

MINUTES OF SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL ON WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH 2005.

Present

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

In attendance

Lucy Marshall (Parish Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4286 Apologies for absence were received from WPC Jewell, John Dodd, Loraine Smith, Calleva Ward Councillors Marilyn Tucker and Roger Gardiner and Chris Horton.

John Dodd had written to resign as Vice Chairman. In his letter to the Chairman, he explained his sadness that there had been no mention of his late wife Jennie in the recent Gazette article about the return of the 'phone box. He explained in his letter that his late wife had been instrumental in arranging for the box to be listed in 1991 and he felt that she should have been credited in the article, and that other Councillors should have been involved with the Gazette interview. The Chairman reported that the Clerk had tried to contact John by telephone on the day of the interview/photographic session, as she had with other Councillors, but that he had been out. The Parish Councillors were sorry that John had been offended and that he had decided to stand down as Vice Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4287 There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

4288 The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9 February 2005 were approved as a true record of the proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

4. TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER

4289 The Neighbourhood Watch report for February had been enclosed with the agenda. WPC Jewell had advised that no crimes had been reported within Sherfield since the beginning of March.

It was reported that WPC Jewell had suggested using a further 6 cones for controlling parking when NADFAS meetings are held in the village. These are available at £8.50 each plus vat. The cones would be used to restrict parking at the junction of Goddards Lane with Reading Road, and outside the Village Hall, where advised by the police. Tracy Lander-Sims proposed purchasing 6 cones, seconded Ivan Gosden, agreed by majority.

Following receipt of complaints from residents, the Clerk had contacted the Highway authority to see whether anything can be done to prevent cars parking on the grass verge opposite Premier House, Reading Road.

OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the general public present at the meeting.

ACTION

LM

5. REPORTS

(a) Planning Committee

4290 The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 14 February and 3 March had been circulated:

NEW APPLICATIONS

BDB/60061 - Location: 19 Goddards Close, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27 0EG

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension and detached garage.

PC Decision: No objection.

BDB/59920 - Location: White Hart, Reading Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27 0BT

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

PC Decision: No objection.

BDB/60201 - Location: Conkers, Bramley Road, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hook.

Proposal: Creation of new vehicular access and drive.

PC Decision: No objection.

BDB/60296 - Location: 31 Bow Grove, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27 0DY

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

PC Decision: No objection.

BDB/60143 - Location: Land at OS Parcel 4666, 1563, Gaiger Avenue, Sherfield-on-Loddon, RG27

Proposal: Siting of a temporary recycling facility.

PC Decision: No objection.

NOTICE OF INTENT

TCA 1823 to crown lift various trees and thin willows adjacent to the football pavilion, Greenway. For report - no objection by Borough Council.

TCA 1819 to fell 2 apple and 3 conifers, minor crown lift 1 oak at Globe House, Goddards Lane. For report – no objection by Borough Council. AND

TCA 1849, to fell 8 conifers at Globe House, Goddards Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

PC Decision: No objection. It was noted that the Tree Officer would be visiting the site again as it was thought that birds may be nesting in one of the trees.

APPROVALS FOR REPORT

BDB/60002 - Location: The Walled Garden, Wildmoor Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon

Proposal: Erection of a single storey side and rear extension to outbuilding to form double garage.

BDB/54273 - Location: Land at Breach Farm, Breach Lane, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Conversion, alteration and repair of barn and change of use of agricultural buildings to B1 office/commercial use with new links between buildings. Erection of new single storey building for B1 office/commercial use.

REFUSALS FOR REPORT

BDB/59661 & BDB/59660 - Location: Ye Old Winton Cottage, Sherfield Green, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Erection of a single storey extension to south elevation to form garden room and covered link and porch to garage.

BDB/59948 & BDB/59947 - Location: Court Farm House, Sherfield Green, Sherfield-on-Loddon.

Proposal: Erection of a side extension with accommodation in roof space.

APPEALS

BDB/57950 - Location: Little Court Barn, Church End, Sherfield-on-Loddon

Proposal: Boundary Fencing.

Appeal Decision: The appeal is dismissed.

With regard to the planning application for a replacement dwelling at Redlands, the Chairman reported that this will be going to Public Inquiry.

Loddon Sports had forwarded preliminary drawings of a 4 metre extension to their pavilion, which they hoped to submit for planning permission. It was recognised that the Club desperately needs extra storage space. It was generally felt that the proposal was too large and the Clerk would write to Fred Berntsen, although the decision would be left to the local planning authority and the Secretary of State.

