

**MINUTES OF SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL ON TUESDAY 10 AUGUST 2004.**

**Present**

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

**In attendance**

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)  
WPC Mandy Jewell  
Paul Hayes (for item 5 of the agenda)

Three members of the public were also in attendance during the first hour of the meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**4088** Apologies for absence were received from Calleva Ward Councillor Marilyn Tucker and Chris Horton.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**4089** There was none.

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**4090** The minutes of the meeting held on 13 July were approved as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

**4. MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER**

**4091** No crimes had been reported within the village this month.

WPC Jewell urged people to report any incidents to the police on 0845 0454545 (999 in an emergency). If a pattern of activity emerges, the police are in a better position to monitor and react to the problems.

**5. TO DISCUSS "PROS AND CONS" OF TEEN SHELTERS**

**4092** The Chairman welcomed Paul Hayes, Antisocial Behaviour Co-Ordinator from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, to the meeting.

Mr Hayes explained his role of researching antisocial behaviour problems and solutions across the Borough and outlined the pros and cons of the use of teen shelters.

A workshop had been conducted by the Borough in March and research had shown that very little provision is made for teenagers, who may commit criminal acts or antisocial behaviour as a result of boredom or having no-where to meet. Mr Hayes suggested that where teen shelters are installed, other sports activities/equipment should be made

**ACTIONS**

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available close by, and showed an example of a very popular “sky diving” unit which had been used elsewhere.

Mr Hayes explained the importance of shelter users taking “ownership” of the equipment, to reduce the likelihood of the shelter being damaged deliberately or not used at all, and so this group within the community should be involved with the decision-making process. It was felt that the success of a shelter within a village is probably greater than in town, as most of the children using it will be known within the community.

Shelters can be seen positively as they allow socialising and independence for the over 12s. Mr Hayes said that graffiti may appear on the shelter, but Councils should monitor this and liaise with the Borough to have any racist or sexist comments removed. He said that the colour of the shelter is an important issue, and cited an example of a new shelter being shunned because it was not the colour requested by the children.

Mr Hayes said that group members often indicate that they like to meet somewhere dry, where they can contact someone for help if necessary and where there is lighting - in many areas of the Borough, groups meet outside shops, causing anxiety to passers-by. In these situations, Mr Hayes said that well-designed and sensibly positioned shelters help to reduce the fear of crime for all concerned.

Disadvantages to consider are that gangs can dominate the facility, intimidating outsiders, and that a shelter can become a meeting place for drug and alcohol abuse. It is therefore important to monitor them regularly, but sensitively, as part of the Beat Officer’s patrol. Community policing was highlighted as crucial to maintaining the right balance between freedom and safety, for both the teenage groups and the rest of the community. Again, open-sided design is favoured for better visibility. Upkeep and repair is a budgetary consideration for Parish Councils. Noise and annoyance to nearby residents should also be considered, and therefore residents should be involved when location is discussed. Councils should consider that the shelter might not be used in the future, by the next generation of teenagers.

Sandy Johnston believed that two metal shelters should be sited in the village and also said that groups prefer to be closer to other children, ie; near the play area. He hoped that the Parish Council could purchase other equipment such as an aerial runway at the same time.

Brian Archer asked whether a youth club could be introduced. Other Councillors explained that these had been unsuccessful in the past. The survey of children recently conducted by the Parish Council had not highlighted a need for a club. Mr Hayes reported on a successful drop-in centre in Winklebury where young people between 14 and 16 ½ can turn up and use the pool table, playstation, etc, which keeps them away from drugs and alcohol.

There is one group which regularly meets within Sherfield, causing antisocial behaviour and criminal activity on the Green. However, they appear to be in their 20s and therefore would not be teen shelter users. Mr Hayes said that in this case, either he or the police should be contacted so that action could be taken, such as serving injunctions, anti-social behaviour orders, fining.

