

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Wanborough Parish Council held on **23rd March 2009** in Wanborough Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough at 19:30.

PRESENT: Mr W Suter (Chairman), Mr G Sumner (Vice-Chairman), Mr B Biggs, Mr C Hayes, Mr D Hayward, Mr C Offer, Mr W J Smith, Mr R Whitfield.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs P P Shepherd (Clerk).

1 Apologies: Mr A Bennett had apologised in advance that he might arrive late for this meeting.

2 Declaration of interest: Mr D Hayward declared a personal interest in agenda item 8.2, Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments, if any discussion were to take place relating to the allotments, as he rents an allotment.

Mr G Sumner declared a personal interest in agenda item 10.6, Eastern Development Area, as he is a WVV Steering Group committee member.

Mr J Smith declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 10.6, EDA.

3 Minutes: the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23rd February 2009 had been circulated to all Parish Councillors. Mr J Smith informed the Clerk that he had declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 10.6, EDA, at the previous meeting. The Clerk amended the minutes accordingly and the alteration was signed by the Chairman. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4 Casual Vacancies for two Parish Councillors: following the resignations of Lesley Berry and Anita Basevi the Parish Council may now attempt to fill the vacancies by co-option. An article advertising the vacancies had been submitted for the April 2009 issue of The Lyden Magazine.

5 Parish Clerk's appointment:

5.1 Training: The Clerk had attended an accounting seminar arranged by WALC, on Tuesday 17th March 2009. The Clerk said that she would like to seek further training, this request was unanimously supported by the Parish Council.

6 Report from Ward Councillor: no report was delivered, as Andrew Bennett had not yet arrived.

7 PLANNING

7.1 To consider Planning Applications Received:

No applications had been received.

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

S/08/2384/RM – Blenheim, Kite Hill – Erection of two storey rear extensions.

7.3 Swindon Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) – 2008.

The Parish Council wished to object to all the suggested areas and asked that no more building should take place until the existing problems of flooding and drainage have been addressed. The sites under consideration will have an adverse effect on the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and the Parish Council asked the Borough Council to reinforce the policy on the AONBs. The Parish Council asked that no more development of greenfield sites, or outside the village settlement boundary be allowed to take place.

SHLAA Reference number: 723 – Land off Stanley Close – the Parish Council restates all the reasons listed against development of this area in the “overcoming sustainability constraints” section of the assessment.

SHLAA Reference number: 724 – Banner Field, Callas Hill – the Parish Council restates all the reasons listed against development of this area in the “overcoming sustainability constraints” section of the assessment.

In addition, as the site is very steep, increased flooding would be a major issue.

SHLAA Reference number: 725 – Land South of Badgers Close – the Parish Council restates all the reasons listed against development of this area in the “overcoming sustainability constraints” section of the assessment.

In addition this area has experienced severe flooding problems for several years.

This area is currently the subject of an investigation by the Borough Council, Gwillam Lloyd, Glynn Bennett and Simon Masters are compiling a report.

SHLAA Reference number: 726 – Land at Church Road – the Parish Council restates all the reasons listed against development of this area in the “overcoming sustainability constraints” section of the assessment.

SHLAA Reference number: 727 – Rear of 8-11 Burycroft Row – the Parish Council wishes to state that this land has flooded twice recently. It is not developable.

SHLAA Reference number: 728 – Paddock, near The Harrow in High Street – the Parish Council restates all the reasons listed against development of this area in the “overcoming sustainability constraints” section of the assessment.

SHLAA Reference number: 729 – Pond Farm – the Parish Council restates all the reasons listed against development of this area in the “overcoming sustainability constraints” section of the assessment.

In addition, this area has experienced severe flooding problems for several years, associated with the flooding problems at SHLAA Reference number: 725 – Land South of Badgers Close (see above).

The Clerk was asked to write to Borough Councillor, Andrew Bennett to ask him to support the Parish Council's objections.

7.4 SBC Planning Committee: S/COND/08/2135 – variation of condition numbers

10 and 12 (from previous planning application S/06/0009) – Redlands Farm, Wanborough Road SN4 0AA, was scheduled to be considered by the SBC Planning Committee meeting on Tuesday 10th March 2009, at 18:00 at the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon. All Councillors had been notified.

