

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL AT 19.30 HOURS ON WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2005.**

**Present**

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

**In attendance**

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)

One member of the public was present during the first half of the meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**4341** Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillors Tucker and Gardiner, WPC Jewell and Chris Horton.

The Chairman reported with regret that Maurice Lambden had resigned from the Parish Council, due to ill-health. The vacancy will be filled in due course.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**4342** Tracy Lander-Sims declared a personal interest in agenda item 9(e).

**3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

**4343** Ivan Gosden proposed Bruce Batting to hold office as Chairman of the Parish Council for a further year, seconded by Sandy Johnston, unanimously agreed. Bruce Batting signed the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

**4344** John Dodd proposed Ivan Gosden to hold office as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for a further year, seconded Lorraine Smith, and unanimously agreed.

**5. APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES**

**4345** A list of Parish Council committees showing current membership had been circulated. It was agreed that membership would remain the same for 2005/6, but with the following exceptions: John Dodd agreed to re-join the Planning Committee and the Leisure Facilities Committee, Ken Clark agreed to join the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Under areas of interest, Tracy Lander-Sims agreed to assist John Dodd with monitoring the Allotments; it was agreed that a committee should be formed at some point to discuss the maintenance of the allotments.

The Chairman confirmed that he could arrange a visit to the Chineham Incinerator and he asked Councillors to let him know when they wished to go.

**ACTION**

LM

LM

JD/TL-S

All

The Council discussed how a Parish Plan might be beneficial to the village. It was suggested that at some stage residents could be invited to a meeting to discuss whether a Parish Plan would be welcomed by the village, although no resolution was presented.

With regard to the Tetra Mast Campaign, the Chairman reported that the mast had been moved to Turgis Green, and some villagers were of the opinion that its location is still unacceptably close to residential areas.

## **6. TO INSPECT ANY DEEDS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE COUNCIL**

**4346** The deeds of the footpath between Northfield Road and Reading Road, together with deeds of the Allotments, were presented for inspection by the Parish Council. These would be resealed and returned to the bank for safe-keeping.

LM/BB

## **7. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**4347** The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13 April 2005 were approved as a true record of the proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

## **8. TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER**

**4348** The Neighbourhood Watch report for March had been enclosed with the agenda. It was suggested that it would be helpful to have fuller details about the incidents reported within Sherfield.

The issue of inadequate training for Community Safety Officers was raised. Sandy Johnston agreed to bring the matter up at the next meeting of the Community Safety Forum meeting.

SJ

John Dodd had reported a black BMW abandoned behind the Shops, but the police had indicated that they could take no action to remove it as it was on private land.

It was reported that a speed camera had recently been in operation along Bramley Road, but no feedback had been received to date.

## **OPEN FORUM**

The meeting was temporarily adjourned to allow questions from the general public.

## **9. REPORTS**

### **(a) Planning Committee**

**4349** The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 14 April had been circulated:

#### **Application No: BDB/60477**

**Location:** Sherfield Place, Reading Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Change of house type to plots 212, 213, to 222, 227 to 230, 235, 236, 243 and 244. Amendment to planning permission BDB/56850.

**PC Decision:** No objection.

#### **Application No: BDB/60575 & BDB/60574 (Listed Buildings)**

**Location:** Sherfield House School, Reading Rd, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Alterations to existing Early Years building to provide additional accommodation for toilet facilities.

**PC Decision:** No objection.

**Application No: BDB/60592**

**Location:** The Meadow Mobile Home Park, Bramley Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Erection of a garage block of 3 no. garages following demolition of existing.

**PC Decision:** No objection.

**Application No: BDB/60740**

**Location:** Land to the rear of 24 Thyme Close, Thyme Close, Chineham, RG24 8XG

**Proposal:** Application for a certificate of lawfulness for enclosure of open space to be included within the garden curtilage.

**PC Decision:** No objection.

**Application No: BDB/60707**

**Location:** Rose Cottage, Wildmoor, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27 0HD

**Proposal:** Erection of a part single storey, part two storey side extension, first floor rear extension and increase height of existing roof.

**PC Decision:** No objection.

**Notice of Intent**

NoI TCA 1871 to reduce crown on Robinia by 10-15% at Beaumaris, Sherfield Green.