The Chairman thanked Mr Hayes for his presentation, and said that his advice would help the Councillors greatly with their decision-making.

## **OPEN FORUM**

The meeting was adjourned to allow questions to be posed by the general public. Two members of the public wished to speak about agenda item 12, parking in Bow Drive. There being no other questions, the Council agreed to reconvene the meeting and bring forward agenda item 12 for discussion.

### **12. TO DISCUSS DOUBLE PARKING IN BOW GROVE AND LETTER FROM RESIDENTS OF BOW DRIVE REQUESTING PARKING SPACES**

**4093** The residents of 22 to 40 Bow Drive wished to draw the Parish Council's attention to the problem of increased demand for parking. Currently only two parking bays, for eight cars, are available and these are always full, forcing residents to park away from their properties. Also, parking congestion in this area often causes difficulty for buses, and residents were concerned that the bus service may be lost as a result.

The residents asked the council to consider allowing hard surfacing on the grass area between the two terraces to provide parking for the residents only. The Chairman confirmed that this area is owned by the Borough Council who he said would be reluctant to excavate the area due to utility cabling below ground. Also, the Planning and Transportation Department at the Borough Council had confirmed that current policy is not to provide extra parking on estates, although Borough Councillors are urging a change in policy. The Chairman agreed to ask Cllrs Tucker, Gardiner and Chapman for further guidance and support.

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There was sympathy for the residents' problems and agreement that the bus service should not be jeopardised. After lengthy discussion, it was agreed that contact should be made with the Borough Council and County Council (Highway Authority) to discuss various options, including the issuing of permits in this area. In addition, Sentinel Housing would be asked to clarify whether nearby garage blocks are fully let to residents of Bow Drive.

BB/LM

## **6. REPORTS**

### **(a) Planning:**

**4094** Minutes of the meeting held on 22 July had been circulated. Laing Homes had offered the Parish Council £3,000 if they are permitted to erect an advertising hoarding on the Village Green, opposite their Wildmoor Walk development. The plans would be considered by the Planning Committee at their next meeting on Thursday 12 August. However, Ivan Gosden proposed that, if the plans are approved, the sum of £3,000 should be accepted by the Parish Council, this was seconded by Bruce Batting. The Chairman was congratulated on his negotiation with Laing Homes.

With regard to an application from Sherfield School, GEMS were appealing against the Borough Council's request for amended plans. Cllr Marilyn Tucker has requested that the matter is considered by committee.

### **(b) Finance and General Purposes Committee:**

**4095** There had been no meeting since the last Parish Council meeting. The committee would reconvene on Tuesday 24 August. An estimate of £150 had been received for crown lifting trees along Goddards Lane, between the tennis courts and Globe House. Acceptance of the quotation was proposed by Ivan Gosden and seconded by Tracy Lander-Sims.

LM

### **(c) Village Green Committee:**

**4096** A meeting of the Village Green Committee would be held next Tuesday, 17 August.

John Dodd was thanked for his assistance with removing the fallen willow branch from Horse Pond, and other tree cuttings from the green. The Village Green bonfire site would be used next Saturday afternoon. WPC Jewell confirmed that bonfires only become a matter for the police if they are sited too close to the highway and drifting smoke obstructs the view of the road.

The Chairman reported that Mr Mathews, who had donated a commemorative bench to the village had additionally offered a £50 donation towards installation costs, for which the Parish Council was very grateful.

**(d) Football Pavilion**

**4097** It had been necessary to pay a £14 Commons Registration Search fee to Hampshire County Council, which was accepted by the Parish Council. The Chairman reported that following the Search, an application would need to be submitted to DEFRA, which he understood might take between 4 to 6 months to process.

**(e) Cricket Pavilion**

**4098** The Borough Council had written to confirm that a grant of £2,438 would be provided for repairs to the cricket pavilion. This was 75% of the total cost of the project. Joe Bate had been asked to proceed with repairs.