LM

Council discussed the need for approval by the Secretary of State and the Lord of the Manor for any structure on the Village Green. A reply is still awaited from the Lord of the Manor regarding permission to build the new Centenary Pavilion in place of the existing pavilion and Ivan Gosden agreed to try and obtain a reply via his agent. In the meantime, the Chairman would contact DEFRA to see whether approval may be granted if consent is withheld without good reason.

IG
BB

Mr Heelas, a representative from Savills, had requested a meeting with Parish Council members to discuss the siting of a Vodafone mast close to Redlands Hill. The Chairman reported that the Planning Officer involved with the application had recommended that Vodafone should use either of the masts already approved at Bramley Camp and at Whitmarsh Lane, Chineham. The Chairman was willing to meet with Mr Heelas and would telephone him in the first instance.

BB

(b) Finance and General Purposes Committee

4291 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22 February had been circulated.

The following recommendations were considered by Council:

Improvements to BMX Track: Richard Gaiger reported that he would arrange for clearing the track and installing new sleepers at no cost to the Parish Council, for which he was thanked.

RG

Willow Branch overhanging horse pond: The Committee had recommended leaving the tree in situ. However, there were safety concerns and it was agreed that quotations for removal of the branch should be reconsidered at the next meeting.

LM

Village Cookbook: After discussion, it was agreed that a professional printing company should be used to produce the book. Ivan Gosden proposed that Liquorice Press produce 150 copies at £780. Seconded Bruce Batting, agreed. It was confirmed that groups and individuals involved in the Calor competition would receive a free copy. Tracy Lander-Sims was thanked for her work on the document.

TL-S

Work to Cricket Outfield: It was reported that the Cricket Club would continue for the next season. Drainage work to a section of the ground proposed by Kestrel Sport and Golf could not be carried out until the autumn. It was thought that section 106 money for playing fields/open spaces could be spent on this project and so the Clerk agreed to obtain a revised quotation from the company for treating the entire cricket field.

LM

It was reported that engineers from SE Water had repaired a burst pipe which had caused flooding across the cricket field during the week.

Repair to edging boards, Jubilee Pond path: A quotation had been received from Joe Bate to repair and replace broken edging boards: £65.98. Proposed Bruce Batting, seconded Tracy Lander-Sims, agreed.

LM

Traffic Calming Planters: It was expected that the planters would be ready for delivery to Goddards Farm within the next two weeks. Brian Archer, Lois Batting and Lucy Marshall had visited Wyevale Garden Centre and suitable plants had been identified. The Garden Centre had offered to match any order placed by the Parish Council, as well as a 10% discount if ordered on a Tuesday.

No Parking Sign: The committee had recommended acceptance of quotation from Aldermaston Signs to supply and fix a “No Parking” sign along the barrier at the entrance to the football field at a cost of £67. Proposed Ivan Gosden, seconded Bruce Batting, agreed.

LM

Sand for sandbags: Armstrongs had quoted £73 to supply 3 tonnes soft sand. Proposed Richard Gaiger, seconded Bruce Batting, agreed. Arrangements for delivery would be made after Easter.

LM

Next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Tuesday 26 April.

(c) Leisure Facilities Committee

4292 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22 February had been circulated. The committee wished to complete the installation of a basketball/goalmouth by the play area in the new financial year and would then focus on developing sports facilities and training within the village. Informal discussions will be held with representatives from the village’s three main sports clubs.

Playground installations were well underway. There had been a misunderstanding about the method for allocating Section 106 funds, but Ian Harris had now received full details of the Wicksteed order and would arrange to settle the bill direct.

With regard to moles on the football pitches and play area, someone had removed the traps which had been set by the contractor. However, despite this, a number of moles had now been caught. Loddon Sports had written to suggest a contribution of £30 towards the pest control costs. However, Council agreed that their contribution should be £60, a third of the total cost, and the Clerk agreed to write to Loddon Sports. She would also ask for the same contribution from Sheffield FC.

LM

Tennis court fees of £22.50 had been collected from the Shop and were passed to the Clerk.
Next meeting of the Leisure Facilities Committee, Tuesday 26 April.

(d) Village Green Committee

4293 Issues arising from the meeting held on 15 February had been considered by the FGPC and resolved by Council. The next meeting of the Village Green Committee will be held on Tuesday 19 April at 7.30 pm.