**PC Decision:** The plans for this application were currently with the Tree Warden, and so no decision was taken. However, it was agreed that the Tree Officer at Basingstoke and Deane would be asked to advise applicants that tree work cannot be carried out during the nesting season from 1 March to the end July.

NoI TCA 1875 to fell 1 weeping willow, 1 apple tree and 1 cherry tree at Summer Fields, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

**PC Decision:** No objection.

NoI TCA 1869 to reduce crown on 1 willow by 40% reduce crown on 2 birches by 30% and reduce crown on 3 firs by 30% at Holt Cottage, Sherfield Green.

**PC Decision:** Papers not available. No decision.

NoI TCA 1849 to fell 8 conifers at Globe House, Goddards Lane – **For report; no objection by authority.** It was noted that the Tree Officer had been made aware of birds nesting in one of the conifers.

**Approvals**

**Application No: BDB/60296**

**Location:** 31 Bow Grove, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Erection of a single storey front and side extension.

**Application No: BDB/59920**

**Location:** White Hart, Reading Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Provision of fire hood, chimney liner and fan to existing fireplace.

**Application No: BDB/60439**

**Location:** 3 Devonshire Cottages, Sherfield Green, Sherfield-on-Loddon

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

**Application No: BDB/60143**

**Location:** Land at OS Parcel 4666, 1563, Gaiger Avenue, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Siting of temporary recycling facility.

**Application No: BDB/60452**

**Location:** Wyevale Garden Centre, Wildmoor Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon

**Proposal:** Relief of condition 1 of planning permission BDB/46808 to allow time extension for commencement of the works.

With regard to the wrongly positioned and over-sized planters to the front of the White Hart Pub, the Chairman reported that the Parish Council's letter of complaint to Youngs Brewery had been acknowledged. Hampshire Highways and the Planning Department Enforcement Team had received copies of the Parish Council's letter.

The Chairman reported that the Appeal lodged by the owners of Redlands had been withdrawn. Their original application to demolish the building had been refused by the Planning Authority.

The Chairman intended to meet with Fred Berntsen to discuss the proposals for an extension to the Loddon Sports Pavilion.

BB

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

**4350** The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26 April had been circulated to the Parish Council. The main recommendations from the committee were as follows:

- The Parish Council to provide 10% towards the cost of the Summer Playscheme, but up to a limit of £90. Proposed Ivan Gosden, seconded Richard Gaiger, agreed unanimously.
- Recommendation to plant 3 fir trees in the recently cleared area between Dodds garage and the tennis courts. This was agreed in principle but the matter would be deferred for further consideration in the autumn.
- Recommendation that the Parish Council obtains quotations for barriers to place at either end of firebreak track, install "emergency access only" sign and lay scalplings along track. Barry Bulpitt and Aldermaston Signs had been asked to provide quotations. It was suggested that, instead of barriers, tree trunks could be placed to prevent vehicles from straying off the track. The Clerk would make enquiries of the Forestry Commission. John Dodd and Richard Gaiger agreed to place scalplings along the track in the meantime.

LM

JD/RG

There had been further complaints about access being restricted along Greenway, due to the fencing surrounding building work currently underway at Globe House. The Chairman agreed to speak to the owner of Globe House.

BB

- Recommendation that the Parish Council defers a decision on work to the cricket outfield until the autumn, as the cricket season is now underway. Unanimously agreed. Sandy Johnston to contact M Turvey of Turgis Green Cricket Club to discuss membership.

SJ

- With regard to the concrete base for waste collection, a further quotation is still awaited. The cost of the project would be more than is currently held in reserve at present, and would therefore need to come from next year's precept if it is to go ahead. In the meantime, an alternative method for collecting waste would need to be provided.

JD/TL-S

- Chris Horton's suggestion of creating a pictorial map of the village to show road names had not been supported by the committee. Tracy Lander-Sims had suggested that this may be used by anyone seeking to commit a crime, and she was concerned about the safety aspect of displaying the information. This view was supported by the Parish Council.