8 COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES

8.1 Hooper's Field and Recreation:

8.1.1 A letter had been received from Ray Pethick, of Wanborough Junior Football Club, enquiring whether it would be possible for a team to use one of the HF pitches. The Clerk had reported to Bill Suter on the current usage of HF football pitches: Castrol FC – licensed club, play on Saturdays; Swindon Town Ladies FC – pay per match (6 matches this season), play on Sundays; Southgate FC – pay per match (9 matches this season), play on Sundays; Wanborough Football Club – pay per match (6 matches this season), play on Sundays; Wanborough Junior FC U13s – currently pay a yearly fee, but wish to pay per session, Monday evening training sessions; Swindon Spitfires – pay per match, play very occasionally.

Most of the clubs have matches to fit in during April 2009, to catch up with postponed matches. Most matches have a 10:30 kick-off but some play at 14:30, the football clubs organise this between themselves.

The football clubs don't book the pitches they agree the usage between themselves. The Clerk receives an occasional fixture list but she understands that these have to be very flexible due to the weather.

Invoices are issued mid-season, towards the end of the season and finally after the end of the season, in order to charge for delayed games.

The Clerk recommended a pitch closure during the worst of the winter weather in December and January.

Bill Suter had drawn a grid of the current pitch usage based on this information. It was decided that pitch 1 (behind the tennis courts) would be available on Saturday mornings and pitch 2 (behind the bowls green) would be available on Sunday mornings or Sunday afternoons, after 13:00. Parish Council felt that it would be necessary to restrict the club to playing one team, in order to reduce wear and tear on the pitches. The request would need to be considered again by the Parish Council if the club wished to allow two or more teams to use the HF facilities.

An email had been received from Julian Maull, of Wanborough Junior Football Club, asking to pay an "as you use fee" of £10 per session. Parish Council understands that the club trains on Monday evenings from the start of BST/April for roughly six months. It was unanimously agreed that as an alternative to the current payment option, the Parish Council would be prepared to accept a single payment of £240, plus VAT at the prevailing rate, for the training sessions, payable on 1st April each year. This charge would be reviewed on an annual basis.

8.1.2 The lengthsman had reported to the Clerk on the recent car park subsidence:

“With reference to car park, I would say it had sunk in area due to water collecting in area washing soil under matting in turn making it give way, dug out soil then filled with dry mix of concrete then topped off with sharp sand to lay matting on then compacting with vibrating wacker to make area solid.”

8.1.3 The safety signs have been installed. The Clerk was asked to purchase an additional six wet floor signs, for use by the cleaner.

8.1.4 Maintenance to the hedge and ditch adjoining Rotten Row had been requested from SBC, the Clerk reported that the hedge may have been trimmed, Gary Sumner commented that he also thought this might have been done but that the Clerk should repeat the request for maintenance of the associated ditch.

8.1.5 New noticeboards had been put up in the meeting room.

8.1.6 Additional CCTV equipment had been purchased. The Clerk would instruct the lengthsman to install this.

8.1.7 The Clerk had reported the tagging of the basketball hoop at The Lower Recreation Field to PCSO Mark Chivers.

8.1.8 Gary Sumner and the Clerk had met Mike Skinner of Agricultural Estate Services, AES, at Church Meadow in order to discuss the proposed new play area, on Monday 16th March 2009, at 15:30. The Parish Council are awaiting receipt of his suggestions and a quotation.

8.1.9 A quotation had been received from Kompan for the proposed new play area at Church Meadow. This was passed to Gary Sumner for his consideration.

8.1.10 The Clerk had purchased swing spares for the swings at Church Meadow. The Clerk would instruct the lengthsman to install them.

8.1.11 Representatives from the Parish Council and Wanborough Cricket Club had met on Thursday 19th March 2009, the following had been agreed:

i) The Parish Council would be responsible for maintaining the outfield in terms of regular cutting, and annual rolling;

ii) Regarding the cricket square:

a) As a one-off WPC would make a contribution of £800 to bring the square playable, treat and remove moss, by a reputable specialist; on the understanding that the Cricket Club submit to WPC a schedule of work required monthly throughout the year;

Huw Evans of Wanborough Cricket Club had submitted a schedule for the work to the Clerk. This had been emailed to the Hooper’s Field and Recreation committee prior to this meeting.

