

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Wanborough Parish Council held on **22nd June 2009** in Wanborough Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough at 19:30.

PRESENT: Mr A Bennett, Mr B Biggs, Mr C Hayes, Mr D Hayward, Mr C Offer, Dr A Phillipson, Mr W J Smith, Mr G Sumner, Mr W Suter, Mr R Whitfield, Mrs K Pearson and initially 2 members of the Public.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs P P Shepherd (Clerk and RFO).

1 Apologies: None.

2 Declaration of interest:

Mr J Smith declared prejudicial interest in agenda item 8.6, Eastern Development. Mr G Sumner declared a personal interest in agenda item 8.6, Eastern Development, as he is a Western Vale Villages (WVV) Steering Group committee member, Wanborough Action Group Chairman and a member of the East of Swindon Communities Group.

Mr D Hayward declared a personal interest in agenda items 5.1, To consider Planning Applications received, and 6.2, Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments, if any discussion were to take place relating to the allotments, as he rents an allotment.

Dr A Phillipson declared a personal interest in agenda items 5.1, To consider Planning Applications received, and 6.2, Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments, if any discussion were to take place relating to the allotments, as he rents an allotment.

3 Minutes:

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 29th May 2009 had been circulated to all Parish Councillors. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

The meeting was adjourned for Public questions.

Public question: A member of the Public commented that the land at 22 Ham Road was not used as gardens, prior to Mr Spur's occupation. The settlement boundary is adjacent to number 18 Ham Road.

4 Report from Ward Councillor:

Andrew Bennett gave the planning history of 22 Ham Road. It was anticipated that the same problems would arise with 20 Ham Road and AB had spoken to Rhian Morris (Swindon Borough Council) about both properties.

It had been noted that SBC would start a road side collection of recyclable plastics on 1st July 2009. The Clerk was asked to place an article in the July 2009 issue of The Lyden Magazine to provide information to residents about the new collection service.

AP, KP, JS, BB, RW and CH had not received copies of the recently published issue

of Swindon News. AB asked the Clerk to report these omissions to the appropriate SBC Officer.

AB, BS and the Clerk had agreed to attend a meeting on 23rd June 2009, at 10:00, at The Liddington, to discuss the Adrian Flux Classic event scheduled for 1st August 2009. The main concern raised by the Parish Council was that of traffic.

AB confirmed that the South Western area Regional Spatial Strategy document is "on hold".

AB and other Ward Councillors were to meet with Stephen Taylor, SBC's Solicitor, on 23rd June 2009 to discuss clustering.

A letter had been received from SBC notifying the Parish Council of the review of Swindon's Infrastructure requirements to support growth to 2026: Request for submission of up-to-date evidence base of need. The letter had been emailed to WPC prior to this meeting. The Parish Council felt that the timescale for response by August 2009 was short. The Clerk was asked to copy the SBC letter to the Parish Plan group, to include this as a separate item on the July 2009 agenda and to upload the letter to the village website.

The members of the Public left at 20:00.

5 PLANNING

5.1 To consider Planning Applications Received:

S/09/0709/RM – Ashview, Kite Hill, Wanborough - Erection of a single storey extension and dormer to rear. The Parish Council wished to make no comments on this planning application.

S/09/0849/HECO - 22 Church Road, Wanborough - Re-positioning of existing conservatory from planning application S/05/1548. The Parish Council wished to make no comments on this planning application.

S/LDE/09/0860HECO – 22 Ham Road, Wanborough – Certificate of Lawfulness (existing) for the use of land as residential garden. The Parish Council wished to object to this planning application because the applicant has not proved that the land has been used as a garden for ten years. There is a considerable amount of anecdotal evidence that it hasn't been used as a garden for ten years. The Council also wished to ask that the land be reinstated to agricultural land, as a paddock.

The Clerk had received a notification card for **S/09/0833/NIRO** - 60 - 64 Church Road, Wanborough - Change of use from Grazing/Agricultural Land to Rear Garden (class use C3), including the erection of a timber post and rail fence. The Borough Council had been unable to provide the Parish Council with a copy of this planning application due to staff shortages, the application would be posted at a later date. The Clerk agreed to refer this planning application for consideration by the Planning Committee.

5.2 To notify the Schedule to the Permission/Consent received:

S/09/0545ROBI – 5 The Lynch Field, Wanborough - Erection of single storey rear extension.

S/09/0138CLMC – Parsonage Farm House, 21 Church Road – Erection of a link and

glazed roof to indoor swimming pool (revised).

S/LBC/09/0654/ROBI – Moat Cottage, The Marsh – Proposed new thatched roof. Internal alterations following severe flood damage to include new staircase, new floors and re-plastering walls to one metre high above floor level.

5.3 To notify Conservation Area Consent received:

None.

5.4 To notify the Schedule to the refusal received:

S/09/0728/RM The Black Horse, Upper Wanborough - Erection of marquee – retrospective.

AB reported that enforcement at The Black Horse is still active.

S/09/0273HECO – Lydden Coombe, Ham Road – Erection of a single storey side extension and railings to first floor.

5.5 Planning Inspectorate Appeal:

23 and 25 Church Road, Wanborough – Erection of single storey side/rear extensions and erection of new boundary wall.

6 COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES

6.1 Hooper's Field and Recreation:

The next management committee meeting will be held on Monday 6th July 2009, at 19:30, at HF pavilion.

The Clerk had instructed the lengthman that we need to make it easier to get out of the building by the shutter/fire exit route. The Clerk had also asked him to paint a “keep clear” message and hatched area onto the floor in the same location, so that people are deterred from piling stuff in the line of exit.

Martin Ripley had attended to:

i) Ladies toilet: light tube replaced;

ii) Gents toilet: the water heater thermostat was set to MAX. This raises a number of issues: 'Danger very hot water' signs should be present, the thermostat should be sealed to stop tampering and finally, the heater is a sealed container that quite clearly says that if water has been coming out of the pressure release, call an engineer. The valve is badly corroded and probably doesn't operate. This has been made safe by isolating the water heater.

The Clerk would ask Neil Thompson to repair or replace this unit.

iii) Kitchen: fluorescent tube comes on and is not burnt at the ends, the Clerk suggested leaving it until it fails.

CO, BS, CH and RW had attended a meeting with the SBC Sports Development Officer to discuss the possibility of installing a multi use games area (MUGA) at Hooper's Field recreation facilities. Funding of between £140k and £150k would be sought by application to the Lottery Rural Community Fund. It was anticipated that a contribution of £40k might need to be forthcoming in order to apply for Lottery funding.

The siting of the MUGA was discussed, there is room for a very large one near the pond; drainage will be a problem. The Clerk agreed to take a sketch plan to the duty

SBC Planning Officer to discuss planning issues relating to a future planning application. AB objected to the proposed siting of the MUGA at Hooper's Field. CO replied that due to the anticipated light and noise HF might be the best option as the site could be kept well away from residential areas.

AP asked who the beneficiaries of such a facility would be? BS replied that the MUGA might be managed by an organisation and that it would broaden the base of who uses HF.

The Clerk was asked to instruct the lengthman to prune the hedge at the northern boundary of HF and around the pond.

6.2 Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments:

The Clerk had reported the following problems to SBC:

Reference No.: 0395-2543 There are some large deep potholes in the road surface. Close to Wanborough House, Wanborough Road, Wanborough, Swindon. SBC aims to (at least) make temporary repairs within 24 hours, and a permanent repair within six weeks. Reference Number: 101000150689.

Reference No.: 0395-2654 - Box Hedge, High Street: There is a very high cherry tree which is touching overhead cables. There are also very low branches affecting pedestrians passing on the pavement. Any problems reported to SBC are assessed by the SBC expert Tree Officer and any remedial work is determined on a priority basis, depending on the nature of the request. Because there is a potential risk, they'll deal with it urgently.

Reference No.: 0395-2656 - In the hedge between the Northern end of the Beanlands Open Space (adjacent to Wanborough Primary School and owned by SBC) and Divinity Close: There is a very large ash tree which is overshadowing an adjoining garden. The owner of the adjoining property is concerned that damage may be caused if the tree or any branches were to fall. Any problems reported to SBC are assessed by the SBC expert Tree Officer and any remedial work is determined on a priority basis, depending on the nature of the request. Because there is a potential risk, they'll deal with it urgently.

Reference Numbers: 101000152940 & 101000152941.

Reference No.: 0395-2691 - On the Eastern side of Kite Hill, Wanborough, above the junction with The Beanlands: The footpath is overgrown and the plants need cutting back. The footpath is so overgrown that pedestrians need to step into the road. SBC hopes to attend to this problem within two working days (Reference: 101000153662).

Feedback received from SBC regarding reports previously submitted:

Regarding the wobbly stile on footpath 25 at Ducksbridge, SBC is looking at the possibility of installing a new kissing gate. They hope to rearrange the meeting with Mr Sadler from Ducksbridge once he is well enough.

Regarding the muddy surface problem on footpath 9, adjacent to Sharp's farm. The ground had dried out and the SBC footpaths officer could see that the horses have churned up the surface. This corner of the field has always been prone to becoming marshy during the winter however she will contact the landowner and discuss with

them what options there are to improve the surface. She will also ensure that they reinstate the deep ruts that have been made by a vehicle in the field. Further, they have now sent a letter to Mr Kevern requesting that he reinstates the ruts and considers stabilising the marshy ground around the stile. They have given him permission to use some of the road planings that are stock piled in Green Lane. They have looked at the high stile between the rear of the Harrow Inn and Horpit. They will be writing to the owner requesting that he removes the fence and installs a kissing gate.

BB is liaising with SBC James Garrard over outstanding work.

It was confirmed by BS that Ray Pethick had indicated that he might be willing to fund the construction of a new bus shelter on Rotten Row. The Clerk was asked to check whether any plans had already been drawn up, possibly by SBC David James, similar to the Underdown Close bus shelter. It was agreed to include further discussion of plans and costing on the July 2009 agenda.

GS confirmed that the allotment plots had been marked with plot numbers, ready for the annual Best Kept and Best Kept New Allotment competitions. BB asked for copies of the emails about the first round of judging to be forwarded to him. The Clerk apologised that he had been omitted from the email, but that GS and JS had previously agreed to guide the RHS judge around the site, as last year.

It was reported that the resident of 1 Mayfield has removed a fence panel and that they are tipping grass cuttings down the bank. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident to ask them to cease doing this.

AB confirmed that Stacey's Lane belongs to the owners of Stacey's Cottage, and that the footpath comprises a 2.4 metre wide section along the lane.

DH reported that a few trailer loads of contaminated muck still remain at the allotment site; and that the Parish Council might need to dispose of it.

6.2.1 It was suggested that Hills might be invited to the allotment holders' annual meeting.

6.3 Wanborough Village Hall Management Committee:

RW had emailed a short report of the meeting with the Village Hall committee, held on Monday 15th June 2009. The Clerk had forwarded this report to all Councillors prior to this meeting.

RW reported that the phonebox located outside the Village Hall is in need of refurbishment. The Parish Council agreed that they wished to respond to the Village Hall Management Committee that it should continue in its' present use for the time being. It was agreed that the VHMC should be referred to the SBC Arts Officer in order to discuss a proposed "performing arts" event. It was agreed that maintenance of the recycling facilities at The Harrow public house should revert to the VHMC, but that no action should be taken for a few weeks. It was suggested that Tessa Lanstein, as Scout Leader, might find it within her remit to organise a Scouts' working party to clear the overgrown garden at Boxhedge. Another alternative might be to ask SBC Taurus to carry out the work required. AB had pursued this matter with SBC.

AB left at 21:15.

BB had attended the North Wessex Downs Local Action Group Leader Funding Reception on Tuesday 2nd June 2009, 18:00 to 19:30 at Hungerford Town Hall, Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 0NF. He reported that £2.5 million would be available for improving community facilities, such as shops and village halls. He passed an information leaflet to RW and CH, for the information of the VHMC.

6.4 Planning and Finance:

No meeting had been held.

6.5 Civil Protection Emergency Group:

The group is waiting for the next issue of the Parish Council newsletter in order to distribute a flyer. DH had received quotes of £125, for a print and JPEG file of a Parish map, and £99, for an unlaminated wall map. The Parish Council agreed to this expenditure. DH also suggested that a Parish logo might be designed for use by the Civil Protection Emergency Group and the Parish Plan Group, in producing their documents. He had scanned The Lyden Magazine logo for temporary use. BS agreed to supply DH with the Wanborough Bowls Club logo artwork, comprising an image of St Andrew's Church.