**(c) Leisure Facilities Committee**

**4351** The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26 April had been circulated.

The following update and recommendations were received:

- A quotation is awaited for laying a concrete “spur” from centre path to lead into the playground.
- Quotations are being obtained for playground signs. The Clerk would contact Insurers for advice about wording.
- Quotations are being obtained for a basketball/goalmouth.
- Wicksteed will be asked to raise the height of the seat, combat cableway. It was noted that this had been done since the meeting.
- The condition of the ground below the cableway will be monitored.
- Enquiries being made regarding improving the safety surfacing below the log cabin slide.
- Football and Cricket clubs to be consulted regarding developing sports in the village and purchase of new equipment.
- Purchase of two new tennis nets – Four Winds £136.03 for two nets (incl vat and carriage) recommended. This was proposed by Ivan Gosden seconded by Loraine Smith and agreed. It was also agreed that Sandy Johnston would enquire whether Four Winds could supply two winders for the price of one, this being £41.60 (incl vat).

LM

SJ

It was reported that Park Leisure would be visiting to make adjustments to the Scootabout, in the light of comments and recommendations within the Annual Safety Report.

Sandy Johnston reported that he would be attending a Playground Safety Training workshop being organised by the Borough Council.

**(d) Village Green Committee**

**4352** The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 April had been circulated.

Many of the recommendations within the minutes had already been discussed during the report from the Finance and General Purposes Committee. However, it was reported that the Tree Warden had now been advised by David Hill, Tree Officer at BDBC, that the diseased horse chestnut tree along Bramley Road should be felled. Geraldine House-Barklie was seeking quotations on behalf of the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would also contact DC Knight & Son for a quotation. A replacement tree would be considered at a later date.

LM

Volunteers had been asked to; cut back sprouting willow along firebreak track, continue to remove oak saplings from the “heathy” area of green, fill in holes in play area, remove dead twigs/branches from Copper Beech by War Memorial, weed the planted area by War Memorial. The Chairman reported that the Volunteers had cleared the very overgrown pathway behind the Village Hall at the weekend.

**(e) Allotments**

**4353**

**To consider letter from an allotment holder regarding the PC’s decision to ask her to remove the electrified hen enclosure from the allotment gardens:**

Tracy Lander-Sims had declared a personal interest and was excluded from discussions.

A reply from the tenant had been received in which she objected to the Parish Council’s decision that the electrified fencing should be removed, and she had refused to do so. In her letter, she explained that she believed she had been given verbal approval to go ahead with

the installation by John Dodd. John Dodd confirmed that he had spoken with the tenant about keeping hens, but denied that he had given permission to install electrified fencing.

Since receiving the letter, a legal view had been sought from the National Association of Local Councils, via the Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils. A response from their legal department had been received the day before the meeting and this was tabled at the meeting. The letter was supportive of the Parish Council's decision and said that the tenant should have obtained written consent. The letter made reference to NALC's Legal Topic Notes with regard to the Parish Council's duty of care to individuals who come onto their land.

There remained sympathy for the tenant's situation and for the unfortunate misunderstanding, but it was agreed that Parish Councillors should read the Legal Topic Notes as advised, before taking any further action. All Councillors were also asked to visit the allotment in advance of the next meeting.

All  
P Council

**To consider cost of concrete base for waste collection, allotments:**

This had been discussed under agenda item 9 (b).

John Dodd agreed to identify plots which require clearance and rotovation. Tenants would receive a letter from the Clerk requesting that they comply with the terms of the Allotment Agreement.

JD  
LM

**(f) Schools**

4354 No report.

**(g) Village Hall**

4355 Sandy Johnston read from the minutes of the last meeting of the Village Green Management Committee. A new fund-raising scheme "POSH" (Patrons of Sherfield village Hall) had been launched. A leaflet about the scheme would be circulated throughout the parish, together with the Summer Fete programme. The sum of £1,300 had been raised at the recent Casino Night. The Village Hall is beginning to take on new, regular bookings.

**10. TO CONSIDER BDBC "PRIDE OF PLACE PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE"**

4356 A letter outlining proposed changes to grant funding for environmental projects had been circulated. Comments were invited by 6 June.

**11. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF DEFRA APPLICATION, FOOTBALL PAVILION**

4357 The Chairman reported that DEFRA had confirmed they had no objection to the new pavilion, but that they now needed to seek views from the Open Spaces Society and English Nature, before allowing the development to proceed.