John Dodd reported that grass cuttings were being put into a heap next to the pavilion. Sandy Johnston agreed to ask if cuttings could be spread around the perimeter of the ground.

SJ

**(f) Allotments**

**4099** A second revised agreement had been circulated and was approved. This would be circulated to all allotment holders in advance of the annual meeting. The annual meeting of allotment holders would be held on Wednesday 27 October at 8 pm. The Clerk would try to book the Garden Room.

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It was agreed that Ben Stoopman would be asked to quote for producing a small 3' x 2' noticeboard for the allotments.

LM

Brian Saunders had agreed to judge the best allotment competition and hoped to present the award at the Sherfield Show on Saturday 4 September.

**(g) Tennis Courts**

**4100** The Council was very pleased with the new tennis court surface.

**(h) Children's Play Area**

**4101** Sandy Johnston was awaiting a call from Ian Harris of BDBC. The Chairman agreed to try to contact Mr Harris to discuss purchase of play equipment using Section 106 money, and the Borough scheme which might allow for equipment to be purchased more cheaply.

BB

Sandy Johnston reported he would be visiting the annual Saltex Exhibition on 7, 8 and 9 September and invited other Councillors to contact him if they also wished to attend.

**(i) Bramley School**

**4102** The annual Governors report is currently in circulation. It was expected that more frequent reports would be produced from September.

**(j) Sherfield School**

**4103** The Bursar had responded very positively to the suggestion of the use of the school's facilities for the local community. He hoped that clubs could operate from the premises in due course. The pool would undergo refurbishment in the spring and would re-open next summer.

**(j) Village Hall**

**4104** The car park resurfacing is due to begin and should be completed by the end of August. The Halls are still being utilised at present. It was thought that Section 106 money for community facilities from the Longbridge Close development would probably go towards replacing the kitchen in the Village Hall.

**7. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS**

**4105** The Chairman reported that Ian Wetherall is now responsible for a different area within Hampshire Highways and Jason Lewis would be replacing him as Assistant Highway Engineer, covering Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Plans for the final phase of traffic calming are being drawn up by James Holt.

Sandy Johnston reported that Winchester had contacted him with queries relating to the footpaths. He was hopeful that the new map was nearing completion.

**8. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON A33 ROUNDABOUT MAINTENANCE**

**4106** The manager of Longbridge Mill had indicated that sponsorship would not be forthcoming due to a change of management. A quotation for the minimal maintenance of the roundabout is awaited from DSO.

**9. TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS 1, 3 AND 4 WITH REGARD TO VENUE AND DATE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**4107** The Chairman explained that as the Parish Council had grown in size, the Garden Room can no longer be used and the Liddell Hall is not available on the second Tuesday of each month, with the exception of the summer months.

The Chairman suggested that future meetings should be held on the second Wednesday of each month, in the Liddell Hall, and this was supported.

Standing Order 1 would not need to be amended. Ivan Gosden proposed amending Standing Order 3 to read "The three other statutory meetings shall be held on the second **Wednesday ...**", seconded by Bruce Batting. Tracy Lander-Sims proposed amending Standing Order 4 to read "Eight additional meetings shall be held on the second **Wednesday ...**", seconded by Maurice Lambden. Agreed by all present.

LM

**10. TO DISCUSS CALOR HAMPSHIRE VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AWARD PRESENTATION AND NATIONAL EVENT**

**4108** The Council was very pleased that Sherfield had been awarded Hampshire Village of the Year and received a draft programme for the presentation ceremony, to be held in the Village Hall on Friday 17 September between 16.00 and 17.30. As overall winner, Sherfield will receive a plaque and £250.

The national competition would be held in the autumn, and Sherfield would be visited by judges between 9 and 23 October. Prize money for the national award is £6,000 and regional finalists will receive £1,500. An application form will need to be completed by

the end of September. It was agreed that a request for good photographs of the village would be included in the September issue of the Loddon Valley Link.