There had been a number of complaints in response to appearance of bright orange paint on the chestnut tree outside Alexandra Terrace. The Tree Warden had been in contact with the Tree Officer, who was adamant that the paint must be removed. The Clerk would write to the occupants of the house, who it was supposed had painted the tree.

LM

(e) Allotments

4294 Barry Bulpitt had submitted a quotation for £800 to install a 10' x 12' concrete base. The precept for 2005/6 allowed for just £300 for waste removal, although some funds were held in reserve for the allotments. It was thought that the quotation included sides constructed from sleepers, although this was not referred to in the invoice and it was agreed that this needed clarification. Other quotations would be obtained. The Chairman advised Council that the Bulpitt Brothers did not wish to quote for a new concrete path behind the Village Hall, probably due to the complication of needing to extend the path over the side of the ditch.

LM

Darren Clapson of BDBC had arranged for the clearance of Borough-owned land adjacent to the allotment gates in Bow Gardens, and this would allow a skip lorry to deliver a skip over the fence, should that be required in the future.

A new allotment tenant had installed electrified fencing (8 volt charge) on her plot in order to keep hens. It was reported that two other tenants had complained to one of the Parish Councillors having touched the wire accidentally. There were mixed feelings within Council regarding the acceptability of this method, both in terms of keeping the hens within the plot and over the issue of allowing an electric fence on the allotments. The Clerk had spoken with the tenant who confirmed that she would be installing a secondary, tape barrier around the outside of the wire at the weekend. The situation would be monitored and discussed at the next meeting.

(f) Schools

4295 It was expected that a report would be submitted from Bramley School Governors next month.

(g) Village Hall

4296 It was reported that the Hall would reopen for normal business on Monday 14 March, and a coffee morning would be held on Saturday 19 March to give villagers the chance to inspect their new kitchen. The Borough Council had offered the Village Hall the sum of £7,298 from Section 106 money, for disabled access works.

The Hall had a deficit of £7,000, mainly due to the fall in regular bookings. There will be a fund-raising Casino night on 16 April, and a Jazz evening on 21 July. The committee would be considering a new website, and they hoped to host a Summer Play Scheme with assistance from the Parish Council, but further details were needed.

6. TO REPORT S106 MONEY GRANTED TOWARDS FOOTBALL PAVILION COMMUNITY ROOM AND POLICE ROOM

4297 The Chairman reported that the Parish Council had also been offered £7,298 Section 106 money for Community Facilities, to be spent on the Community Room and Police Room within the Centenary Pavilion. It was noted that funds must be spent before March 2006.

7. BDBC DRAFT POLICY REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF UNAUTHORISED CAMPING

4298 The Borough's consultation document had been circulated to Parish Councillors but no comments had been put forward for reply to the Borough. The Chairman will try to submit a response to Karen Brimacombe, Corporate Director before the very short deadline.

BB

8. BDBC PUBLIC CONSULTATION: DRAFT CONCEPT STATEMENT FOR NEW ROAD BASINGSTOKE

4299 Plans for the redevelopment in the vicinity of New Road Basingstoke were available for inspection at the meeting. There were no comments to be submitted.

9. BDBC DRAFT SPG: S106 PLANNING OBLIGATIONS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

4300 Comments were invited by 6 April. It was noted that there was no mention of provision for burial grounds from Section 106 money, an issue which the Parish had hoped would be included in the document. A letter would be sent to John Guppy, Forward Planning & Transport Team, BDBC.

LM/BB

10. BDBC PARKING IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS: TO CONSIDER INVITATION TO IDENTIFY ROADS WITH PROBLEM PARKING

4301 Richard Wareham had written to parishes seeking suggestions for sites for further investigation with regard to parking in residential areas. It was hoped that a report would soon be submitted to Sherfield Parish Council following a site inspection of Bow Drive by Barry Ford. However, in the meantime, it was agreed that a reply should be sent to Richard Wareham highlighting the need for review in Bow Drive, Bow Gardens, Bullsdown Close, Goddards Close and Goddards Lane.

LM

11. REPORT FROM ALISON CROSS, HAMPSHIRE AND IOW WILDLIFE TRUST

4302 Alison Cross had summarised the advice she had given during her recent visit to the Village Green. In her letter, she suggested visiting again in June to conduct a walk for local people who may be interested in their local wildlife. Of the two dates offered, Saturday 25 June was chosen. The Clerk would write to Mrs Cross, and would provide her with the closing dates for submissions for the Loddon Valley Link as requested.

