

MINUTES OF SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2004

Present

Bruce Batting (Chairman)
John Dodd (Vice Chairman)
Richard Gaiger
Ivan Gosden (Vice Chairman)
Sandy Johnston
Tracy Lander-Sims
Harry Moore

In attendance

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)

Five members of the public were present during the meeting, including press.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3943 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gardiner and Tucker.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3944 None. Regarding a recently circulated update from the Monitoring Officer, the Clerk would clarify whether Councillors must declare even small charitable donations for the Register of Interests.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2004

3945 The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true record of the proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

4. TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER

3946 Item 13 of the agenda was discussed. Bruce Batting, Harry Moore and Lucy Marshall had attended a recent workshop at the Council offices on Community Safety. It was reported that an audit is being carried out and all parishes would be consulted later in the year. It was felt that the Community Safety Forum should have parish council representation and it was agreed that the Parish Council would write to Gordon Holdcroft, Chief Executive and Chair of the Forum. The Clerk reported on the work of Youth Options based in Winchester, an organisation which could assist with surveying the needs of young people within the village.

5. TO AGREE DATE FOR 2004 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

3947 It was agreed that, if the Village Hall is available, the Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 8 pm on Friday 21 May. All were in favour of the suggestion of asking Inspector Gatehouse to make a short presentation at the meeting.

6. TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS TO BE ELECTED FROM 10 TO 8 AND TO RECEIVE NOMINATION PAPERS FOR THE 2004 LOCAL ELECTIONS

3948 Nomination forms and papers were tabled. The Chairman reported that he had had further discussions with the Electoral Services Department at BDBC who had agreed to allow the Parish Council to apply to have the number of seats reduced from 10 (6 Sherfield Ward, 4 Taylors Farm Ward) to 8 (5 Sherfield Ward, 3 Taylors Farm Ward). The Chairman reminded the Council of the need to fill the seats by election in order to achieve one of the requirements for the Quality Parish Status. If this is not achieved, the Parish

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Council will need to wait another four years before being able to apply for QPS. However, none of the Councillors wished to make such a proposal, thus the 2004 election will be for 10 Councillors.

7. TO DISCUSS CAR PARKING ALONG BRAMLEY ROAD

3949 A letter from a resident had previously been circulated. There had been no further complaints of bad parking along the Bramley Road and no further action was necessary.

8. TO DISCUSS BLOCKED DRAIN BEHIND DODDS GARAGE

3950 John Dodd reported that a drain which for many years had overflowed during heavy rain, had recently been rodded and given a replacement manhole cover by the Borough Council. He agreed to report back to the Parish Council if the drain floods again.

JD

9. TO DISCUSS CLOSURE OF VISITING SURGERY

3951 The Chairman reported that Brambllys Grange Health Centre had withdrawn its visiting surgery service to the village. The centre manager claimed that the visits were chiefly to provide repeat prescriptions. They had confirmed that GPs would continue to make house calls if patients were ill and unable to come to the surgery. Also, Chineham and Bramley GP practices had agreed to taking on patients who had previously used the visiting service. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should ask the centre to reconsider the decision to remove the service and the Chairman agreed to write to the practice manager.

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10. TO RECEIVE REPORT ON HAPTC SEMINAR ON QUALITY PARISH STATUS

3952 Sandy Johnston reported on the seminar held in February. It appeared that without Quality Status, parishes would be discriminated against when making grant applications and when commenting on planning applications. He explained that the major hurdle for many parishes was the need for the Clerk to submit a portfolio, which could take 40 to 60 hours to complete. The Clerk explained that she did not expect to be able to begin work on the AQA for at least another year due to family commitments, and this was accepted by the Parish Council.

