

**MINUTES OF SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL AT 19.30 HOURS ON WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST 2006.**

**Present**

Brian Archer  
Bruce Batting (Chairman)  
John Dodd  
Richard Gaiger  
Ivan Gosden  
Sandy Johnston  
Percy Sims  
Lorraine Smith

**In attendance**

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**4793** Apologies for absence were received from Tracy Lander-Sims, Ken Clark, WPC Jewell and Chris Horton.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**4794** Ivan Gosden declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 15. John Dodd, Bruce Batting and Dick Gaiger declared a prejudicial interest in item 5c.

**3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2006**

**4795** 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**

**4796** The Neighbourhood Watch report for July had been circulated.

Additionally, there had been a theft from a garage, and a drive-off from Dodd's Garage.

There had been no recent meeting of the Community Safety Forum.

**OPEN FORUM**

There were no members of the public present, and it was suggested that residents should be encouraged, via the parish magazine, to attend Parish Council meetings.

**5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**(a) Planning Committee**

**4797** The minutes of the meeting held on 25 July had been circulated. Details of discussion were noted as follows:

**Application No: BDB/63866**

**Location:** The Loddon School, Wildmoor Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Erection of stables and improvements to existing paddocks.

*The papers for this application appeared to have been lost in circulation. Therefore, no comments could be submitted at the present time. For future meetings, members were asked to contact the Clerk if they had not had sight of any of the applications listed on the agenda.*

**REFUSALS BY BDBC**

**Application No: BDB/63619**

**Location:** 6 Mill Close, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Erection of a two storey side extension and a single storey rear extension

**ACTION**

*The Chairman and Clerk had attended a workshop at the Civic Offices on 19 July to discuss the Borough Council's compilation of a "local list" of buildings with historic or local interest, which are not already Listed with English Heritage. A preliminary list of suggested buildings within Sherfield had been drafted and the Clerk agreed to circulate this to Parish Councillors. It was noted that owners of nominated properties would be contacted by the Borough. Inclusion in the listing did not give the property protection from alteration or demolition but it served to keep Planning Officers better informed of the local character and history of areas within the Borough.*

**BDBC Local List**

**4798** The draft list was tabled at the meeting and Councillors were asked to let the Clerk know of any other nominations. It was agreed that Dodds Garage should be included on the list.

All  
LM

**Information regarding Wheeler's Court**

**4799** The Chairman read aloud extracts from the Section 52 agreement relating to the Pound Meadow Development (BDB 24853 – approved October 1989), copied from the Borough Council's microfiche records. Copied correspondence from Chris Guy, Borough Solicitor, confirmed that the developers had been obliged to "make good" the wall behind Wheelers Court and that the S.52 agreement included a statement that, "there should be no further development to the rear of Wheeler's Court".

However, it was agreed that Wheeler's Court and its boundary wall should also be put forward for inclusion in Sherfield's Local List.

LM

**New applications**

**4800** The Chairman advised that a fresh application had been lodged with the Planning Authority for 271 dwellings, a 70 bed nursing home and 6 industrial units at German Road, Bramley. Sherfield Parish Council had not received details, but the Planning Department had advised that the PC would be consulted shortly, and the consultation period would be extended so as to take effect from the date of their letter. There was concern that this latest application (for just 6 fewer dwellings) had been submitted whilst the earlier plans had gone to Appeal, to be heard in November. All Councillors agreed that a development of this size would be detrimental to Sherfield, adding to the already significant volume of traffic which passes through the village, and residents would be urged to write to the Planning Department to lodge their objections to the proposals.

**4801** The Chairman also reported that amendments to the plans for a small development at the Rectory had been received. This was most surprising as the Planning Department had only recently confirmed that no new approach had been made by developers. Contractors had been seen on site trimming trees and digging ditches.

