

yBISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at 7:30 p.m.
on Monday 3rd July 2017
at Hinton Parva Village Hall

Those Present: Ian Thomas (Chair), Lesley Drewett (Clerk), Val Brodin (Vice Chair), Nigel Crisp, Douglas Stevens, Stuart McGuigan, Julian Cooke, Gill May, Cllr Gary Sumner.

1. Public Question Time

Two members of the public arrived after the meeting had started. The Chair closed the meeting in order that they could speak.

One had attended to discuss a potential planning application at his property before submitting it to the Borough Council.

The other enquired about the ownership of a hedge adjoining his property.

The Chair then re-opened the meeting.

2. Approved Apologies

Tom Green, Andy Greenhalgh.

The Chair informed Cllrs he had received an email from the Architect dealing with the application for 5 High Street who was surprised and disappointed that the application was not being presented at the meeting that evening. The Chair had explained that notification had not been received from the Borough.

[Post meeting note: it is now evident that no further planning application has been submitted to SBC yet]

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

- Changes to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The Clerk explained that she has to check at regular intervals that there have not been any changes to Cllrs Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. There were no changes to disclose.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Chair asked for a proposition that the minutes of the June meeting be accepted as a true record. The proposition was put forward by Cllr Brodin and unanimously agreed by those present. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.

5. Matters Arising

All actions from the previous meeting had been completed except for the following:

Public Question Time

The Clerk had forgotten to highlight the following action for Cllr Sumner, shown below, and it was not discussed at the meeting. It has been carried forward to the August meeting.

Charlbury Hill

Cllr Sumner agreed to speak with SBC to ask for a Public Space Protection Order for the area. Cllrs agreed that the idea of shutting Charlbury Hill was not a viable or appropriate response to the problems encountered.

Action: Cllr Sumner is to speak with the Cabinet member at SBC to ask if they could look at a Public Space Protection Order for the area.

Refuse Collection

Cllr Sumner felt that this should be chased if there were further problems. The Chair explained it had been decided it was OK for the large vehicle to service Cues Lane, but there

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were problems at the Wyncies, especially during bad weather when the vehicle destroys the grass verge.

Action: Cllr Sumner is to ask that a small vehicle is used at The Wyncies.

Cllr Stephens reported that the plastics recycling had not been collected from the High Street. This had been reported by the Chair and the Clerk. The Chair had completed an online form and had received an acknowledgement and an email saying this would be dealt within 2 days. [Post meeting note: the refuse was collected within 2 days]

Footpath at the Wyncies

The Chair had chased Ryan Dowling regarding the footpath but had not received a response.

Action: The Chair is awaiting a response from SBC.

[Post meeting note: RD has responded to advise that this is not considered a priority]

Cllr Sumner had been asked by the Borough to make sure his villages are aware of the illegal fly posting of signs. One had recently been fined £70 per sign for this offence.

Signs should always be removed as soon as an event is over.

Bridge over to the Island

The work on the bridge is complete however Cllr Stevens had spoken to the Lengthman and agreed that the two supports holding the main gate up need bracing at the top. The Lengthman is also looking to see if he can cross brace it back to the main bridge. Cllr Stephens asked if anyone had pictures of the bridge before it had been repaired for submission to Tesco in relation to the grant. It was suggested that the school may have some photographs.

Action: The Clerk is to email the headteacher to ask if they have any photographs. (Complete)

Action: The Chair is to check his computer.

Passing Places

Some scalping had been laid by Cllr Cooke in the other laybys.

Church Commissioners

A meeting had been set up to meet the Church Commissioners and their agent on 20/7/17. Those that had expressed a wish to attend had been invited. The Chair has asked for an agenda, which he will forward to Cllrs once received.

Action: The Chair will forward the agenda and set up a pre-meeting.

Predicting what the Church Commissioners would want to discuss the Chair asked Cllrs how they would react to the idea of working with the CCs towards a new development similar to that in Ashbury. That development secured a new village shop, a playground and a large area of land for use as a village green. There would undoubtedly be some controversy over a development like this and it may be something that would need to be progressed via a Neighbourhood Development Order where a village referendum could be held.

