

## MINUTES

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### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER AT 7.30PM IN THE LIDDELL HALL

**PRESENT:** Ivan Gosden (Chairman); Alan Ball; Bruce Batting; Ken Clark; Sally Hennessey; Sandy Johnston; David Leivesley; Loraine Smith.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Julie Collins (Clerk); Borough Councillor Ranil Jayawardena; one member of the public.

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from: Bruce Jones; Borough Councillor Rhydian Vaughan.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2010 were confirmed as a true record of the business that took place and were signed by the chairman.

**4 MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER**

The Neighbourhood Watch report for September was tabled and noted. Sandy Johnston reported on a meeting of the Community Safety Forum at which the police reported they would be operating a zero tolerance policy, particularly with regard to travellers.

**5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

One member of the public was in attendance who confirmed that he is interested in filling the parish councillor vacancy.

Councillor Jayawardena reported as follows:

- i) A discussion evening will take place on 25 October with the Chief Constable and Borough Councillors;
- ii) The Borough Council is currently looking at ways of protecting its front line services in view of cuts in funding from central government. Feedback is welcome;
- iii) There may be more funding available for grit bins as the publication of sites by the County Council represents the first phase.

**6 LAND BEHIND WHEELERS COURT**

Members received a response from Berkeley Homes concerning the Council's request for maintenance of a land locked piece of land behind Wheelers Court. As this land poses no threat or danger to neighbouring properties, Berkeley Homes do not intend to commence maintenance. Although members were disappointed with the negative tone of the response, it was agreed that no further action can be taken.

**7 BT RED PAYPHONE KIOSK AT CHURCH END**

In view of the possible high maintenance costs associated with the adoption of red phone kiosks, it was **resolved** not to adopt the kiosk at Church End.

**8 GRIT BINS**

A letter from Hampshire County Council was tabled detailing the sites which have been identified for grit bins as follows:

- Bow Drive at the junction with Bullsdown Close;
- The Village Hall

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- Bus Shelter, Goddards Lane
- Bow Grove as it joins Bramley Road

Three of the sites put forward by the Parish Council were rejected: Wildmoor Lane, The White Hart and Goddards Close. Clerk advised that a letter had been received from a resident of Goddards Close requesting a bin in view of the number of elderly residents in that area. It was **resolved** that this letter should be copied to the County Council with a repeat request for a grit bin.

### 9 TREE WARDEN

Clerk reported that the Tree Warden, Geraldine House-Barklie, had resigned owing to a move out of the area. It was **resolved** to advertise for a new warden in the Loddon Valley Link and on the website. Bruce Batting agreed to speak to the Tree Officer at the Borough Council to enable members to define the role in more detail and apply it to the parish.

BB

### 10 REQUEST FOR CROCUS PLANTING

Members considered a request from the Sherfield and Loddon Schools for permission to carry out a crocus planting exercise in the Parish as part of the “Focus on the Crocus” campaign being undertaken by the Rotary Club to eradicate polio. It was **resolved** to support and permit the planting around the war memorial. Sandy Johnson to liaise with the schools.

SJ

### 11 INVITATIONS TO EXTERNAL EVENTS

The following invitations and actions were agreed

- AGM of Hampshire Association of Local Councils on 23 October – no attendees
- Meeting with the Chief Constable on 25 October – Sandy Johnston to attend
- Stakeholder consultation event for the Basingstoke Town Access Plan on 4 November – no attendees although Sandy Johnston advised that he would be attending as a representative of the Disability Forum
- Parish Seminar entitled “Enhance your Parish Setting” on 10 November – David Leivesley to attend

SJ

DL

### 12 CONSULTATION RESPONSES

It was **resolved** not to submit a response to the following consultation document:

- Strategic Plan for Sport and Recreation (Borough Council document), although Sandy Johnston agreed to examine the document.

SJ

### 13 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Clerk reported that there had been no requests for an election and members may, therefore, fill the vacancy by co-option. Three parishioners had expressed an interest. The Chairman outlined the procedure to be followed including the necessity for those putting themselves forward for selection to ensure that they have a proposer and seconder for their nominations.