**(b) Leisure Facilities Committee**

**4802** The minutes of the meeting held on 25 July had been circulated.

**Update on basketgoal repairs**

**4803** It was reported that a representative from PlayDale had concurred that the design of the clasp and support cabling for the units could be improved. He had met with Sandy Johnston and had been happy to inspect and approve the repairs to the units.

**4804** The Committee had identified a suitable surfacing material for installation beneath the cableway, but this could not be funded at present.

**To discuss purchase of new swing barriers**

**4805** It was agreed that two swing barriers could be installed, as Ian Harris had advised that the full cost could be met by the Borough Council.

LM

Update on BMX track improvements

**4806** Richard Gaiger would be meeting with a contractor this weekend and hoped to have a proposal for the Parish Council very shortly.

RG

To consider suggestion of increased tennis fees for adults

**4807** The Committee had recommended increasing the adult fee from £2.50 to £3.00 after the holidays. Junior fees would remain unchanged at £2. The proposal to increase adult fees to £3.00, to take effect from 2007, was supported by the majority, motion carried. It was reported that charges at tennis courts in Basingstoke are £4 for juniors and £6 for adults.

LM

Tennis Coaching

**4808** The Clerk is awaiting an update from the tennis coach who had indicated earlier in the year that he wished to provide lessons at the courts.

Football Pavilion

**4809** Sherfield Football Club had created a referees room inside the pavilion which had been passed as adequate for the League and so the Club could continue to play this season. The Club had paid for a rat trap and drain clearance. It was likely, however, that repairs to the roof would also be necessary, which the Chairman felt the Parish Council would need to pay for.

(c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

**4810** The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25 July had been circulated.

Proposal to overcome budget shortfall

**4811** The Committee had produced a document suggesting ways to overcome the shortfall, by postponing some minor projects for the year and, if necessary, using Millennium Fund money during the current year. This was agreed by the Parish Council.

Recommendations on pathway improvements

**4812** Regarding the suggestion of re-surfacing the final section of pathway between Northfield and Reading Roads, the Committee had recommended no action at present. Similarly, the cost to tarmac or pave the pathway behind the Village Hall seemed prohibitive and could not be considered at present. Councillors had agreed to inspect the pathway running from Cheshunt Lodge to Bramley Road to decide whether the tree roots present a hazard.

All

To consider scheme for re-planting horse chestnut avenue

**4813** The Committee had considered the Village Green Committee recommendation to budget each year for a replacement horse chestnut tree, but instead recommended further consultation with professional bodies. The Clerk had been asked to gather information from national organisations, which was tabled. Ivan Gosden would make contact with Sparsholt and Merris Wood Colleges after the summer holidays.

IG

Update on “no cycling” signage

**4814** The Committee had considered quotations ranging from £35 to £45. However, the Chairman reported that the Transport Department within the Borough Council would shortly be tendering for signs and they would advise him of the cost for “no cycling” signs.

BB

Response to request for funding from Village Hall

**4815** It was agreed that no funding could be provided this year for the Village Hall.

LM

Update on discussions regarding Greenway

**4816** The Chairman, John Dodd and Dick Gaiger declared prejudicial interest in this item and left the meeting. The Vice Chairman chaired the discussion regarding maintenance of Greenway. The FGPC’s recommendation had been that quotations for filling potholes should be obtained. Once received, it was agreed that all Greenway residents should be invited to discuss proposals for future maintenance. It was noted that the track alongside Holt Cottage is also part of the Village Green and therefore would need to be reviewed in due course.

LM

The three Councillors returned to the meeting.

**(d) Village Green Committee**

**4817** The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July had been circulated.

**To consider scheme for re-planting horse chestnut avenue**

**4818** This had been discussed under minute 4813.

**4819** It was reported the Broadleaf Tree Management would be removing the dead horse chestnut tree tomorrow and would inspect the dead tree next to Jubilee Pond. Woodcutters had been asked to return and complete the stump grinding on the Green, outside Chestnut Cottage.