Cllr Sumner thought this was a positive way forward. He explained that there are currently a lot of sites being promoted in Bishopstone and he felt embracing proactively for some level of development which supports the village would be a good thing. He went on to say that villages that do not allow any growth simply "die". He stated that some people may welcome having some affordable bungalows built in the village which would then free up some more small family housing in a central location in the village.

The Chair explained that the village is very heavily constrained in landscape terms by AONB and the Conservation Area and that selecting an appropriate site would be a challenge.

Cllr May said there are minimal children from the village that attend the school. Children are travelling from as far as Covingham, Swindon and South Cerney. The viability of the school is based on working with the Diocese. For it to survive it must teach between 43-45 children. She expressed that the needs of the young and old should be considered and that a new development might help to deliver some much-needed services.

Cllr Cooke explained that there is a trend to get farms out of the village as opposition to the farms is growing generally.

Cllr Sumner suggested an email to Mike Ash at the Housing Department could provide information on how many houses are still authority owned in the Wyncies and the age of residents.

[Action: The clerk to request the information from Mike Ash]

The Hovel Demolition

The judge at the Hearing had dismissed the case on the grounds that there was “no case to answer” as the evidence surrounding the volume of the building had been uncertain. The barrister acting for SBC had been surprised at this as it was felt that SBC’s evidence was robust enough. Cllr Sumner advised that there was no right to appeal.

Action: The Clerk is to forward the email to Cllrs for their information. (Complete)

Action: The Clerk is to place the article in the Parish Times. (Complete)

Pond & Island

The Chair had seen the island recently and could not see any need for any formal clean-up party to be organised. Cllrs agreed that no clean-up was necessary.

Communication Policy

This item was to be carried forward.

Cllr May had sent a draft policy to Cllrs for information and comments are to be emailed to Cllr May in advance of the next meeting for updating.

Action: Cllr May is to send through the updated documents for ratification at the next meeting.

Passing Places

Cllrs felt that the recent remedial work carried out on the passing places is totally unsatisfactory.

Action: Cllr Green is to report that the resurfacing works are totally unsatisfactory and that they need to attend to the other lay by.

6. **Planning**

- **S/15/1701/RM** – Erection of 1 dwelling – Land off Short Drove, Hinton Parva, Swindon
This application had been responded to before the meeting owing to time constraints.

The Chair and Cllr Sumner had met with Dave Dewart (Planning Manager) at SBC who had informed them that it had been decided that the design was not “exceptional” in NPPF para 55 terms. The applicant would be advised accordingly.

- **Late Receipt of Planning Notifications**

PENDING DETERMINATION

- **S/LBC/17/0827/SASM** – Erection of a single storey side extension and installation of a satellite dish – Lilac Cottage, High Street, Bishopstone
- **S/LBC/16/1602/HC** – Erection of a detached garage - Land Adjacent to ‘Sarsens’, High Street, Bishopstone
- **S/RES/16/1233KC – REVISED** - Application for approval of reserved matters in relation to appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for phase 5 (Unit 1) of outline planning permission S/OUT/14/0253 – Employment development including B1b (research & development/light industrial), B1c (light industrial), B2 (general industrial & B8 (warehouse & distribution), new landscaping & junction to A420 (means of access not reserved – Eastern Villages South, Land At And To The South of A420 (Great Stall Middle), Swindon, Wilts
- **S/16/1225/KC – REVISED** - Application for approval of reserved matters in relation to appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for phases 1-4 & 7 of outline planning permission S/OUT/14/0253 – Employment development including B1b (research & development/light industrial), B1c (light industrial), B2 (general industrial & B8 (warehouse & distribution), new landscaping & junction to A420 (means of access not reserved. (Variation of condition 1 from Reserved Matters application S/RES/15/1522 -Eastern Villages South, Land At And To The South of A420 (Great Stall Middle), Swindon, Wilts