7 FINANCE

7.1 Financial statement:

The monthly statement was circulated. It was proposed by Gary Sumner and seconded by Andrew Phillipson 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 June 2009 be endorsed and the transfers to cover June 2009 expenditure be approved." Parish Council unanimously accepted the financial statement.

7.2 Monthly cash flow statement:

The monthly cash flow statement was circulated. It was proposed by Gary Sumner and seconded by Andrew Phillipson that the statement be accepted. Parish Council unanimously accepted the monthly cash flow statement.

7.3 Review of Village and Hooper's Field grounds maintenance contracts:

The Clerk had drawn up draft maintenance contracts for the village and Hooper's Field Recreation Facilities, these had been circulated to all Councillors prior to this

meeting. AP and JS suggested modifications to the draft contracts. Parish Council agreed that once the suggested modifications had been made, the contracts should be sent out for tender. The Parish Council would consider the quotations received at the July 2009 Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk was asked to request that SBC report on the aeration and application of fertiliser at HF cricket/football pitches.

It was agreed that a "Keep Clear" sign should be posted on the access to the Lower Recreation Field. Alternative access is being gained via Avenell Road, as the recommended access point is usually blocked by a Swindon Contractors van. The Clerk was asked to enquire with the lengthman as to whether it would be possible to install a gate at the Avenell Road access point. DH asked the Clerk to instruct SBC to cut the sward at Church Meadow on 10th August 2009 and not during the week before the Wanborough Summer Show, to be held on Saturday 22nd August 2009.

8 OTHER

8.1 Transport:

BB is still pursuing ongoing issues.

8.2 Wiltshire Association of Local Councils:

AB had already left the meeting, so nothing was reported. The Clerk had received the June 2009 newsletter (2 copies) and various information.

8.3 Neighbourhood Tasking Group:

Ron Hagger had cleared the remains of a drinking session.

8.4 Grants:

The Clerk reported that Parish Council has received written thanks from: The Lyden Magazine, St Andrew's Church and The Ridgeway Link.

8.5 Parish Plan:

Shaun Egan had chaired a meeting held on 27th May 2009 at Hooper's Field pavilion.

8.6 Eastern Development Area:

GS reported on the recent activity of the Eastern Development Area Action Group. The Clerk was asked to request the statement that Anne Snelgrove MP had agreed to provide, for inclusion in a future meeting.

AP had consulted with Brian Clarke on the defence of the historical and archaeological sites within the EDA. It was suggested that the County Archaeologist might have a report on local historical sites. The Clerk agreed to check the Parish Council's archives for any relevant documents held.

9 Flooding:

The Clerk was asked to obtain further quotes for the proposed Flood Management Plan for Wanborough Parish. A time limit of two weeks should be set for receipt of the quotes. A meeting will be held to discuss the quotes received, on 13th July 2009. DH disagreed with the way in which the Parish Council is addressing the flooding problems.

JS reported that the weir at Redlands Farm has not yet been removed. The Clerk agreed to bring this to the attention of Jim Sokol of the Environment Agency.

10 Wanborough Parish Council newsletter:

It was suggested that the next issue might be produced in September or October 2009.

11 CORRESPONDENCE:

All correspondence received since the last meeting on 29th May 2009 was listed in the Clerk's Notes and was available at this meeting.

AP declared a prejudicial interest in the discussion to follow, and he left the meeting and the building at 22:05.

Kidson – Trigg – auction particulars of 3 small grass paddocks, Upper Wanborough (2 copies, one passed to BS). The Clerk had registered an interest with the auctioneers Kidson-Trigg. The Clerk was asked to contact the SBC duty Planning Officer to enquire whether the change of use from paddock to allotment site might be looked on favourably, should the Parish Council submit an application to SBC for change of use. Parish Council resolved to offer £XXXXXX for lot 2, if SBC's response was favourable. Leader Funding might be sought. DH was against this proposed purchase.

Meeting closed at 22:15.

Date on next meeting Monday 27th July 2009.