**(e) Allotments**

**4820** John Dodd wished to stand down as one of the Councillor contacts for allotment matters. Tracy Lander-Sims would continue to act as a contact and report on allotments issues.

**4821** The numbered posts would be installed in September/October, when the ground is not so hard.

TL-S/  
LM

**4822** The suggestion of increasing the allotment deposit would be considered at the next meeting.

LM

**4823** With regard to pest control, a response is awaited from Brian Saunders.

LM

**(f) Play area and BMX track**

**4824** Previously discussed under minutes 4803 to 4806.

**(g) Football and cricket grounds**

**4825** Regarding the remaining pile of topsoil close to the Loddon Sports Pavilion, it was reported that this would be mixed with seed and spread on the surface of the repaired ground, but not until there has been prolonged rain.

**4826** There had been a well-attended charity cricket match at the weekend.

**(h) Tennis courts**

**4827** Discussed under minutes 4807 - 4808.

**(i) Sherfield Park/Taylor's Farm development**

**4828** A meeting of the steering group had been held on 26 July at which residents had put themselves forward to fill officer and member vacancies on the new association. A public meeting will be held in Sherfield Village Hall on Saturday 30 September at 11 am, to approve the constitution. Revised plans for the community building had been published on the BDBC website and comments were invited by 11 August. However, comments previously submitted by the Parish Council regarding space and access to the kitchen had not been addressed and so the Clerk had written again.

**(j) Schools**

**4829** No report.

**(k) Village Hall**

**4830** To report licensing requirements for annual village fete

The Clerk had circulated information following discussion with the Licensing Department at BDBC, summarising the pros and cons of Permanent and Temporary Event Licensing. Ivan Gosden offered to undertake training next year to become a Designated Premises Supervisor.

**4831** Sandy Johnston reported that the village hall clock would be sold to boost funds. The Hog Roast last month had raised £200 profit. The occupants of the hall cottage had given notice on their lease. The Liddell Hall Door is to be refitted. The Management Committee was considering how to mark the centenary of the hall in 2009. The accounts for the year showed a surplus of £9,000.

**4832** A further request for financial assistance had been sent by the Management Committee. This would be considered at the next PC meeting.

**4833** John Dodd asked for the bin to be removed from the front of the car park, as it presents a fire hazard for the garage.

#### **6. TO RECEIVE SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT**

**4834** The report had been tabled, and it appeared that some pathways were becoming overgrown. The Clerk had asked the contractor to cut the bushes by the football car park. Details of the other two paths marked as overgrown could be passed to the volunteers.

**4835** It was reported that a hedge had become overgrown along Reading Road and the pavement was almost impassible. It was agreed that the Highways Department would be advised.

**4836** John Dodd said that if the job of cutting the grass by the war memorial becomes available, he would be very pleased to do it.

#### **7. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON CENTENARY PAVILION**

**4837** The Chairman reported that the project manager and M&E works consultant are still looking at ways of reducing the cost of the pavilion, in consultation with the builder.

#### **8. TO REPORT BDBC RECYCLING SCHEME PUBLIC MEETING**

**4838** It was reported that a BDBC would be hosting a public meeting at the Liddell Hall on Thursday 14 September from 7.30pm to introduce the Borough's new recycling scheme.

#### **9. TO RECEIVE LEGAL EVENT ORDER FOR BASINGSTOKE BOROUGH (DEFINITIVE MAP OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY)**

**4839** Details of this review had been circulated. The map was borrowed by Sandy Johnston for closer inspection.

#### **10. TO DISCUSS NEED FOR ACTION PLAN, TRAVELLERS**

**4840** It was reported that the Highway Authority had dug a ditch on the wide, green verge at Church End, and it was expected that posts would be installed shortly. The grass would be left to grow, which was thought to deter travellers from camping due to the risk of fire.

The Chairman agreed to discuss the Borough's new bye-laws with colleagues to clarify the process and speed of evicting travellers from the Green, should the situation arise.

