

CONFIRMED MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE LIDDELL HALL AT 7:45 PM ON WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 2008.

Present

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

In attendance

Fiona Craig (Parish Clerk)
Bruce Jones
Ranil Jayawardena
Rhydian Vaughan
Cllr Marilyn Tucker

Actions

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

5504 Percy Sims, Cllr Keith Chapman, PC Amanda Jewell, Cllr Elaine Still

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

5505 None

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2008

5506 The minutes were approved as a true record of the proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

4. TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF CRIME AND DISORDER

5507 The Neighbourhood Watch spreadsheet showing trends in crime had been circulated. The chairman reported that he had received a letter from a resident in Carpenter's Close complaining about cans and urine in the bus shelter. The chairman also explained that stacked newspapers awaiting return by the post office had been set alight, destroying the rubbish bin and damaging the road surface. The borough will replace the bin.

OPEN FORUM

The meeting was temporarily adjourned

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Planning Committee

5508 The minutes of the meetings held on 3rd, 12th and 19th March had been circulated. The following applications were considered at the meetings:

Application No: BDB/68063

Location: 61 Northfield Road, Sherfield on Loddon, RG27 0DS

Proposal: Erection of a part two storey part single storey front extension..

Grid Ref: 468016,158340

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PC Decision: No objection

Application No: BDB/67785

Location: Taylors Farm, Taylors Lane, Sherfield on Loddon, Hook, RG27 0JF

Proposal: Erection of 24 no. low carbon residential units comprising of 14 no. three bedroom Houses, 6 no. two bedroom houses, 2 no. one bedroom houses, 2 no. four bedroom houses with communal space and creation of new access.

Grid Ref: 466330,156517

PC Decision: No Objection

Application No: BDB/67646

Location: Meadow View, Bramley Road, Sherfield on Loddon, Hook, RG27 0DJ

Proposal: Erection of a two storey side extension

Grid Ref: 467733,158370

PC Decision: No Objection

Application No: BDB/68245

Location: River Gardens, Bramley Road, Sherfield on Loddon, Hook, RG27 0DG

Proposal: Erection of a two storey side extension following demolition of existing garage, with Juliette balcony to rear elevation and single storey rear extension.

Grid Ref: 467709,158336

PC Decision: No objection

APPROVALS BY BDBC FOR REPORT

Application No: BDB/67714

Location: Hafod, Sherfield Green, Sherfield on Loddon, RG27 0DS

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension..

Application No: BDB/67808

Location: Summerfield, Sherfield Green, Sherfield on Loddon, Sherfield on Loddon, RG27 0EN

Proposal: Erection of a first floor side extension and construction of a dormer window.

Application No: BDB/6452

Location: The Old School House, Reading Road , Sherfield on Loddon, Sherfield on Loddon, RG27 0EZ

Proposal: Erection of a rear porch and timber framed garden room with part glazed link to main house following demolition of existing outbuilding.

REFUSALS BY BDBC FOR REPORT

Application No: BDB/67483

Location: Le Fevre, Reading Road, Church End, Sherfield on Loddon, RG27 0JB

Proposal: Change of use of land to residential land, erection of a single storey rear extension and erection of detached triple garage. Extension to front boundary wall and

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(b) Leisure Facilities Committee

5509 The minutes of the meeting held on the 25th March had been circulated. It was noted that the BMX track and play area are being used well and that there have been no further problems with moto X riders in these areas.

Ivan Gosden agreed to contact Mole treatment specialist as mole activity is increasing around the top end of the junior pitch and the play ground.

The problems of dog fouling were discussed; this seems to be an increasing problem at the moment. Brian Archer agreed to put something in the Loddon Valley Link about this. It was also felt that it might be a good idea to ask Rhydian Vaughan to see if something could go into the Bramley magazine 'Bramley 265'

IG

BA

(c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

5510 The minutes of the meeting held on the 25th March had been circulated. It was agreed that the Burial Ground should be a permanent agenda item for the Finance Committee.

(d) Village Green Committee

5511 The minutes of the meeting held on the 18th March had been circulated. It was noted that the hedge trimming-rear of the pavilion had been done very well by the Bulpitt Brothers. The clerk reported that she had received a letter from the owner of the wall damaged by a Parish Council tree falling onto it, thanking the council for the repair work. It was also noted that the dead tree on the Green had also been removed.

There was a discussion about the track on the Green leading to Greenway and it was agreed that the council would purchase signs saying 'Emergency use only' with appropriate posts. The clerk was asked to order these with red writing on a white background.

FC

(e) Allotments

5512 Tracy Lander-Sims reported that 1 full and 1 half plot are now available, the full plot (plot 30) will be split into 2 half plots.

It was agreed that the allotment terms and conditions should be changed so that a single allotment holder could rent a maximum of two full plots only, further plots would require Parish Council approval.

A resident has complained of rats around the allotments, Tracy Lander-Sims had checked with the owners of the chickens and they are all using rat bait as per their agreement. It was felt that the rats in the area of Bow Gardens are not present as a result of chickens on the allotments. However, treatment appears not to have been carried out by the contractor for several months.

It was agreed that a new contacts list should go into the allotment notice board after the election containing all the current information.

(f) Play area & BMX track

5513 Bruce Batting explained that he has the BMX sign and will ask Barry Bulpitt to install it, although Dick Gaiger offered to erect the sign.

It was noted that the Basket Goal 'NoMow' floor is very successful but the area around it has become very muddy, Sandy Johnston agreed to obtain a quote from 'NoMow' to increase the surface area by about 2M all the way around the edge.

