

MINUTES OF SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL AT 19.30 HOURS ON WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2006.

Present

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

In attendance

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4585 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Marilyn Tucker, WPC Jewell and Chris Horton.

On behalf of the members, the Chairman thanked Tracy Lander-Sims for organizing the annual dinner, held last week.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4586 Ivan Gosden declared a personal interest in agenda item 5(e). Tracy Lander-Sims declared a personal interest in agenda item 5(f).

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2006

4587 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

4588 The Neighbourhood Watch report for January had been circulated.

Sandy Johnston advised that he had nothing further to report from the BDAPTC minutes, but had noted from the local media that Community Speed Watch is being introduced in the Guildford area. It was agreed that information about the scheme should appear in the Loddon Valley Link to find out whether residents are interested in becoming involved with a scheme in the village. It was noted that speed checks had been carried out by the police last week.

OPEN FORUM

The meeting was temporarily adjourned.

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Planning Committee

4589 There had been no meeting since the last Parish Council meeting. It was agreed that a meeting would be held next Thursday, 16 February, at 8pm.

(b) Leisure Facilities Committee

4590 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24 January had been circulated. It was noted that the two football clubs would have an informal meeting next week to discuss ground fees, etc, and Bruce Batting and Sandy Johnston offered to attend.

ACTION

SJ

LM

(c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

4591 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24 January had been circulated.

4592 Waste area allotments: Three quotations had been considered. It was proposed by Tracy Lander-Sims that the quotation from Joe Bate of £1,247.86 be accepted, seconded Loraine Smith, agreed. It was agreed that concrete sleepers could be used as an alternative to wood, and soil could be deposited around the enclosure and seeded. The Clerk had forwarded the original quotations to Brian Saunders at BDBC seeking grant aid, and a reply is awaited.

LM

4593 Pest control: It was proposed by Bruce Batting to accept the quotation from Joe Bate of £221.78 for pellet treatment, seconded Ken Clark, agreed.

LM

4594 War Memorial Planting: A quotation had been received from Will Cole for £575. The other quote of £413 from Mark Stewart was accepted, proposed Tracy Lander-Sims, seconded Ken Clark, agreed.

LM

4595 Section 106 money for community room: The Chairman reported that recent payments made to utility companies and the mechanical and electrical engineers meant that total expenditure on the pavilion to date was £6,678; therefore a further £620 needed to be spent before 31 March, in order to utilize fully the S106 money available.

BB

(d) Village Green Committee

4596 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 March.

Councillors were reminded that an area of the green was to have had cuttings removed last year, but the decision had been taken too late in the year for the grass to be cut. Alison Cross of the Loddon and Eversley Heritage Area Project had contacted the Clerk to advise that the job could now be carried out. However, Councillors felt that the area should be left until later in the year and the matter would be reviewed in April or May.

LM

(e) Burial Ground Working Party This item was deferred to the end of the meeting.

(f) Allotments

4597 To consider necessity of installing WC: Councillors agreed that the Allotments Officer at the Borough Council should be asked whether it is usual for councils to install a WC for their tenants.

LM

4598 To report complaint of fir trees overshadowing allotment plots: It was noted that fir trees adjoining the allotment gardens had grown to such a height as to cast a shadow over plots during part of the day. The Chairman agreed to speak to the owners of the property to ask if they would make arrangements to reduce the height of the trees.

BB

4599 To discuss electrified fencing, allotment plot 3: It was reported that the Parish Clerk had written to the tenant on 9 January, seeking a copy of the insurance policy as agreed at the end of last year. However, no response had been received and extra barriers and signage had still not been erected. The fence had been switched on in recent weeks. It was agreed that a further letter would be sent explaining that the tenancy would have to be terminated, unless a copy of the policy is produced.

LM

(g) Play Area

4600 To discuss weekly written inspection of play area: A document had been circulated, highlighting the need to produce written documentation of weekly inspections. Sandy Johnston confirmed that he did inspect the play area each week and would be happy to complete a pro-forma each time. The Chairman said that it would be prudent for the task to be carried out by other Councillors and Clerk from time to time. It was noted that the annual inspection by the Borough Council would be carried out next month.

SJ

LM

(h) Tennis Courts

4601 Nothing to report.

(i) Schools

4602 It was noted that Sherfield School would be applying for a licence to allow wedding ceremonies on the premises. It was suggested that the waiting zone for cars turning into the southern entrance of Sherfield School should be widened. The Chairman agreed to discuss this with the Assistant Chief Highway Engineer, Peter Eade.

BB

(j) Village Hall

4603 The Barn Dance had been successful; further news regarding repairs to the car park is awaited; future events include a hog roast and a beer festival; the Village Hall Management Committee would be meeting again next Wednesday.

6. TO RECEIVE SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

4604 The Litter Warden had produced a report for consideration. The loose mesh on the viewing platform by Jubilee Pond had since been fixed into place. The broken bench behind the village hall is due to be replaced within the next few weeks by Ben Stoopman, as agreed at the last meeting. A list of the litter bins with broken or missing liners had been sent to the Borough Council, who would arrange for repair/replacement. The subject of potholes along Greenway would be discussed under the next agenda item.

7. TO DISCUSS LETTER FROM RESIDENT REGARDING CONDITION OF GREENWAY

4605 A letter from a resident complaining of the potholes along Greenway had been circulated to Councillors. It was thought that the Parish Council was responsible for the section of the unmade road north of Jubilee Cottage, although this had always been unclear as different plans of the Green showed different boundaries. It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain a definitive answer. It was noted that a small section of ditch had been filled without permission in order to enlarge a parking area at the side of Greenway; this would need to be opened again.

LM

8. TO DISCUSS POSITION OF WALL OF CAR PARK, MILL CLOSE

4606 Due to the confidential nature of this item, it was unanimously agreed that the matter should be discussed in camera.

BB

9. TO DISCUSS IDEAS FOR CALOR COMPETITION

4607 The Clerk tabled ideas for the Calor 10th Anniversary Competition and Councillors were requested to submit comments in advance of the next PC meeting, as the closing date for applications is 17 March. The date of the judges' visit would be known by the end of February.

All

10. TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM BOUNDARY COMMITTEE IN RESPONSE TO SUBMISSION

4608 The Boundary Committee had written giving respondents an opportunity to provide evidence to support their choices by 28 February, as part of the review of ward boundaries. It was noted that Sherfield Parish Council and the Borough Council had made different selections for restructuring. The Chairman would contact Bramley Parish Council to find out whether they had submitted a response to the Boundary Committee.

BB

11. TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM HAPTC RE; BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY

4609 Parish Councils were being asked to nominate their Chairmen to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party. It was unanimously agreed that Bruce Batting should be nominated.

LM

12. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON "MANSERS LAND"

4610 It was reported that a Local Search had been conducted and a report would be sent to the Chairman and Clerk shortly. Exchange of contracts is expected by the end of February.

LM/BB

13. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON CENTENARY PAVILION

4611 This had been discussed under minute 4595. The Chairman also reported that HSE will require an asbestos survey to be carried out before the existing pavilion can be demolished, and a quotation is awaited. The Chairman would meet with the project manager this Friday.

BB

14. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS

4612 To consider safety of pinch-points, Bramley Road, Sherfield: Sandy Johnston expressed concern at the number of occasions where drivers clip the projected kerb stones, resulting in flat tyres. In Bramley, the wooden posts which accentuate the traffic calming units, are set further out; in Sherfield, the posts are further away from the edge of the extended kerb line. He agreed to find out whether Bramley Parish Council has a similar problem with cars hitting the pinch-points. In the meantime, it was agreed that Hampshire County Council should be advised of the problem and asked whether the posts should be re-positioned.

SJ
BB/LM

It was noted that branches of trees growing by Orchard Lea are obstructing the view of drivers joining Goddards Lane from the farm lane. The Chairman would contact the Highway Authority.

BB

15. TO RECEIVE FINANCE REPORT

4613 The balances of all accounts at 31 January 2006 are shown in the table below:

2005/2006	HSBC A/C	Bank of Ireland Deposit A/C	Consols	Grand Total
Bal B/F from Q3, 2005/6	16,030.93	20,000.00	24.17	36,055.10
Income Jan	1,227.66	0.00	0.00	1,227.66
Outgoing Jan	1,703.77	0.00	0.00	1,703.77
Balance C/F	15,554.82	20,000.00	24.17	35,578.99

Uncleared cheques: £970.54

HSBC Bank Statement at 31 January 2006: £16,525.36

Approval of Payments

£732.36	Clerk salary
£113.18	Litter Warden
£233.38	Inland Revenue
£30.00	HAPTC Clerks Conference 2006, 8 March, Sparsholt College
£35.00	HAPTC day course "Risk Assessments, Too risky Not To ...", 27 March, Botley
£221.78	ProPest Control
£125.00	Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Local Search Fee (paid)
£1,927.00	RHB Partnership (inc. £287 vat) (paid)
£1,507.53	SE Power Distribution (inc. £244.53 vat) (paid)
£1,740.45	SE Water Ltd (inc. £259.22 vat) (paid)
£2,302.26	Fulcrum Connections Ltd (inc. £342.89 vat) (paid)
£16.00	Land registry

Payments approved, proposed by Ivan Gosden, seconded by Tracy Lander-Sims, agreed.

16. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

4614 Items to Clerk by Thursday 2 March.

LM

17. TO AGREE DATE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

4615 Wednesday 17 May; Clerk to confirm availability of the Main Hall (Following the meeting, it transpired that the Hall is already booked on this date. However, Councillors agreed that the Meeting could be held on **Tuesday 9 May**, when the Hall will be available.)

LM

Agenda Item 5(e) Report from the meeting of the Burial Ground Working Party

4616 Ivan Gosden withdrew from the meeting and the deferred item was raised. After discussion, it was proposed that the District Valuer would be asked to value the plot of land on offer adjacent to the existing burial ground, and costs incurred would be taken from the Burial Ground reserve – proposed Ken Clark, seconded Loraine Smith, unanimously agreed.

BB/LM

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

4617 Wednesday 8 March, 7.30 pm. Meeting closed 21.30 hours.