The Chairman reported that Darren Owen, Chartered Surveyor of Freelance Consultancy Ltd, Alton, had offered to produce building regulation drawings, provide a health and safety plan, co-ordinate the structural engineers' reports and act as project manager. He had previously worked within Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and was known to Frank Dowling. Mr Owen's fees would be 5% of the total build cost. Other professional fees and printing, etc, would amount to another 3%. These fees of approximately 8% would form part of the total project cost on which grants would be awarded.

Parish Councillors felt that this was a reasonable charge, but before proceeding it was agreed to find out how much it would cost the Parish Council if Mr Owen begins work and

then, as a result of the referral to Open Spaces/English Heritage, final approval is not granted.

BB

**12. TO DISCUSS FORMAT OF THE APM**

**4358** It was agreed that all Councillors would join the Chairman on the stage for the Annual Meeting, to receive questions from the audience and to present short reports.

**13. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON “MANSERS LAND”**

**4359** The Chairman reported that there is some question over the exact area of land which is public highway. He suggested that the result of his enquiry may show that the land on offer to the Parish Council would be reduced from ½ acre to 1/3 acre. He said that any process to extinguish Highway rights would need to be taken through the Magistrates Court. The Chairman hoped to have more information to report at the next Parish Council meeting.

BB

**14. ROADS, TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS**

**4360**

**To receive update on Walks Leaflet**

It was reported that a revised map is in circulation. A final draft should be received very shortly, hopefully in time for the Annual Parish Meeting on 20 May.

**To receive update on pathway between Sherfield Park and St Leonard’s Church**

It was reported that Andrew Winmill of Hampshire County Council will be making a site visit later this month, to consider the Parish Council’s wish to link the two existing pathways; he will meet with Peter Eade, Assistant Chief Engineer, Hampshire Highways. The Clerk would contact Mr Winmill after his visit and the Chairman agreed to contact County Councillor Keith Chapman to see whether he could support Parish Council in this matter.

LM  
BB

There had been a complaint received regarding the number of roadside signs within the village, particularly those placed by the pubs. It was confirmed that hoardings are not allowed on the village green. Signs placed within the Conservation Area, at the roadside, were a matter for report to the Highway Authority and the Chairman agreed to speak with Peter Eade to ask for these to be removed.

BB

At this point, Bruce Batting proposed extending the meeting beyond 9.30pm, seconded Ken Clark, agreed.

**15. FINANCE REPORT**

**4361** A report on income and expenditure for the final quarter had been circulated. The balances of all accounts at 30 April 2005 are shown in the table below:

2005/2006	HSBC A/C	General Investment A/C	Consols	Grand Total
Bal B/F from Q4, 2004/5	12,709.97	22,743.69	24.17	35,477.83
Income Apr	609.55	0.00	0.00	609.55
Outgoing Apr	5,784.29	0.00	0.00	5,784.29
<b>Balance C/F</b>	<b>7,535.23</b>	<b>22,743.69</b>	<b>24.17</b>	<b>30,303.09</b>

Uncleared (HSBC)	Uncleared (Gen Inv)
2,558.92	
Cleared Balance	
<b>10,094.15</b>	

HSBC Bank Statement at 30/4/05 = £10,094.15

### **Approval of Payments**

£725.98	Clerk salary
£113.18	Litter Warden
£239.76	Inland Revenue
£123.13	Allianz Cornhill (addition to premium for new play equipment)

Approval of payments proposed Sandy Johnston, seconded Brian Archer, agreed.

LM

### **Draft Audited accounts 2004/5**

David Hitchins of Hitchins, Cryer and Co had produced copies of the audited accounts for Parish Council approval. Councillors were asked to read the document in detail and to present questions to the Clerk in advance of the next meeting, when the accounts would be proposed for approval.

All

P Council

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

4362

- Annual Accounts 2004/5 – for approval
- Update on “Mansers Land”
- Action to be taken with regard to electrified fencing, allotment plots

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

4363 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Liddell Hall on Wednesday 8 June at 7.30 pm.

APM to be held in the Village Hall on Friday 20 May at 8 pm.

Meeting closed 9.40 pm.