#### **11. TO DISCUSS POOR CONDITION OF LEVEL CROSSING, BRAMLEY**

**4841** Sandy Johnston wished to raise a complaint about the uneven crossing. He suggested that Network Rail should be urged to make improvements as they are due to build new stations along the line in Chineham.

#### **12. TO RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING ANTI-AIRCRAFT HUTS, BRAMLEY ROAD**

**4842** The Clerk had circulated a letter from the County Archaeologist, together with a map of sites of military interest. It was agreed that the huts should be put forward for inclusion in the Local List.

LM

SJ

LM

LM

SJ

BB

LM

### **13. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS**

#### **4843 Update on review of traffic calming within the parish**

The Chairman had discussed possible improvements along Reading Road with representatives from the Borough and County Councils. A summary of the suggestions made had been passed to Richard Hague of Traffic Management, Hampshire County Council and a reply is awaited. In the meantime, the Chairman offered to contact a senior officer at Farnborough who has responsibility for speed check vehicles in Hampshire, to request a vehicle to visit Sherfield.

BB

**4844** With regard to village signs, the Assistant Engineer had suggested that Sherfield has enough signs, but they could be relocated, so that the twinning signs can be removed.

### **14. TO RECEIVE FINANCE REPORT**

**4845** The Clerk had tabled a bank reconciliation and payments for the month.

<b>2006/2007</b>	<b>HSBC A/C</b>	<b>Bank of Ireland Deposit A/C</b>	<b>Consols</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Bal B/F from May	<b>4,022.02</b>	11,231.41	24.17	15,277.60
Income Jun*	7,437.21	46.78	0.00	7,483.99
Outgoing Jun *	1,525.18	0.00	0.00	1,525.18
<b>Balance C/F</b>	<b>9,934.05</b>	<b>11,278.19</b>	<b>24.17</b>	<b>21,236.41</b>

<b>Uncleared cheques (HSBC)</b>	<b>Uncleared receipts (HSBC)</b>
550.62	102.00
<b>Cleared Balance</b>	
<b>10,586.67</b>	

HSBC Bank Statement: £10,586.67

NB: Previous cheque for £102 to Pro Pest Services voided, as reported lost. Replaced with another cheque.

Recommendation to transfer £5,000 to BoI deposit account

#### **Approval of Payments**

- £744.47 Clerk salary
- £126.36 Litter Warden
- £235.41 Inland Revenue
- £42.50 Wicksteed - replacement part for cableway (+ vat)
- £125.00 Bulpitt Brothers - strimming/rotovating (previously approved - £170)
- £250.00 Cryer & Co Chartered Accountants (in budget)
- £120.00 JL Bryce Farms Ltd (previously agreed)

Approval of payments and transfer proposed by Ivan Gosden, seconded by Bruce Batting, unanimously agreed.

LM

**4846** It was reported that the Internal Auditor had wished to present a revised copy of the accounts and these were tabled for approval. Accounts proposed for acceptance by Ivan Gosden, seconded Brian Archer, unanimously agreed.

LM

### **15. REPORT FROM BURIAL GROUND WORKING PARTY**

**4847** Ivan Gosden left the meeting. Members had received copies of the minutes of all Working Party meetings. The Working Party's proposal to submit an offer above the figure recommended by the District Valuer was given further consideration as there was some concern that the Parish

Council could be criticised for not heeding the advice given. The Chairman agreed to discuss the matter with Cllr Tucker, Ian Harris and the District Valuer again. It was suggested that a public meeting could be held to ensure that members of the public are made fully aware of the issues.

BB

#### **16. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

**4848**

- Byelaws
- Overgrown pavement, St Leonard's Church to village
- Further request for funding, Village Hall
- Increase to allotment deposit, new tenants
- Public Meeting, Burial Ground

#### **17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**4849** The next meeting will be held in the Liddell Hall on Wednesday 13 September, 19.30 pm. Meeting closed, 21.33 hours.