11. TO RECEIVE REPORT ON CHINEHAM INCINERATOR MEETING

3953 The Chairman had attended a meeting on 1 March. The meeting had considered how to address the problem of glare and noise. The plant would be closed from 14 March for two and a half weeks for maintenance. Onyx had reassured the meeting that there had been no "black" smoke, which people claimed to have seen emitting from the stack in January and February. CCTV footage had been viewed and the company concluded that with the sun behind it, the smoke has a darker appearance. Regular monitoring shows that emissions are within recommended limits. The Environment Agency will be carrying out tests on the chimney but the access platform is currently not big enough for the testing equipment. Wellingtonia trees are to be planted to help screen the view of the incinerator from Chineham.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORT ON THE PARISH LIAISON COMMITTEE

3954 The Chairman and Clerk had attended the meeting and reported as follows:
Local Plan - There will be a Public Inquiry in October 2004.
Spatial Strategy for South East - Workshops will take place during April and May.
Planning Training - The Borough Council will be setting up training sessions for Councillors on planning and development control, dates to be agreed following 10 June elections. In the meantime, planning officers are willing to attend and give advice to Parishes' Planning Committee Meetings.
Affordable Housing - A survey had been completed and indicated that Sherfield-on-

Loddon requires between 45 and 85 low cost dwellings (this does not take into account affordable housing available in Sherfield Park). Parishes can conduct their own surveys. A new Rural Housing Enabler has been appointed, who can be contacted for advice about suitable exception sites, grants, etc.

13. TO RECEIVE REPORT ON COMMUNITY SAFETY

3955 This had been discussed under item 4.

14. TO RECEIVE REPORT ON THE MEETING OF THE FOOTBALL PAVILION STEERING GROUP HELD 8 MARCH

3956 The committee had considered the site and were agreed that the pavilion would be placed behind the car park, thus taking up no car parking spaces. The existing building would be demolished, providing extra parking. The committee had discussed the opening of the new building and it had been suggested that Peter Raynbird and possibly other well-known footballers would be invited.

The Chairman provided a site plan and floor plans for the Parish Council to consider. The plan included an office for the police, facing the football field. A blank, gable wall would face the Bramley Road, where the noticeboard would be sited. Landscaping to soften the appearance of the building would need to be approved by the Borough Council. Section 106 money is to be released in May, from the Wessex House and Longbridge Close developments and Ian Harris at the Borough Council had indicated to the Chairman that the Parish Council could choose to spend some of the funds on landscaping. The final decision on how to spend S.106 money would be given to the new Parish Council after 10 June.

Copies of the plans would be included in the Loddon Valley Link, the noticeboard and the website.

LM/BB

15. TO REPORT PROGRESS ON THE PRODUCTION OF A PARISH FOOTPATH MAP

3957 Sandy Johnston reported that a draft map would be available soon. It seemed that Croudace had produced its own welcome pack and Sherfield Village Hall had contributed to the document.

The Borough Council had been asked to consider installing a footpath between St Leonard's Church and Sherfield Park, under the Pedestrian Access Improvement Grant. A response is expected in mid-April.

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16. TO CONSIDER LOGO FOR PARISH COUNCIL

3958 Two designs had been circulated, one of the millennium stone, the other of the Breach Lane sculpture. The Breach Lane design was favoured by the Parish Council, and its adoption as the PC logo, with a slight amendment, was proposed by Ivan Gosden, seconded by Richard Gaiger and agreed by Council. The Clerk would try to make contact with the designers of the sculpture to confirm that they had no objection to its use as a logo.

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17. TO DISCUSS HOW TO PROGRESS THE PARISH PLAN

3959 It was agreed that no further action would be taken until the new Council is formed after 10 June.

18. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF BDBC ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION GRANT

3960 Details of a grant had been circulated. Closing date for applications 14 May. It was agreed that all project ideas would be considered at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee on 27 April.

FGPCtte

19. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF 4 GRANTS, REQUESTED BY FGPC

3961 It was agreed that these would be considered by the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

FGPCtte

20. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ASSISTANCE

3962 The Parish Council did not wish to take up the offer of Community Service work in the village. The subject of overgrown hedging in Goddards Close was discussed although it was felt that this was not a project for Community Service assistance. However, Bruce Batting agreed to make enquiries about the contractors who were cutting vegetation along the A33.