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- **App/U3935/W/16/3154437/APP/U3935/W/16/3154441** – Outline Planning Application (with means of access off Wanborough Road not reserved) for up to 200 dwellings (Use Class 3) with open space, landscaping & associated road & drainage infrastructure to form the southern part of Lotmead Village – Lotmead site, Eastern Villages, Swindon
- **APP/U3935/W/16/3154437/APP/U3935/W/16/3154441**- Outline planning applications (with means off Wanborough Road not reserved) for the demolition and/or conversion of the existing buildings on site & redevelopment to provide up to 2,600 dwellings, up to 1765sqm of company/retail uses (Use Class D1/D2/A1/A3/A4), up to 3,000 sqm of business/employment us (Class B1), a primary school, open space, strategic landscaping & other green infrastructure (including SUDs & areas indicative primary access road corridors to the A420 & improvements& widening of existing route off Wanborough Road to provide pedestrian, cycle & bus access – Lotmead Site, Eastern Villages, Swindon
- **S/OUT/13/1555** – Outline planning application for up to 2380 dwellings, mixed use local centres/areas, community uses, sheltered and/or care accommodation, up to two primary schools, green infrastructure including formal & informal open space, play space, sports facilities, sustainable drainage, engineering works & including ground re-modelling, other infrastructure, demolition & the formation of new accesses from the A420, Old Vicarage Lane & Thornhill Road – Eastern Villages North, Eastern Villages, Swindon
- **S/OUT/16/0021/ES** – Revised Outline Planning Application for the erection of up to 370no dwellings, a local convenience store/community facility, primary school, open space, landscaping, access points to and from Wanborough Road and northern site boundary and eastern boundaries and associated infrastructure – Redlands, Eastern Villages, Swindon – Revised Documents

Cllr Sumner confirmed that the Redlands application is likely to appear before planning committee in September.

OTHER ISSUES

- The Hovel Demolition

This item had been discussed under item 5.7

GRANTED

- **S/17/0437/SASM** – Erection of a residential annexe to main dwelling for carer– C Acres, Hinton Parva Lane, Hinton Parva
- **S/HOU/17/0721FL** – erection of a first-floor rear extension – Coombe Cottage, Bodyhorse Hill, Hinton Parva

The following GRANTED schedules had been received after the agenda had been issued.

- **S/PRIORC/16/1979 SASM** – Prior Approval Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to residential dwelling (C3) – Upper Farm, Hinton Parva Lane, Hinton Parva
- **S/17/0771/IH** – Erection of a barn for storage – I Mount Pleasant Cottages, Mount Pleasant Farm Lane, Horpit

REFUSAL

NONE

7. Reports from Ward Councillor

Cllr Sumner advised that the Post 16 consultation on access to buses had had a good response from members of the public and they are hopeful that something can be agreed for Post 16's transport for Ridgeway students. There was nothing else to report.

Septic Tank

Cllr Crisp reminded Cllr Sumner that he had posed a question a while ago about the contract between SBC and the residents of Hinton Parva who are connected to the septic tank. Cllr Sumner explained that he had chased this up but it is with Legal again. It had been agreed some time ago that they would go away and look at all the connections and the improper rain water connections and come back with a definitive answer with costs etc. Residents have informed Cllr Sumner that bills have been received but nothing in terms of a definitive answer. Brian Skeffington is not about at present but he is waiting for some more answers from Mike Ash who has agreed to push this forward. Cllr Sumner has asked Mike for this in order that he can get an answer that will take them back to another public meeting to clarify what is being charged. He would like to see a meeting in September and he will reinforce this to Mike Ash.

Action: Cllr Sumner is to talk to Mike Ash. (Complete)

Cllr Crisp explained that the site was a mess and they are contracted to trim it every 3 months. He would like the Parish Council to take over the maintenance on a similar basis to the Wyncies agreement. He has

sent a quote to SBC from the Lengthman, this is £40 every 2 weeks. He understands the Avon contract is to come up for tender and he asked that they put the Parish Council forward to tender. Cllr Sumner adamantly advised that the Parish Council should be reluctant to take on this kind of work. The liabilities are better outside of the Parish Council.

8. Reports from Sub Committees

Pond & Island Allotment

This item was discussed at item 5.8.

Action: The Clerk is to remove this item from the agenda.

Bridge over to the Island

This item was discussed under item 5.4.

9. Lengthman Work

Services from SBC – fly tipping proposal

The Chair informed Cllrs that he had spoken with Lee a lot recently and he was due to meet him that day. The Chair was slightly concerned that things were not being done to the correct standard particularly with regards overhanging branches and weeds.

Action: The Clerk is to ensure that there is no charge for June. [No invoice has been received to date.]

