

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Wanborough Parish Council held on **1st September 2008** in Wanborough Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough at 19.30.

PRESENT: Mr W Suter (Chairman), Mr G Sumner (Vice-Chairman), Mr C Offer, Mr R Whitfield, Mr B Biggs, Mr D Hayward, Mr C Hayes, Mr W J Smith, Mr A Bennett, Mrs L Berry, Mrs A Basevi

In Attendance Mrs A J Raymond (Clerk) and 2 members of Public

1. Apologies: None
2. Declaration of interest: Mr David Hayward declared a personal interest in item 7.2.1 as he owns an allotment. Mr G Sumner and Mrs A Basevi declared a personal interest in item 7.2.3 as their children attend Poplars Day Nursery.
3. Minutes: The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 21st July 2008 had been circulated to all Parish Councillors. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.
4. Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th July 2008 had been circulated to all Parish Councillors. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Meeting was adjourned for Public Questions

A resident asked if the bin next to the bus shelter in Church Road could be replaced with a bin more in keeping with the area, at the moment it is a yellow metal bin. Parish Council agreed to look into the cost of a new bin and add to next month's agenda.

The owner of Poplars Day Nursery attended meeting to ask if Parish Council would support his request to Swindon Borough Council to extend the footpath from Covingham to Poplars Day Nursery. Parish Council discussed and agreed that they would approach SBC Highways asking for an extension to the footpath, a pedestrian crossing and traffic calming to slow traffic, as speed limit does not currently work. It was also agreed that Poplars would write to SBC.

Clerk reported that a resident had e-mailed her stating that he stood at a bus stop this morning and a bus did not come. Clerk looked into the matter and it seems that Thamesdown Transport had been told by SBC that the road closure at Kite Hill was due to start on 1st September, therefore Thamesdown Transport have put a diversion in place for the buses. The diversion will mean that there will be no bus service in the village apart from at Church Road for the period of the road closure. Clerk to contact SBC and Thamesdown Transport confirming that Parish Council are not happy that once again they have not been informed about the matter, and to ask what residents are supposed to do without a bus service for three weeks.

5. Report from Ward Councillor
Mr Andrew Bennett reported that he had recently received information from SBC about a new scheme called "Street Smart"; the purpose of the scheme is to make Swindon a cleaner and safer place to live. A new telephone number has been set

up – 445501. Clerk to find out why SBC had not informed Parish Council about the scheme.

Mr Colin Hayes stated that there was a rave on Sunday 24th August at The Ridgeway, loud music was played and there was quite a lot of damage. What do the Police actually do about the Raves?

Mr Andrew Bennett stated that they often try and contain it, which is considered the best course of action. Mr Joe Smith stated that the Police did know about the Rave about a week before, they managed to move it and reduce the numbers to 500 instead of the expected 5,000.

Mr Andrew Bennett stated that he is involved with Licensing at SBC and he is currently looking into the Licensing at Liddington Warren Farm to ensure that they have one licence for all their events.

Mr Andrew Bennett confirmed that The Black Horse Pub has applied to the Caravan and Camping Club, if successful they will be allowed five caravans on the site. It was confirmed that applying to the Caravan and Camping Club means that the Black Horse pub will not need to also apply for planning permission for the five caravans, it was confirmed that there are strict guide lines that need to be met to become a member of this club.

6 PLANNING

6.1 To consider Planning Applications received:

S/08/1631/CLMC – 1 Three Sisters Road – Erection of first floor side extension;

S/08/1537SC – 8 Callas Rise – Erection of a conservatory;

S/08/1580 – Wanborough Marsh Farm – Demolish rotten stable block and rebuild with new red mire style timber stable block.

Parish Council discussed the above three applications and raised no objections.

6.2 To notify the Schedule to the Permission/Consent received

S/08/1220/CLMC – 17 Yonder Way – Erection of a first floor rear extension;

S/08/1216/HECO – 10 Yonder Way – Erection of a first floor side and two storey side extension;

S/08/1305/JABU – Foxhill House (Foxhill Stables), Ermin Way, Foxhill – Erection of conservatory

6.3 To notify the Schedule to the Refusal received:

S/LDE/08/1246/HECO – 22 Southview, Ham Road – Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing) for use of land as garden;

7 COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES

7.1 Hooper's Field and Recreation

- 7.1.1 Wanborough Cricket Club was not happy with Parish Council's decision to only pay 50% of the mower service at the last Parish Council meeting. They have had a number of matches cancelled due to bad weather this season which has hit them financially. It was decided that the matter should be discussed further at a Hooper's Field Sub Committee meeting. Mr Colin Offer was nominated to be the Chairperson for this committee and this was unanimously agreed. A date suggested for the meeting is Thursday 11th September; Clerk to check with Cricket Club to see if this is convenient for them. Mr Bill Suter stated that there are other matters that need to be discussed at this meeting, such as painting of the men's toilet.