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21. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF BDBC NEW APPROACH TO TRAFFIC CALMING

3963 Response to document by 26 March. Harry Moore and Bruce Batting agreed to consider the document outside committee, and would report back to the Parish Council at its next meeting.

HM/BB
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22. TO RECEIVE INVITATION FROM RAIL PASSENGERS COMMITTEE TO ATTEND PUBLIC MEETING, 30 MARCH

3964 It was suggested that a villager who regularly commutes to London will be asked if he wishes to attend the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

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23. TO RECEIVE REQUEST TO SUPPORT/HOST MUSEUMS ROADSHOW FOR RURAL AREAS

3965 This was felt to be a worthy exercise but it was unclear whether the stand would be permanently fixed for display during the one to two week period. The Clerk would seek clarification from the Hampshire Museums Trust.

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24. TO REPORT BDBC INCREASE TO PARISH GRANT 2004 FROM £500 TO £1000

3966 It was reported that the Borough Council is offering to increase its annual parish grant from £500 to £1000 with effect from April 2004. The Parish Council agreed to apply for the increased grant.

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OPEN FORUM

Meeting adjourned for discussion of items not appearing on the agenda.

25. PLANNING

3967 See report below.

26. REPORTS

(a) PLANNING

3968

BDB /57699 Land at Sherfield Park, Sherfield-on-Loddon.
Proposal: Construction of an underground balancing pond.

The Chairman reported that he had discussed the proposed balancing pond at Sherfield Park with Sue Tarvit, Planning Officer at the Borough Council. Thames Water did not want to take on the responsibility of maintaining the underground pond. Sue Tarvit had offered to make further enquiries and will report to the Chairman.

BB

BDB /57400 Replacement dwelling at Utopia
Amendment for note – removal of bedroom window.

Notice of Intent

Notice of Intent TCA 1621 to reduce height by 2m and reshape sides 6 Leylandii at: Court Farm House (at boundary of 1 Orchard Lea), Sherfield-on-Loddon

Notice of Intent TCA 1621 to fell 23 conifers on land rear of 6 – 9 Bramley Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Notice of Approval

The Borough Council as LPA grants planning permission for:

BDB/56333 Land at Sherfield Park, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Erection of the minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare, construction of associated roads, drainage and public open space.

BDB/57351 6 Goddards Close, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Erection of a detached single garage.

BDB/57390 48 Northfield Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Erection of front porch.

BDB/56336 Phase 1, Area 1, Sherfield Park (Taylors Farm) Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Construction of residential estate roads.

Appeals

BDB/55306 13 Northfield Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Double garage.

Decision: Appeal dismissed.

(b) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

3969 The minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 24 February had been circulated. The recommendation to accept Mulberry Tree Services quotation of £100 plus vat for removing the top of the poplar was proposed by Bruce Batting, seconded by Tracy Lander-Sims and agreed by all those present.

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With regard to the application for a Borough Amenity Grant for the Cricket Pavilion and outfield, a response was awaited from Claire Wilkinson.

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(c) VILLAGE GREEN COMMITTEE

3970 The minutes of the meeting held on 17 February had been circulated.

Trees - Richard Gaiger offered to remove the fallen tree along Goddards Lane during the first weekend in April. John Dodd reported that he had received a letter from Mrs Pearman whose property adjoins the allotments, anxious about the condition of a tree close to her boundary. Geraldine House-Barklie offered to assess whether the tree is still alive. It was important to establish whether the tree was within the boundary of her property or on Parish Council land. John Dodd also reported that a tree had fallen against David Henderson's compost heap and it was agreed that an estimate should be obtained for removing the tree.

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Police bollards – Sandy Johnston reported that he had police bollards and knew where these could be placed along the Bramley Road, for use on match days.

Headwall – Headwall/grille, Hennis ditch. Harry Moore reported that Dave Miller had suggested that rather than making a grille, he could drill holes and fit reinforcing rods into the drain. This was agreed by the Parish Council.