The Chair had asked Lee to attend to weeds that were invading the new steps leading down to The Dingle. Cllr Stephens explained that Lee would need a competency certificate for the safe use of weed killer. The Chair explained that he uses pesticides and weed killers elsewhere. It was agreed that as long as it is away from water and Cllrs ensure that he is appropriately covered and has the right qualifications, they are happy for him to weed killer the path.

Action: The Chair is to contact the Lengthman.

[Post meeting note: The Lengthman has confirmed that he is appropriately qualified.

The clerk is to obtain a copy of the qualification from the Lengthman]

10. Charlbury Hill Litter Problems

Cllr Crisp reported some recent littering and anti-social activity which he had resolved himself. Cllrs thanked Cllr Crisp for his efforts.

Action: The Clerk is to remove this item from the agenda.

Cllr Brodin explained that she had spoken with the Community Police Officer and asked her to attend the meeting, but she had sadly declined. She has asked her to attend the August meeting but has not yet received a response. She had found a map on the website which showed criminal activities in different areas, but anything connected to anti-social behaviour does not get noted.

Cllr Brodin is waiting for a response from Sophie Best with regard to her attendance at the next meeting.

Cllr Brodin then informed everyone that on 5/7/17 Community Speed Watch were going to hold a meeting in Devizes. She will attend.

11. Communication Policy

This item had been discussed at item 5.9.

12. BT Telephone Boxes

Cllr Brodin explained that their phone box needed painting and tidying.

Action: The Clerk is to contact Karen Phimister to ask for contact details. (Complete)

Action: The Clerk is to remove this item from the agenda.

13. Main Points

Eastern Villages Expansion

There was nothing to report.

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Resurfacing Works – New Road

Cllr McGuigan is keeping a watching brief on the condition of the road.

Action: Cllr McGuigan is to take photographs at different times during the year.

(Pending)

Action: The Clerk is to keep this item on the agenda.

Bishopstone Fire Engine

The Clerk had received the signed contract from WAFERS. The Chair asked the Clerk to read the document to ensure nothing had been changed and then return a copy back to WAFERS for their information.

Action: The Clerk is to check the document and return a signed copy to WAFERS for their information.

Action: The Clerk is to write to Alan House of the Firefighters Memorial Trust.

Action: The Clerk is to remove this item from the agenda.

Refuse Collection – The Wyncies & Cues Lane

This item was discussed under item 5.2.

Action: The Clerk is to keep this item on the agenda.

14. Accounts to be Paid

The cheques shown in Appendix 1 of the Agenda were presented for approval.

The Clerk's salary and timesheet had been sent to the Chair of the Finance Sub-Committee for checking before the agenda had been issued.

The invoices were proposed for payment by Cllr Cooke, seconded by Cllr Stevens and agreed unanimously by those present.

15. Correspondence

The Chair asked Cllrs if they wished to view the correspondence, none did.

16. Parishioners Feedback/Complaints.

The following concerns were raised:

The Mission

Cllr Crisp reported that the drain at the Mission had been tarmacked over.

Action: Cllr Crisp is to send the Clerk a photograph.

Action: The Clerk is to notify SBC.

Learn Direct

Cllr May reported that there are some people in the village that are neither in education nor employed. She therefore felt that anything to get the message out to these people was important. The Clerk had asked for an A5 poster for the noticeboards, this had not been received.

[The Clerk has since managed to print an A5 version of the original A3 poster and a copy has been placed on both notice boards.]

Traveller

The traveller is back in between the Eastbrook Valley and Idstone. The Chair is to contact the Ashbury Clerk to show the Parish Councils arguments and challenges if they need some help. Cllrs felt they should keep a watching brief

Action: The Chair is to contact the Ashbury Clerk.

White Lines

Cllr Stephens reminded the Clerk that at Hinton Springs the centre white line is faint and also at the junction at Hinton Springs; this is an extremely dangerous corner. The white lining at the School and Church Walk also needs re-lining.

Action: The Clerk is to email SBC. (Complete)

Trees at City Corner

Cllr Brodin had received a call about the overhanging trees at City Corner on the path at Short Drove.

Action: Cllr Cooke is to deal with this.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

17. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is due to take place on Monday 7th August 2017 at Bishopstone Village Hall at 7:30 pm.

Apologies received from Cllr Julian Cooke.

Signed:

Date: