

BRIGHTWELL CUM SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on 21st July 2015 at 7.30pm in the Church Room.

Present: Cllrs D. Fox (Chair), Celia Collett, J. Debney, S. Jackson, S. Robson, and R. Nielsen

In attendance: L. Dalby (Clerk), County Cllr L. Atkins and two members of the public.

1	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllrs S. Booth, A. McGivan and H. Baines.
2	Minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2015. 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.
4	Public Participation Mr Robertson from the Plymouth Brethren Gospel Hall explained that their membership has grown since the closure of other halls and they are therefore finding that their parking facilities are inadequate. They are especially concerned about the safety of younger members and lack of space if the emergency services were called. The members are keen to minimise the visual impact of any new car park and also to ensure proper drainage. Cllr Fox explained that the Parish Council will consider the formal application when it comes in.
5	Reports a) County Councillor's Report I have been in touch with the relevant officer at OCC about reducing speed limits, and have passed the information he requested on to David Fox. I hope this will enable the Council to look at how it wants to proceed with this. Cllr Atkins is happy to support a 20mph speed limit in the village. I now understand that the next stage of consultation on the Minerals and Waste Plan will take place from approximately 20 th July to the end of September (having originally been scheduled to start in 'May/June'). I am told that it has been extended from 6 weeks (which would have exactly covered the school holiday period) to approximately 10 weeks, 4 of which will be after the holidays. I hope to continue to work with OXAGE which includes representatives from across the county in a joint approach to opposing the proposals.

b) District Councillors' Report

There was none.

c) Clerk's Report

Following an incident in the Recreation Ground Car Park the Police have advised that there should be a notice warning that the car park is kept locked. It was agreed that the lock should be moved to the gate to the field itself and for the car park to remain open.

A site has been agreed for the Village Hall defibrillator and training is in hand for the Shillingford Residents. It was agreed the Parish Council would pay for room hire for the training. It was noted that the weekly inspection schedule should be amended to include checking the Greenmere defibrillator unless a local resident was willing to take responsibility for this.

The Financial report was noted. The balance of the bank account is £40,817.14

d) Planning Report

Ref	Description	PC Rec	Decision
P15/S0632/HH	Proposed ground and first floor side extension. Proposed ground floor rear extension. Lilicot, the Square	Refuse	Refused
P15/S1580/HH	Single vehicle garage and carport to side and rear of house. Anchorage, Church Lane	Approve	Granted
P15/S1346/FUL	Variation of condition 2 and removal of condition 4 of P14/S2171/FUL Deacons House	Refuse	Granted
P15/S1769/HH	Demolition of existing Porch, single storey front extension and pitched roof to existing dormer. 7, Monks Mead	Approve	
P15/S1744/FUL	Erection of a new grain store and a general purpose storage barn with accessways. Frogs Island Farm	Approve	
P15/S1670/HH	Variation of condition 3 on planning Permission P05/W0270. The Orchard, Church Lane	Approve	
P14/S0851/FUL	Construction of one dwelling and garages. Land between Mount Vernon & North Barn, Bakers Lane	Refuse	Appeal dismissed

e) Neighbourhood Plan Report

The steering group are beginning to identify sites on maps of the Parish. Two separate developers have approached the committee.

There have also been requests to consider tied housing for agriculture and the school.

The Steering Group need an Environmental Sustainability Assessment.

f) July's Payments

Payee and reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
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L Dalby – Basket ball net	8.04		8.04
Colliers of Crowmarsh – Sadolin	23.50		23.50
Evergreen Grounds Maintenance – grass cutting	1700.00	340.00	2040.00
Calico UK – Domain Name	15.00	3.00	18.00
D.T. Cooper – grass verge cutting	600.00		600.00
Brightwell Vineyard – APM Wine	27.92	5.58	33.50
BDO LLP – External Audit	200.00	40.00	240.00
L. Dalby – Clerk’s Salary and Expenses	509.79		509.79
Post Office Ltd – PAYE	72.60		72.60
R. Sherwood - handyman	60.00		60.00

g) Audit 2014/15

The external Auditor has raised one minor issue.

‘The comparative figures disclosed in section 1 of the Annual Return do not agree to the audited Annual return for the year ended 31 March 2014. The comparative figures for the year ended 31 March 2014 were restated. We have reviewed the adjustments made and we are satisfied they are correct.’