SJ

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(g) Football and cricket grounds/pavilions

5514 The Pavilion sub- committee will report back to council after its next meeting, scheduled for 10th April.

(h) Tennis courts

5515 The Clerk had collected £40 from The Shop for Tennis court usage.

(i) Schools

5516 There was discussion about the proposal to reduce the speed limit from 50 to 40mph between the 2 roundabouts on the A33 and to introduce a pedestrian crossing outside Sherfield School's northern entrance. The Parish Council was unanimously in favour of the proposals and was disappointed at the comments that had been received from the Police and from the County Council. The Police believe that a speed limit must be self enforcing, so, if people will not stick to 50 mph, they will certainly not drive at 40 mph through this section of the A33. Both the Police and HCC were of the opinion that the installation of a pedestrian crossing could cause more accidents, as it would not be used regularly and would take motorists by surprise. It seemed that other ways of making the junction safer must be explored and Sherfield School has offered to support the council . Sandy Johnston agreed to raise this at the Basingstoke safety forum run by BDBC.

SJ

(j) Sherfield Park/Taylor's Farm

5517 Sherfield Park Community Association held its first AGM on Wednesday 2nd April at Sherfield School and a full committee was elected for the coming year.

(k) Village Hall

5518 Sandy Johnston commented that insurance issues relating to contamination of the water supply were ongoing. Bruce Batting said that he was expecting to hear back shortly from the London solicitors who are giving advice about the claim on a pro-bono basis.

It was accepted that a formal loan agreement between the Parish Council and the Trustees of the Village Hall must be drawn up and it was agreed that the clerk and the chairman would work on this. This agreement will have to be formally approved and signed by the the Parish Council and by the Trustees of the Village Hall.

Brian Archer explained that 50% of the profits from Percy's plant sale would be donated to the Village Hall this year. This was accepted gratefully by the whole council.

There was a discussion about the levels of fundraising required within the village for good causes, particularly the Village Hall and the Football Pavilion. Fund Raising for the Football Pavilion would be on the agenda for the pavilion sub-committee meeting on the 10th April.

6. TO RECEIVE MONTHLY SAFETY INSPECTION REPORTS

5519 The safety report was accepted and it highlighted problems caused by the setting alight of newspapers in a rubbish bin.

7. TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

5520A A report for March was tabled. Acceptance of the report was proposed by Ivan Gosden and seconded by Sandy Johnston and unanimously received.

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Reconciliation of the Parish Bank Accounts as at 31st March 2008

Financial Year ending 31/3/08	PETTY CASH	HSBC Current A/C	Bank of Ireland Deposit A/C	Grand Total
Opening Balance per March statement		4,706.17	20,516.49	25,222.66
Income - Credits received at bank in MAR		2,119.29	77.84	2,197.13
Expenditure - Cheques presented in MAR		2,294.48	2,000.00	4,294.48
Petty Cash at Hand	50.00			50.00
Closing Balance per March Statement (Cash at bank and in hand)	50.00	4,530.98	18,594.33	23,175.31
March Credits not yet cashed		0.00		
March Cheques not yet cashed		326.31		326.31
Closing Balance per March		4,204.67	18,594.33	22,849.00
Itemised list of March cheques not yet cashed (ie unrepresented)				
		Number	£	Date
CPRE Membership - S.137 Expenditure		100866	£28.00	22.03.08
JL Bryce Mole treatment		100867	£274.31	19.03.08
Villagr Hall Booking		100868	£24.00	19.03.08
Total March cheques not yet cashed			£326.31	
Approval for payments due in April				
Clerk salary				£767.66
Litter Warden salary				£138.00
Tax and NIC				£172.35
Bulpitt Brothers Village maintenance - 2007/8 expense (to be accrued)				£610.00
HALC Affiliations Fees and levy				£316.00
David Hitchins 2007/8 Audit Fee - 2007/8 expense (to be accrued)				£352.50
SLCC Membership				£129.00
PC Village Hall Bookings (covering April,May,June)				£26.13
SE Water				£33.65
TOTAL APRIL PAYMENTS				£2,545.29

8. TO DISCUSS DRAFT REPORT FOR APM on 23rd MAY 2008

5521 A draft report had been circulated and it was agreed that amendments should be given directly to the clerk.

9. TO DISCUSS GIFTS TO RETIRING COUNCILLORS

5522 Tracy Lander-Sims agreed to find suitable gifts in time for the APM when they would be presented.

10. TO DISCUSS OUTSTANDING LEGAL ISSUES CURRENTLY WITH B&D LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

5523 Bruce Batting explained that the deeds were available for George White to collect and hoped to be able to report some progress at the next meeting.

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Ivan Gosden asked whether the council should look at using a private firm to action this as there has been a long delay without progress. It was agreed that B&D BC should be given a little longer.

11. TO RECEIVE BREACH GARDENS UPDATE

5524 It was agreed that there was little point in continuing with the proposal to change the name as one resident is against the proposal and the Borough Council views it as 'cosmetic' and therefore not a good use of public money.

12. TO DISCUSS SIGNS FOR TRAFFICE TURNING FROM GODDARDS LANE DOWN THE TRACK TO DOVE COTTAGE

5525 The owners of Dove Cottage would like to put up a sign saying 'Dove Cottage Only' to prevent drivers from mistaking their track with Greenway. This was approved.

13. TO DISCUSS BUILDING MATERIALS BEING STORED ON GREEN ON BRAMLEY ROAD

5526 Bruce Batting agreed to speak to the residents in the hope that they would agree to move their materials onto their own land and that this issue could be solved amicably.

BB

14. TO AGREE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

5527 Items to be received at least five days before the next meeting.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

5528 Next meeting to be held Wednesday 14th May 2008 at 7:30pm in the Liddell Hall.