LM

Brian Archer suggested that Community Action Hampshire should be asked whether there might be an opportunity for the other villages receiving awards to bring material for display. Clerk to contact Brian Challis.

LM

### **11. UPDATE ON PARISH PLAN AND RESULTS OF SURVEY OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

**4109** There was nothing further to report since the survey of young people. Tracy Lander-Sims and Richard Gaiger would try to work on proposals for young people but would not be able to consider the larger project, the Parish Plan, until after the summer holidays.

TL-S/  
RG

### **12. TO DISCUSS DOUBLE PARKING IN BOW GROVE AND LETTER FROM RESIDENTS OF BOW DRIVE REQUESTING PARKING SPACES**

This item had been discussed at the beginning of the meeting (See minute 4093).

### **13. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST TO SITE A FREE-STANDING STORAGE UNIT BY THE LODDON SPORTS PAVILION**

**4110** A letter from the Secretary of Loddon Sports requesting permission to site a metal storage facility next to their pavilion had been circulated.

It was generally felt that a brick-built, single-storey extension would be preferable to a metal unit. In either case, Planning Permission would need to be sought from the Borough Council, together with consent from the Lord of the Manor and Secretary of State.

All acknowledged the good work carried out by the organisation and sympathised with their need for more storage space, but it was agreed that any new structure must be in-keeping and so the Council could not support a proposal for a metal unit on the Green. A reply, explaining this decision and procedures to be followed, would be sent to the Secretary of Loddon Sports.

BB/LM

### **14. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ST LEONARD'S CHURCH STEEPLE FUND**

**4111** A letter seeking financial support for the Steeple Fund had been circulated.

The suggestion that proceeds from next year's Village Fete could be given to the Fund was fully supported and Sandy Johnston agreed to ask Village Fete Committee members to consider the proposal. It was also suggested that some of the money being offered by Laing Homes for permission to site an advertising hoarding on the Green might be directed towards the Fund. The amount would be discussed further, once a decision had been reached about the advertising hoarding.

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At this point in the proceedings, Ivan Gosden proposed extending the meeting beyond 9.30 pm in accordance with Standing Orders, seconded by John Dodd.

### **15. TO REPORT REJECTION OF APPLICATIONS FOR BDBC ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION GRANTS**

**4112** The two grant applications submitted earlier in the year had been rejected. The

advice from the Regeneration and Design Department was to obtain details of the Hampshire Village Initiative, which might provide alternative funding for the projects. The Clerk agrees to contact Tony Mumford at HCC. LM

## **16. FINANCE REPORT**

**4113** The Clerk had tabled a report, showing reconciled balances of the accounts at 31 July

2004/2005	HSBC A/C	General Investment A/C	Consols	Grand Total
Balance b/f from Q1	12,316.18	22,074.43	24.17	34,414.78
Income July	1,004.79	0.00	0.00	1,004.79
Outgoing July	1,222.84	0.00	0.00	1,222.84
<b>Q2 Balance</b>	<b>12,098.13</b>	<b>22,074.43</b>	<b>24.17</b>	<b>34,196.73</b>

Uncleared (HSBC)	Uncleared (Gen Inv)
114.00	0.00
Cleared Balance	
<b>12,212.13</b>	<b>22,074.43</b>

HSBC Bank Statement at 31/7/04 = £12,212.13

### **Approval of Payments**

£626.42 Clerk salary  
 £110.20 Litter Warden  
 £157.02 Inland Revenue  
 £14.00 Commons Search Fee (PAID 28/7/04)

Approval of payments proposed by Sandy Johnston, seconded by John Dodd.

## **17. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING**

**4114** Items for discussion include:

- Calor Award Presentation and National Competition
- Traffic Calming Signs
- Parking in Bow Drive
- Review of committee membership/areas of responsibility

## **18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**4115** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the **Liddell Hall** at 7.30 pm on **Wednesday** 15 September 2004. LM

Meeting closed 9.35 pm.