6 Matters for Discussion/Decision

a) Parish Speed Limits

Cllr Fox asked for thoughts following consideration of the material that had been provided by OCC through Cllr Atkins.

Following discussion it was agreed to pursue the 20mph limit with OCC and to also discuss reducing the limits on the road from Wallingford to Shillingford and on the A4130.

b) Post Office

Cllr Collett reported that the Community shop may need to apply to the Parish Council for a grant to alter the shop to make room for a Post Office Counter.

c) Donations 2015

It was agreed to donate £500 to the Web Group.

d) Winter Preparedness

It was agreed to apply to OCC for two more salt bins to be sited by the entrance to the rec and at the top of Church Lane. The stored grit needs to be checked.

e) SODC Big Clean Up

SODC are continuing with their Big Clean Up project. They will be in Brightwell-cum-Sotwell in early August and asked if there are any areas that need particular attention for litter picking and removing weeds and moss. It was agreed to ask if they would clear Butts Lane.

f) Maintenance

- Trees

The Clerk has obtained one quote for tree work. It was agreed that further quotes should be obtained and the work scheduled to be carried out at appropriate times.

- Play Areas

Arrow fencing have suggested the best course of action to protect the legs of the play equipment in Kings Meadow is to generously coat them with timber treatment at a cost of £170 + VAT. It was agreed to ask the grass cutters to leave the grass around the posts.

- Tennis Court

Cllr Collett has obtained a quote of £150 + VAT for the necessary lengths of angle iron. It was agreed if Mr Sherwood was happy with the angle iron to go ahead with the purchase.

The Clerk is waiting for quotes for the wind breaks and for resurfacing the path.

- Noticeboard

The Council considered two types of Notice boards for Greenmere and agreed to go ahead with a single bay notice board from Greenbarnes.

g) CLP Actions

BCS 16	Investigate whether a community facility at Shillingford Hill is feasible in order to provide a place for residents to meet. (Lead: BCS PC/SHRA)	Unable to progress as owners no longer willing to consider.
BCS17	Investigate the feasibility for a natural burial ground to be created in the parish. (Lead BCS PC)	Earth Trust currently plans.
BCS 13	Install permanent goal post at the Recreation Ground. (Lead: BCS PC)	To be included in Play equipment Plans.
BCS 14	Install new benches around the parish. (Lead: BCS PC)	No need at the Moment.
BCS 20	Investigate the installment of additional dog disposal bins. (Lead: BCS PC)	
BCS 30	Work with the North Wessex Downs AONB to investigate the feasibility and implications of an extension of the area designated as AONB to embrace all of the parish. (Lead: BCS PC)	Implications need To be understood Before further Progress.
BCS 31	Work with the North Wessex Downs AONB to install 'Welcome' signs on entry to the AONB (Lead: BCS PC)	Cllr Debney to Investigate.
BCS 27	Investigate the establishment of stronger links with surrounding parishes (including the Wittenhams,	

		Moretons, Astons, Blewbury and Cholsey Parish Councils) to create an alliance of parishes in order to lobby for the conservation of rural character (Lead: BCS PC)		
	BCS 29	Investigate the potential to enlarge the Conservation Area to embrace the fields between the main village and Mackney (Lead: BCS PC)	To be considered as part of N.P.	
	BCS 36	Investigate the potential to establish a bus link between Brightwell cum Sotwell and Didcot via Sires Hill on summer weekends and public holidays. (Lead: BCS PC)	Aspiration as part of future 106 contributions	
	BCS 39	Establish a working group to carry out an access audit of the parish's footpaths and propose measures to improve access. (Lead: BCS EG/PC)	Actioned	
	BCS 40	Establish a working group to investigate the feasibility to open up new footpaths as suggested in this Parish Plan (Lead: BCS EG/PC)	Earth Trust currently carrying out access audit	
	BCS 47	Make people more aware of actions they can take to prepare for an emergency through the establishment of an emergency planning Group (Lead: BCS PC/SODC)	Clerk to find tool kit.	
7.	<p>Matters for report and items for inclusion on next month's agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteers for verge cutting - Cllr Collett reported that following concerns about the bus service review and possible loss of the Dial-a -Ride service Cholsey PC are investigating purchasing a vehicle for disabled people in the local area with help from GWR money. They are prepared to allow other local Parish Councils to buy into the service on an annual basis. - Cllr Nielsen reported he has all the necessary information to put together the A - Z but is considering improving the maps. 			

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 15th September 2015 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10 pm.