### 14 FOOTBALL PAVILION

The chairman advised members that the football pavilion had been broken in to two weeks previously and a quantity of copper had been stolen. Some debate ensued on the future of the pavilion and the need for refurbishment. An application for funding to Sport England had been unsuccessful earlier in the year and, given that any future application is also unlikely to satisfy the criteria for funding, it was agreed not to pursue this. It was **resolved** to put the following proposal to the football club:

- i) the Parish Council will provide 50% funding for the cost of the repairs attributable to the recent break-in to a maximum of £500 upon production of an invoice for the works, **provided that**

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- (ii) The club formulates a refurbishment plan for the building at its own expense which is acceptable to the Parish Council. This plan should contain details of the proposed works and a timescale for completion.

Upon satisfactory completion of the above, the Parish Council undertakes to allow the purchase of the building by the club for a nominal sum.

### 15 LODDON LINK

The following items were approved for inclusion in the next Loddon Link article;

- Update on the Trim Trail
- Details of the crocus planting
- Resignation of Tree Warden and request for replacement volunteer
- Details of grit bin locations
- Reminder of Remembrance Day service
- Details of pond treatment

### 16 SAFETY REPORT

The monthly safety report was tabled – no action required.

### 17 FINANCE REPORT

It was **resolved** to accept the following report:

#### **Bank Accounts Summary at 30 September 2010**

<b>Financial year ending 31 March 2011</b>	<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>HSBC Current A/C</b>	<b>HSBC Deposit A/C</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Balance b/f from Aug	50.00	4625.48	34039.81	38715.29
Income – credits received		32362.25	1.35	32363.60
Expenditure – cheques presented, bank transfers & petty cash payments	42.30	6477.45	7000.00	13519.75
Balance c/f to Oct	7.70	30510.28	27041.16	57559.14

#### **Approval for Payments due in October**

<b>Payee/description</b>	<b>Cheque no</b>	<b>Amount</b>
		£
Clerk's salary	101281	1050.80
Litter Warden's salary	101282	139.29
HM Revenue & Customs - tax & NI	101283	344.94
Hampshire County Council – pension contributions	101284	330.92
A H Johnston – reimbursement for padlocks	101286	45.98
Audit Commission – audit fee	101287	470.00
Country Watch* - membership fee	101288	50.00
J Collins – Reimbursement for office supplies (£67.56 – stationery; £76.10 – ink cartridges; £127.99 – new phone line)	101289	271.65
Petty cash top-up	101290	40.00
Bulpitt Brothers – grass cutting to cricket & football pitches	101291	160.00
TB Estate Services Ltd – seeding of burial ground	101292	1585.08
<b>Total</b>		<b>4488.66</b>

\*Approved under S137

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It was **resolved** to accept the following tenders:

Bulpitt Bros – to cut and tidy hedge & flower beds in car park	£350.00
Maplewood Ltd – to treat Golden Pond for crassula helmsii	£350.00

Clerk to clarify the two tenders received for clearance of the area next to the war memorial in view of the large variation.

### 18 BUDGET REPORT

The budget report for quarter 2 was tabled and noted. Clerk agreed to make amendments to the format of future reports to provide more information.

### 19 TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

- (a) Planning Committee – minutes of the meeting of 8 September had been circulated and were noted;
- (b) Leisure Committee – minutes of the meeting of 15 September tabled and ratified;
- (c) Finance and General Purposes Committee – minutes of the meeting of 15 September tabled and ratified;
- (d) Village Fete Committee – minutes of the meeting of 7 September tabled and ratified;
- (e) Village Hall Management Committee – no meeting;
- (f) Village Green – nothing to report;
- (g) Allotments – the annual allotment meeting had taken place;
- (h) Play areas and BMX track – Sandy Johnson reported that the replacement sleepers had not been installed yet. Clerk to follow up repairs to the safety surfacing.
- (i) Football and cricket grounds – the mole treatment has been completed;
- (j) Tennis courts – it was agreed to review charges for hire at the next meeting.
- (k) Schools – no report;
- (l) Sherfield Park Community Association – David Leivesley reported that a positive meeting had taken place with David Wilson Homes concerning new development. The problem of contractors' lorries operating at unsocial hours would be addressed and improved. A response on the football management is expected next week.

### 17 STAFF MATTERS

It was **resolved** that, owing to the nature of the business to be discussed viz matters relating to the pay and conditions of staff, the public and press should be excluded. Members approved the contract of employment, based on the National Joint Council model document, of the clerk.

### 6 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 10 November 2010 at 7.30pm in the Liddell Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.