- 7.1.2. Clerk has received a letter from Beacon, along with an invoice for the tennis court retention. Beacon's letter only refers to a copy of a letter from Hanson. Hanson's letter states that they are happy with the condition of the courts and expect the courts to last for the normal period of use i.e. 5 years. Clerk is currently gaining a new contact for the LTA for further advice, as previous contact has left. No response yet received from Mr Lee West, and Mr David James did not leave any forwarding address, therefore Clerk is unable to contact them. Parish Council agreed to wait to see what the LTA recommend.
- 7.1.3 Wanborough School have asked if they can use Hooper's Field on Wednesday 10th September. One class is holding a mini Olympics day and asked if they can use the pavilion, sports field and one tennis court. Parish Council unanimously agreed.
- 7.1.4 The fence around the adventure play area has once again been badly damaged. Mr Lee Wells has fixed it a number of times, but some of the wood has now been badly damaged and will again need replacing. It was agreed that the fence in this section of the play ground is not strong enough to cope with the usage of the play area. It was therefore agreed that this section of the fence be replaced with the same fencing as around the rest of the play area.
- 7.1.5 The bin next to the play area has been completely damaged. The top has been removed and it is so damaged that it will no longer fit on. Parish Council agreed to use the spare bin in the store room at Hooper's to replace this one.
- 7.2 Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments
- 7.2.1 Annual Allotment meeting due to be held on Monday 15th September 2008. Mr Bob Biggs was nominated Chairperson of the Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments Committee; this was unanimously agreed. Mr Bob Biggs agreed to arrange a guest speaker for the meeting. Clerk to send letters to all allotment holders.
- 7.2.2. Bill Suter, Dave Hayward and Bob Biggs met with Westcotec to discuss Vehicle Activated Signs. The cost to purchase and install one sign is around £2,500 per unit, £2,000 for the sign and £500 to install. The cost of a solar powered sign is more. A concern was raised about the cost to connect to the electricity supply; it was therefore agreed that Clerk would write to Westcotec to gain a written quote for unit and installation and confirm what is included in the cost. SBC will carry out traffic survey initially on High Street and Kite Hill by October 2008, Clerk to chase to ensure this happens.
- 7.2.3 The owner of Poplars Day Nursery has asked if Parish Council will consider supporting them with their request to SBC to extend the footpath from Covingham to Poplars. This item was discussed during public questions.
- 7.2.4 Village Lengthsman has had problems with his sit on mower (now returned), and his push along mower cannot cope with the grass cutting tasks in the village. To enable him to continue cutting the grass in the village Parish Council need to arrange for a mower to be purchased. It was agreed that Clerk would find out the cost of a new mower and to report back at next meeting.
- 7.2.5 Allotment hedge needs cutting. Mr Joe Smith agreed to carry out his work.
- 7.2.6 SBC has agreed to tree works (rim re-growth) on the protected tree (Cypress) in the front garden of 9 Mayfield.
- 7.2.7 Mr Colin Offer stated that the land at Badgers Close, where the trees were cut down, is very uneven and needs to be filled with soil and reseeded. It was agreed to ask Mr Lee Wells to move some of the soil from the Lower Rec to Badgers Close.
- 7.2.8 Mr Dave Hayward raised the issue of the land next to the Church car park and whether it could be made into a wild flower meadow. Parish Council confirmed that this area of land has been discussed several times before. It was agreed that Mr

Dave Hayward would look come up with some ideas as to what could be done with this area.

7.3 Wanborough Village Hall Management Committee

7.3.1 No meeting held since last PC meeting;

7.3.2 Clerk applied for the grant from Wiltshire County Hall Grants Panel as mentioned at last meeting. However a reply has been received stating that Village Halls within Swindon Borough are not entitled to apply as Swindon Borough Council does not take part in the scheme. Clerk confirmed that a representative from Community First has agreed to meet with committee to discuss other funding options.

