hrs.