

BRIGHTWELL CUM SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on 20th March 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs J. Rodda (Chair), G. Gillgrass, H. Baines and C.Collett.

In attendance: Mrs L. Dalby (Clerk) and County Cllr L. Atkins.

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllrs D. Fox, T. Burton and L. Dixon	
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 21st February 2012 The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.	
3. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest As Trustees of the Charity responsible for the Recreation Ground all members of the Council who were present declared an interest under section 9 of the Code of Conduct in respect of all matters relating to the Recreation ground. The following personal interests were declared: All Councillors in matters relating to the Village Community Stores, Cllr Collett as a District Councillor in matters relating to SODC. Cllr Rodda in matters relating to St. Agatha's Church and the Village Hall. Cllr Wood in matters relating to correspondence regarding the name Slade End Farm.	
4. Public Participation There was none.	
5. Reports a) County Councillor's Report OCC is taking over responsibility for issuing Blue Badges for disabled parking. This is part of a range of changes designed, in consultation with users, to improve the scheme and, in particular, prevent fraud and abuse. The Cabinet decided to go ahead with the gravel pit at Cholsey. I spoke at the scrutiny committee meeting regarding the plans, but did not manage to persuade them to recommend any changes. Following the full council meeting on 3 rd April the matter will go out to consultation and then EIP. The outcomes of the bus review are also awaited. I hope to be able to report back on recommendations, although not on outcomes, at the meeting. I should be told by the end of this week (therefore in advance of the meeting!) exactly which areas will benefit from the new high-speed broadband service. I have asked for specific information about Brightwell-cum-Sotwell and will report that back too. Work is continuing on the new Youth and Children's services base in Wallingford. We had a very successful site clearance day on 3 rd March. b) District Councillor's Report Paths for Communities A new grant scheme is being developed by Natural England to create and/or improve paths in the countryside. Projects that offer best value for money will score high, grants will normally be limited to 75% of the actual cost, with encouragement to seek match funding.	

Community Investment Fund

The CIF opened on 5th March and closes on 30th April for requests between £15,000 and £100,000.

DIDCOT A Power Station

Didcot A will be closing by the end of 2015, the cooling towers and chimney will be demolished, owners and the Council are looking at the redevelopment of the site. Didcot B Power Station will remain

c) Clerk's Report

I have requested that speed monitoring take place at Shillingford Hill and on the A4130 by the Slade End junction. The work will cost £100 + VAT for each site and is dependent on suitable street furniture.

CLlr Collett and I have met with Margaret Eaglestone from ORCC to discuss the Rural Affordable Housing – more details of how the site was selected are to follow.

The school have requested the use of King's Meadow as an assembly point in the event of an evacuation of the school. The Council agreed.

d) Planning Report

Ref	Description	PC Rec	Decision
P11 /W1831	Demolition of existing dwelling and garage building and erection of new dwelling and garage with new access onto Slade End. Trelfa, Slade End	Approve	Approved
P11/W1931	Demolition of garage and workshop with change of use to provide a residential development of 2 no. 4 bedroom detached properties with integral garages. Bell Garage, High Road.	Approve	Withdrawn
P11/W2103	Single Storey timber outbuilding. 2, Copse Cottages, Shillingford Rd	Approve	Approved
P11/W2259	Single Storey timber workshop and garden building. Old Copse Cottage, Shillingford Rd.	Approve	

e) February Payments

Payee and Reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
L. Dalby – Clerks Salary and Expenses March	390.47		390.47
Post Office Ltd – PAYE	96.20		96.20
Tom Cottrell Landscapes – tree work	1800.00	360.00	2160.00

The balance of the current account on 29th February 2012 stood at £23,655.81.

f) Jubilee Celebrations

The Council had no objections to the request for a road closure for a street party.

6. Matters for Discussion/Decision

a) Core Strategy

The Working Party has held one meeting since the last meeting of the Council. Advice has been obtained from West Waddy for the drafting of the Council's submission to SODC and the Inspector and the draft has been considered by the Working Party. This material will be entered in Box 6 of the Representation Form and will be dispatched to Crowmarsh before 23 March. A March Update on the Core Strategy has been circulated to parishioners on the PC email list encouraging them to send in their representation forms with ticks in the supporting boxes. A village-wide effort is being made to collect signatures for group responses.

b) Planning

P11/W2364 – Erection of new grain storage building with associated concrete hard standing and widening of access track. Sherwood Farm, Mackney Lane.
No objection

c) Risk Assessment

The risk assessment needs to be reviewed in time for the Audit.

d) APM

Anton Nath from ORCC will attend the APM.

e) Village Maintenance

It was agreed to ask Mr Cottrell to go ahead with the removal of the ash trees at King's Meadow.

Cllr Collett reported that Mr Copley is happy to carry out minor repairs to the play equipment. The Clerk will write and thank him for his kind offer.

Cllr Gillgrass reported that he has asked Mr Allen to provide a quote for repainting the telephone boxes and varnishing the benches and notice board.

Cllr Collett reported that a defibrillator is to be fitted in the phone box at Long Wittenham.

Cllr Baines reported that the holes in the mounds at King's Meadow have been filled in and that spade taken away. The young people will put a proposal together for the work they would like to be done on the mounds.

Playground Inspection Schedule – Cllr Gillgrass has agreed to review the format.

f) Church Wall

Concerns have been raised about the maintenance of the cob wall in the churchyard. The Clerk will contact SODC with regard to the wall.

	<p style="text-align: center;">g) Community/Jubilee Orchard and Path</p> <p>The Village Hall committee have agreed in principle that the disused area of the allotments could be made into a Community Orchard however this area is currently being monitored by the Environment Group so permission for alterations would also have to be sought from them.</p> <p>CLlr Rodda will contact The Earth Trust about the footpath.</p>	
7.	<p>Matters for report and items for inclusion on next month's agenda</p> <p>CLlr Collett reported that an application for permission to build a dock on the Shillingford side of the river has been received details are available on the SODC website.</p>	

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 17th April at 7.30pm in The Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed.....Dated.....