7.4 Planning and Finance

7.4.1 BT has set up a scheme to offer the transfer of ownership of red phone boxes to Parish Councils. If Parish Council is interested application is needed online by 1st October. To agree to this transfer Parish Council need to sign a contract stating that Parish Council agree for the decommissioning of the payphone and agree to maintain the phone box in the future. BT will not be carrying out any maintenance to the phone boxes before transfer, Parish Council must agree to accept the phone box in current condition. After a discussion is was agreed that Parish Council should apply for ownership of the red phone box, as it was felt that even if Parish Council are not successful in retaining the phone then they need to ensure the box remains part of the village. Clerk also to check with SBC with regard to registering the phone box as a listed building.

7.4.2 Internal Audit of Parish Council's accounts to the year ended 31st March 2008 has now been completed, report was read out at meeting. Annual Return has now been submitted to Mazers (External Auditors).

7.4.3 The Government Office for the South West has sent a copy of the Secretary of State's Proposed Changes to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West. Clerk confirmed that there were no changes made with the Regional Spatial Strategy for the Eastern Development Area. Parish Council therefore agreed to send a response using similar comments raised by the Consortium of Parish Councils i.e. lack of infrastructure, concern that the village will be used as a "rat run".

7.4.4 Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire County Council have submitted the following documents for consultation. The consultation period ends on Friday 12th September.

- Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Development Control Policies – Submission Draft Document;
- Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Development Control Policies – Submission Draft Document.

Both documents are available online www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-home.

8 FINANCE

8.1 Financial Statement

The monthly statement was circulated. It was proposed by Mr Colin Hayes and seconded by Mr Gary Sumner that "The Financial Statement be accepted, the payment of accounts be endorsed and the bills for payment be accepted and paid, the petty cash expenditure for August 2008 endorsed and the transfers to cover August 2008 expenditure be approved."

9. OTHER

9.1 Transport

9.1.1 Road Closure at Kite Hill that was due to take place from 11th August – 5th September has been delayed and was due to start from 1st September but nothing seems to be happening. Clerk to check with SBC when they are expecting to close the road to ensure residents are kept informed.

9.1.2 Mr Bob Biggs stated that there is meeting due to be held in November and the main item on the agenda is Buses. He therefore suggested that he compile s an article for the Parish Newsletter along with a questionnaire asking residents' opinions on the current bus service available to them. This information then can be fed back to the bus companies at the meeting in November.

9.2 Neighbourhood Tasking Group

9.2.1 Meeting held on 22nd August 2008. Both Mrs Anita Basevi and Mr Andrew Bennett were unable to attend this meeting. It was agreed that Mrs Lesley Berry would act as Mrs Anita Basevi's deputy for future meetings.

9.3 Parish Plan

9.3.1 Sub committee meeting held on Tuesday 29th July 2008. Mr Andrew Bennet, Mrs Anita Basevi, Mr Roger Whitfield and Mr Bob Biggs attended meeting along with Officers from SBC Ms Liz Smith (Conservation Officer) Ms Sarah Screen (S106 Officer) and Ms Holy Huber. Also Dr Andrew Philipson (resident) attended meeting. At the meeting they were provided with a considerable amount of material to look at. Parish Council should set up a steering committee to start the process going to produce a Parish Plan, but then it should be handed over to a committee mainly of village residents and chaired by a non Parish Council member. Mr Bill Suter asked if the minutes of the meeting could be circulated, Mr Andrew Bennett agreed to do this.

9.4 Parish Newsletter

9.4.1 Parish Council agreed to aim to get the next newsletter distributed by October. Councillors therefore need to send their articles to the Clerk before the next meeting, so that a draft newsletter can be viewed at the meeting, then finalised ready for distribution in October. Articles to be compiled as follows:

- Village Maintenance – Mr Gary Sumner
- Chairman's Report – Mr Bill Suter
- Transport – Mr Bob Biggs
- Parish Plan – Mr Andrew Bennett
- Hooper's Field – Mr Colin Offer
- EDA Update – Mr Gary Sumner
- Village Hall – Mr Colin Hayes
- Flood update - Clerk

10. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence received since the last meeting on 27th July 2008 was available at the meeting.

Meeting closed at 22.00

Date of next meeting Monday 22nd September 2008