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(d) ALLOTMENTS

3971 John Dodd reported that the skip is now full. Bruce Batting proposed that the Parish Council should pay for the skip to be emptied and replaced, seconded by Ivan Gosden and agreed by all. DSO had quoted £80 plus vat for the rotovation of one full and four half plots. This was also approved.

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(e) TENNIS COURTS

3972 No report.

(f) CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

3973 No report. S. 106 money is awaited before work can begin on the play area. Richard Gaiger wished the Millennium fund money to be spent on a bench for the Jubilee Tree and this was thought to be a good idea. Further thought would be given to the placing of a teen shelter in the village.

(g) BRAMLEY SCHOOL

3974 No report.

(h) VILLAGE HALL

3975 A meeting would be held on Thursday 11 March to discuss the Village Fete. The Chairman reported that he had written a letter on behalf of the Parish Council, in support of the Village Hall's application for grant funding for resurfacing the car park. The two Ward Councillors had also been asked to give their support to the application.

(i) FOOTBALL PAVILION

3976 Discussed under item 14.

(j) CRICKET PAVILION

3977 Grant approval pending.

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27. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS

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Parking: The Parish Council considered ways of preventing illegal parking on pavements close to Willow Way. Harry Moore agreed to write a letter to go into the Loddon Valley Link. It was suggested that Inspector Gatehouse could be asked to refer to this in his presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.

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Speed restriction: From 12 March for 3 months there will be a restriction to 30 mph on the A33 between Wildmoor Lane and Hartley Lane junction.

Traffic calming: The Clerk had written to Richard Hague for permission to install planters within the traffic calming units along Reading Road. She had also asked for advice from DSO about methods for watering the planters. It would probably be necessary to arrange a rota of volunteers to water the troughs daily during summer months, using a mobile water tank and hose. However, a reply is awaited from Steve Featherstone.

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28. FINANCE REPORT

3979 The Clerk had tabled a finance report, showing balances of all accounts at 29 February 2004:

	HSBC A/c	General Investment A/c	Consols	Grand Total	Uncleared HSBC
Balance B/F Q4	11,051.49	21,575.55	24.17	32,651.21	
Income Jan/Feb	7,342.08	498.88	0.00	7,840.96	0
Outgoing Jan/Feb	6,861.35	4,000.00	0.00	10,861.35	2636.05
Balance C/F to Mar04	11,532.22	18,074.43	24.17	29,630.82	14,168.27

HSBC Bank statement at 29/02/04: £14,168.27

Approval of Payments

- £445.24 Clerk salary (incl. final qtr allowance)
- £137.28 Litter Warden
- £276.36 Inland Revenue
- £23.85 Mrs V Attwood, tree for Goddards Lane (purchased from Whitewater Nursery)
- £9.80 Mr J Attwood, tree guards (purchased from Scats Countrystore): LAINGS fund
- £6.00 HAPTC, copy of 2003 model Standing Orders
- £221.00 HAPTC, affiliation fees (including NALC) for 2004/5
- £117.50 Mulberry Tree Services, to cut back damaged part of poplar and remove timber
- £115.00 Ben Stoopman, repair to footbridge behind Village Hall.
- £94.00 DSO, rotovation of allotment plots (equivalent of 3 full sized plots)
- £12.75 Petty Cash
- £763.75 DSO, Roundabout and additional planting by War Memorial
- £160.00 Mrs G Bowman, grass cutting, etc, by War Memorial – **PAID** 24/2/04

Payments were proposed for acceptance by Ivan Gosden and seconded by Harry Moore.

29. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING

3980

- Draft Accounts for the year 2003/4
- Revision of Standing Orders
- Army Camp exercises
- TETRA mast
- Football Pavilion
- Calor village of the Year
- Consultation Document – Local investigation of allegations of misconduct.

30. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3981 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Garden Room at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 13 April 2004.

Meeting closed 10.00 pm.