LM

Council discussed the SINC designation of the Village Green and the Clerk would re-circulate information about the classification to Parish Councillors.

LM

An invitation to the launch of the Loddon and Eversley Project on 11 April had been circulated and it was agreed that Ivan Gosden would attend.

IG

12. TO DISCUSS FORMULATING A RESPONSE TO THE SOUTH EAST PLAN CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

4303 The Clerk reported that Sherfield-on-Loddon had not been included in the circulation of the South East Plan, which had been mailed to parishes for consultation in January. However, the South East England Regional Assembly had now sent the document and comments were invited by 15 April.

13. TO CONSIDER SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED FOR SPENDING CALOR PRIZE MONEY

4304 In response to the request for suggestions in the Loddon Valley Link, the Sherfield WI had written to suggest spending some of the Calor money on; benches (football pitch area), daffodil bulbs for the pond, plants for the traffic calming planters. The Council also reconsidered the suggestion of a new village entrance sign. After discussion, it was agreed that the suggestions of benches and plants for the traffic calming planters were preferable. The Clerk would obtain a quotation from Ben Stoopman for two new benches.

LM

Councillors briefly discussed how to spend the remaining £1000 Millennium Fund, which included the suggestion of adding a cupola with clock face to the roof of the Centenary Pavilion.

14. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON "MANSERS LAND"

4305 A letter from Clive Manser had been circulated, in which he stated that he might sell to

the Parish Council the triangular, wooded area of land at the southern entrance to the village. Councillors agreed that until a clear offer had been made, the matter could not be considered. The Chairman agreed to telephone Mr Manser and would ask for a more formal proposal.

BB

15. ROADS TRAFFIC AND FOOTPATHS

To receive update on Walks Leaflet

4306 Sandy Johnston reported that a draft should be available at the next meeting.

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

4307 The Chairman reported that he, Sandy Johnston and the Clerk had been making enquiries of departments within the Borough and County Councils regarding funding for a pathway link. Croudace have for a second year turned down the Parish Council's request for a contribution towards the cost. However, Andrew Winmill, Transport Planner for Hampshire County Council had indicated that there might be flexibility within the developer's 106 agreements for a "local transport strategy". He has also been liaising with Steve Raw with regard to the Borough's Pedestrian Access improvement Capital Programme and he had raised the matter at a meeting of the Basingstoke Cycle Users Group, where the idea of providing a route had received support. Mr Winmill had spoken with Ian Robertson, Senior Transport Planner, at the meeting with regard to this being a critical link and had promised to make a site visit in the near future.

For information, it was reported that the Highway Authority had been advised of cars parking on the grass verge opposite Premier House, Reading Road, and also of the large pothole at the entrance to the Sherfield FC car park.

Also for information, it was reported that a member of the public had complained about parking during football matches and it had been explained that the car park would be rearranged when the new pavilion is built later this year.

At this point, and in accordance with Standing Orders, Ken Clark proposed extending the meeting beyond 9.30pm, seconded Brian Archer, agreed.

16. FINANCE REPORT

4308 A report on income and expenditure for January had been circulated. The balances of all accounts at 28 February 2005 are shown in the table below:

2004/2005	HSBC A/C	General Investment A/C	Consols	Grand Total
Balance B/F from Q3	17,659.11	22,074.43	24.17	39,757.71
Income Jan/Feb	519.50	669.26	0.00	1,188.76
Outgoing Jan/Feb	3,464.45	0.00	0.00	3,464.45
Q4 Balance	14,714.16	22,743.69	24.17	37,482.02

Uncleared (HSBC)	Uncleared (Gen Inv)
1,474.54	0.00
Cleared Balance	
16,188.70	22,743.69

HSBC Bank Statement at 28/2/05 = £16,188.70

Approval of Payments

£626.20 Clerk salary
£110.20 Litter Warden
£157.24 Inland Revenue

Approval of payments proposed Ivan Gosden, seconded Maurice Lambden, agreed.

LM

17. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

4309

- Draft Annual report for APM
- Draft Annual Accounts 2004/5

Council members were reminded to let the Clerk know of items for the agenda at least one week in advance of the next meeting.

18. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

4310 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Liddell Hall on Wednesday 13 April at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed 9.35 pm.