

MINUTES

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2011 AT 7.40 PM IN THE SHERFIELD PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE

PRESENT: Ivan Gosden (Chairman); Alan Ball; Bruce Batting; Ken Clark; John Darker; Sally Hennessey; Sandy Johnston; Bruce Jones; David Leivesley

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Julie Collins (Clerk); also Borough Councillor Ranil Jayawardena

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from: Loraine Smith; also County Councillor Keith Chapman; Borough Councillor Rhydian Vaughan; WPC Mandy Jewell.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2011 were confirmed as a true record of the business that took place and signed by the chairman.

4 MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER

The Neighbourhood Watch report for November was tabled and noted. Sandy Johnston reported on his attendance at the Beat Panel meeting.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Jayawardena reported on Borough Council issues including the difficulty being faced in trying to maintain services within the budget. He confirmed that there will be no change to the parish grant.

6 VILLAGE POST OFFICE

There has been no change to the situation concerning the post office in that the existing shop is still for sale. Several people had responded to the article in the Loddon Link asking for volunteers in the event that the Post Office will be unable to continue on its current site and will need to move to another location in the village.

7 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT (VDS)

As there has been no response from the Loddon Link article asking for volunteers to take part in the preparation of a VDS, this cannot proceed. It was agreed that a Neighbourhood Development Plan may be a better option but, as this is a new initiative included in the Localism Bill, there are currently no guidelines on production. It was agreed to review this again next year when more details should be available. John Darker volunteered to draft out some initial thoughts.

8 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

The chairman reported that one response had been received from another parish council on its experiences with the Community Speedwatch Initiative. This was negative and reported difficulty in recruiting volunteers owing to the registration process and need to learn how to operate equipment. It was agreed to re-visit this in February when more feedback may be available from other local parish councils who may take part in the initiative.

JD

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9 SAVE OUR LODDON VALLEY ENVIRONMENT (SOLVE)

John Darker reported on his attendance at a meeting of SOLVE held to discuss the site selection procedure of the Local Development Framework and its implications for the east of Basingstoke. SOLVE is seeking to protect the Loddon Valley from development and is seeking a judicial review of the Borough Council's selection process which will cost c£35,000. Countrywatch has asked if the parish council would be agreeable to allowing all or part of the £6,000 already donated to support a judicial review and if it would consider raising an additional £1 per head of electorate for ongoing support. It was agreed that both these matters should be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

10 MAYOR'S RECEPTION FOR PARISHES

John Darker reported on his attendance at a workshop on the LDF core strategy and neighbourhood planning held as part of the Mayor's reception for parishes. As a result of this, it was agreed that the parish council needs to form a view on the proposals of the core strategy as they affect Sherfield-on-Loddon but that more information is required. It was agreed to hold an informal meeting in mid-January to establish facts and to invite one or both of the Ward councillors. Clerk to arrange.

11 INCIDENT IN BRAMLEY ROAD CAR PARK

Members noted a report from a user of the village hall who had tripped and fallen in a pothole in the Bramley Road car park. Bruce Batting agreed to speak to the local Highway Engineer to see if a repair can be made.

BB

12 QUEEN ELIZABETH II JUBILEE FIELDS

The chairman reported that Alison Moore-Gwyn from the Fields in Trust had contacted the agents for the village green to see if they would be agreeable to the green being nominated as a Queen Elizabeth II Field but no response has been received. Ms Moore-Gwyn suggested that the parish council should write to Smith Gore but it was **resolved** not to proceed with the application

13 MARKETING OF NEW BURIAL GROUND

It was agreed that ways of marketing the new burial ground should be investigated by the Leisure Committee.

14 MONTHLY SAFETY REPORT

There were no items raised for attention on the safety report.

15 FINANCE REPORT

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

Sherfield-on-Loddon Bank Accounts Summary at 30 November 2011

Financial year ending 31 March 2012	Petty Cash £	HSBC Current A/C £	HSBC Deposit A/C £	Total £
Balance b/f from October	3.99	4863.63	74019.80	78887.42
Income – credits received	Nil	4610.45	3.36	4613.81
Expenditure – cheques presented, bank transfers & petty cash payments	Nil	7853.11	2500.00	10353.11
Balance c/f to December	3.99	1620.97	71523.16	73148.12

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Approval for Payments due in December

Payee/description	Cheque no	Amount £
Clerk's salary –December	e-payment	1073.28
Litter Warden's salary – December	e-payment	139.09
HM Revenue & Customs - tax & NI	e-payment	316.73
Hampshire Pension Fund – pension contributions	101462	330.92
J Collins – mileage claim , reimbursements for stationery, phone charges & postage	e-payment	87.42
P Elliott – work to trees at the rear of the war memorial	e-payment	380.00
Hampshire Association of Local Councils – course fee	e-payment	24.00
Country Watch – membership fee (i)	101463	50.00
Petty cash top-up	101464	20.00
Bulpitt Brothers – grounds maintenance	101465	670.00
P Elliott – work to willow tree on the green	e-payment	90.00

(i) – approved under S.137 powers

16 PARISH PRECEPT

It was **resolved** to request a precept of £55,000 for 2012/13 in pursuance of the Finance and General Purposes Committee's recommendation and to apply for payment of the limited general grant of £1,100. The application forms were duly signed by the chairman, two councillors and clerk.

17 TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

- (a) Planning Committee – minutes of the meeting held on 9 November had been circulated and were noted;
- (b) Leisure Committee – minutes of the meeting held on 16 November tabled and ratified;
- (c) Finance and General Purposes Committee - minutes of the meeting held on 16 November tabled and ratified;
- (d) Village Hall Management Committee – no matters to report;
- (e) Village Green – Bruce Batting thanked all those who had assisted with the planting of the Hedgerow Harvest.
- (f) Allotments – a recent consultation had been undertaken with plot holders on the request from another tenant for permission to keep a beehive on his plot. This had resulted in mainly positive responses with only one tenant expressing concerns in view of her allergy to stings;
- (g) Play area, BMX track and tennis courts – no matters to report;
- (h) Football and cricket grounds – the chairman reported that the football pavilion had been broken into again and a quantity of copper stolen although the club had not officially notified the parish council. It was agreed that the clerk should write to the secretary to request that the building is secured at all times;
- (i) Sherfield Park Community Association – David Leivesley reported that the community centre has now been open for six months and has exceeded its business plan;
- (g) Diamond Jubilee Working Party – minutes of the meeting held on 23 November tabled and ratified;
- (h) Chineham Incinerator Liaison Panel – Bruce Batting reported on his attendance at the meeting held on 21 November (minutes circulated to members).

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 11 January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Liddell Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm.