

BRIGHTWELL CUM SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllrs D. Fox (Chair), L. Dixon, C.Collett, J. Rodda and G. Gilgrass.

In attendance: Mrs L. Dalby (Clerk) and two members of the public.

1	Co-option onto the Council There are two vacancies, the posts have been advertised but no applications have been received. It was agreed that all Councillors would ask other residents if they would be interested in joining the council.	
2	Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A. Wood, H. Baines and County Cllr L Atkins.	
3	Minutes of the meeting held on 16th October 2012 The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.	
4	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.	
5	Public Participation Mr and Mrs Lester Thorne outlined their proposal to build a new house at Greenacre. The Council took note of the plans and will comment when the plans are received from the planning authority.	
6	Reports a) County Councillor's Report The OCC minerals proposals have at last been passed to the Inspector, unchanged from the paper that went to the County Council meeting in April. It is expected that the examination in public will take place in late January or February, and I hope to speak at that examination about the many reasons why the plans for gravel extraction between Wallingford and Cholsey are misconceived. I will be speaking to officers at OCC about the S106 plans that may emerge from the inspector's decision on the strategic housing site. If there are any highways or other OCC issues where the Council believes that expenditure may be necessary as a result of the proposals being implemented, please do let me know. Budget discussions for 2013/14 are starting, although the final plans will not be clear until January. I'll keep the Council posted on any information that does come my way.	

The plans discussed some time ago to switch off the street lights on the Slade End roundabout in the middle of the night were not implemented. Our electricity supplier changed the tariff so there was no charge for middle of the night electricity, meaning that the cost of the timers could not be justified.

b) District Councillor's Report

Core Strategy

In light of the very disappointing Inspector's final conclusion on the Core Strategy, I will be looking to work closely with the Parish Council to obtain the best possible outcomes as the Core strategy moves forward.

Recycling

The South and the Vale have been official confirmed as the country's top two districts for recycling. As well as congratulations to all those responsible for providing this service, a huge thank you must go to the residents for embracing the scheme and making it such a success.

Internal audit services to Town and Parish Councils

The district council's internal audit team is now able to offer its local government expertise and professional knowledge to town and parish councils. For more information on fees and services available please contact Adrianna Partridge- Audit Manager SODC.

Didcot A Power Station

An application has been lodge with the Vale of White Horse Distr5ict Council by RWEpower for a "Certificate of Immunity" from listing of the cooling towers – P12/Va612/CIA. English Heritage's report and supporting documents can be commented on by 23rd November 2012.

Boundary Review

The draft proposals for boundary review are now available, these affect your Parish please take time to scrutinize them, and if you wish to comment make sure your submissions are received by 7th January.

It was agreed to contact the Parishes that will form the proposed ward with Brightwell – cum-Sotwell to discuss concerns about the size of the new ward before responding to the consultation.

c) Clerk's Report

The Parish Council now has a Public Sector Mapping Agreement Licence, which allows the Parish Council to use Ordnance Survey Maps.

The sleepers at Well Springs have been replaced.

The hedge which is blocking the pavement has been reported to OCC Highways.

DH

d) Planning Report

Ref	Description	PC Rec	Decision
P12/S1850/HH	Oak framed orangery extension. Hawthorn House, Slade End	Approve	Approved
P12/S1878/HH	Proposed 2 storey side extension to provide a living room and master bedroom with ensuite shower room. Lucks All, Mackney Lane	Refuse	Approved
P12/S1915/O	Replacement of existing 3 bedroom dwelling with new 4 bedroom dwelling. Resub. P12/S0329	No strong views	Approved
P12/ S2178/O	Demolition of existing petrol forecourt, reception and workshop buildings. Change of use to residential. Construction of one new dwelling with associated parking and gardens. Bell garage, High Rd, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell	No strong views	Withdrawn
P12S2376/HH	Proposed extension to swimming pool and installation of an air source heat pump. Smalls House, Mackney Lane	Approve	
P12/S2386/HH	Proposed 2 storey extension, alterations to existing roof line including new dormer window, new bay windows and new entrance porch. Iden House	Approve	

e) November Payments

Payee and reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
Martin Dix – Railway Sleeper	63.00	12.60	75.60
GLS Educational Supplies	129.95	25.99	155.94
Village Hall Committee – Refurbishment Donation	1000.00		1000.00
Chubb Fire – servicing Jubilee Pavilion	219.04	43.81	262.85
L. Dalby – Clerk’s salary and expenses	412.11		412.11
Post Office Ltd – PAYE	97.60		97.60

f) CAGE

OCC have confirmed that they have now submitted their minerals strategy unchanged from that published in May 2012.

CAGE believe that they need to raise another £20,000 to support the examination in public stage. There is a meeting on Tuesday 20th at 7.30 pm to discuss this.

	<p>g) Footpath at Earth Trust Cllr Rodda has emailed The Earth Trust but hasn't had a response. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Earth Trust asking for a response to the proposal for a permissive footpath.</p> <p>h) Benson Neighbourhood Plan Area Consultation The Council agreed it had no comment to make on this consultation.</p>	Clerk
7	<p>Matters for Discussion/Decision</p> <p>a) Inspection and Maintenance</p> <p>General Maintenance</p> <p>Flag stones around the war memorial were pressure water cleaned in advance of the Armistice Day service.</p> <p>To be completed in December:</p> <p>Restoration of the bench on the Croft Path Completion of phone box restoration with parts received.</p> <p>Play Areas</p> <p>Nicole O'Donnell of OFPA will meet with GG and HB on 01/12/12 to review the possibilities for play area refurbishment including funding options.</p> <p>A process to link inspection reports to the budget and planned maintenance plan is in preparation.</p> <p>Mackney Lane Recreation Ground</p> <p>Planned Maintenance</p> <p>Shackles on 2nd swing to be replaced Cleaning and painting swing crossbar Damaged rope on 'Playdale' to be replaced – needs contact information (Mr Copley) Replacement of rusted metal gate with a new oak 5 bar gate - awaiting quotation Cutting back and weed killing area to the lane side of the Pavilion</p> <p>Proposed for inclusion in 2013 budget:</p> <p>Cleaning of all 'safer surfaces' and proposal for ongoing planned maintenance New 'safer surface' around the agility bars Replacement for missing swing Replace 'baby' swing seat Laying gravel board and a lined gravel path to the lane side of the Pavilion</p> <p>Refurbishment of the see-saw is subject to CLP recommendations</p>	

Kings Meadow Recreation Ground

Planned Maintenance

Fitting ownership signs to play area tennis court fencing
Replacement of damaged gate hinges and catch
Cleaning and proposed maintenance for swing and 'springy thing' seats

Proposed for inclusion in 2013 budget:

Cleaning of all 'safer surfaces' and proposal for ongoing planned maintenance
Replacement of damage/rotten wooden parts of adventure rail with ongoing planned maintenance

Refurbishment or replacement of the 'springy thing' is subject to CLP recommendations.

It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain quotes for replacement parts and gate for the recreation field. The Clerk will also contact the supplier of the safer surfaces to discuss maintenance and discuss keeping the weeds at bay with Scion.

Cllr Gillgrass reported that the works needed to refurbish the tennis courts will cost around £10,000. The residual funds from the Tennis Club are available to be used towards the cost, the Clerk will find out how much is available.

It was agreed that the work to the surface should be dealt with as soon as possible with the rest of the work being scheduled for the spring. The Court will need to be looked after properly once the work is completed.

It was also agreed that the community should be consulted about future use of the court – would marking out a netball court for dual use be of interest to the school?

Cllr Fox thanked Cllr Gilgrass for all his work on maintenance in the Parish.

The Clerk reported that she has found a contractor to clear the ditch at the Recreation Field. He will cost £350 for the day.

Cllr Fox reported that the Jubilee Pavilion Committee are concerned that their income will not keep up with maintenance cost. The Pavilion is a Parish Council asset with a management committee.

b) Community Led Plan

The CLP steering committee would like to produce a map of the Parish with house names and numbers marked on it. In principle it was agreed they should go ahead but thought should be given to where it will be displayed.

It has been suggested that the Parish Council should be putting aside funds to replace any ash trees that may be lost to ash dieback. It was agreed to wait until the 2014/15 budget when the situation will be clearer. The Environment Group will in the mean time carry out

Clerk
GG

	<p>an ash tree survey.</p> <p>The CLP are to launch their own website and it has been suggested that the Parish Council should also have an independent website. There was general agreement to go ahead with a Parish Council website if an affordable and suitable design can be found.</p> <p>The CLP will be holding consultation events at the school fair, art club exhibition and Christmas lunch club.</p> <p>c) Salt Spreader It was agreed to share the cost of a salt spreader with Cllr Atkins if storage space could be found.</p> <p>d) Core Strategy The Council agreed that assurances should be sought from SODC that measures agreed will be adhered to.</p> <p>e) Handrail Footpath 17 The Clerk reported that OCC Countryside services have no particular specifications for a handrail. She will now contact the landowner to ask permission to erect a handrail.</p> <p>f) Clerk's Salary Review It was agreed to increase the Clerk's salary by one scale point in line with her contract.</p> <p>h) Budget 2013/14 The 2013/14 budget was discussed and it was agreed that further information was needed before agreeing the precept.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
8	<p>Matters for report and items for inclusion on next month's agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fly tipping - Use of the Public Sector Mapping Agreement 	<p>Clerk</p>

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 18th December at 7.30pm in The Village Hall.
There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.35 pm.

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