The Parish Council unanimously resolved to contribute £800 towards the remedial work to the cricket square.

b) Cricket Club would speak with the Bowls Club greenkeeper for advice/help on maintenance required during close-season, and report back to WPC;

iii) Assuming above is adhered to, the outfield would then be the responsibility of WPC, and the square the responsibility of the Cricket Club.

iv) The Cricket Club were reminded that assistance for maintenance of

equipment/other must be requested in terms of any grants available from WPC, before expenditure is made.

8.2 Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments:

8.2.1 A quote for emptying the litter bins, and the recycling and rubbish bins at Hooper's Field pavilion, had been received from Lee Wells. This had been copied to Bill Suter prior to the meeting.

The Parish Council unanimously resolved to accept the quote for £800 for this work. The Clerk was asked to contact Lee Wells to accept the quote, and to cancel the existing contracts with SBC and Biffa Waste Services Ltd.

8.2.2 The Clerk had reported the following problems to the Borough Council:

- i. The 30mph sign near to Inlands Farm has been damaged. Reference number: 0395-1883 on 12/3/2009. The estimated time to repair is 6 weeks. The Clerk was asked to ask SBC to cut the hedge back, as the 30mph sign near to Inlands Farm can't be seen. The sign board is missing from the reverse of this sign.
- ii. The fallen trees half-way up Kite Hill (SN4 0DD) on the right hand side have been pushed/trimmed back. Reported to StreetSmart, reference number: 0395-1591 on 17/2/2009 and again reference number: 0395-1622 on 18/2/2009.
- iii. The fallen branches at the top of Callas Hill, near to the X-roads have been pushed/trimmed back. Reported to StreetSmart, reference number: 0395-1592 on 17/2/2009.
- iv. The graffiti on the road sign at The Marsh/Pack Hill road junction had been reported to the Police.

Andrew Bennett arrived at 20:30.

8.2.3 The Clerk had ordered two four ton skips for the village clean-up, scheduled to take place on Saturday 4th April 2009, for the village hall car park and Hooper's Field facilities.

8.2.4 Dave Hayward had emailed the following items to the Clerk prior to this meeting:

"a) Allotment Car Park – cars are overflowing onto the drive to the water works and this could be a regular problem now all the plots are let. Space is restricted because of the manure spilling onto to car park and damaging the surface. Need to consider long term maintenance of the car park surface."

It was decided that this item would be dealt with at a later date by the Allotments Committee.

"b) Annual Allotment Competition – Alison Carse, Wanborough Show Society Horticultural Secretary, has enquired whether the PC will be sponsoring the competition again this year. The judge has been enquiring about dates for judging." Parish Council resolved to sponsor the competition. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Alison Carse about organising the competition.

Gary Sumner agreed to confirm which allotment isn't in current use; it was thought

that it might be 3a.

8.2.5 Bob Biggs had arranged to meet James Garrard of SBC on 10th May 2009 at the village hall in order to discuss the scheduled village maintenance.

8.2.6 The Clerk was asked to report to Annie Ellis of SBC that an electric fence has been strung across footpath 25, and that it is impassable.

8.2.7 The Clerk was asked to arrange for the skip at Church Meadow to be removed.

8.2.8 The Clerk was asked to report to BT that the phoneboxes at Church Road and Foxhill have been damaged. The Clerk had previously reported to the police the damage to the Church Road phonebox.

8.3 Wanborough Village Hall Management Committee:

The "Buy a Tile" inserts, for inclusion in the Parish Council newsletter, had been received by the Clerk from Tessa Lanstein, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee. Colin Hayes reported that dog fouling is still a problem on the path and on the grass area behind the village hall. The Clerk had requested dog fouling signs from SBC, showing the penalty. Andrew Bennett said that the Borough Council doesn't have a stock at this time.

A damaged fence panel had been reported to SBC six months ago, a site visit and inspection had subsequently been carried out by an SBC officer.

The Village Hall AGM will be on 15th June 2009.

Tender documents had been sent out for the proposed work to replace the village hall roof. There was currently £17,500 in the roof fund. The "buy a tile campaign" had got off to a good start.

The company instructed to supply the replacement rear door had gone into liquidation, no money had been paid to them. The order had been placed again with another supplier, and it was estimated that the work would be completed in six to eight weeks.

8.4 Planning and Finance:

No meeting had been held.

The Clerk had opened an Alliance and Leicester 30 day notice Community Account after consulting the Planning and Finance Committee. Various information concerning the account had been received from the Alliance and Leicester business bank. It is intended to deposit the money from the closed Nationwide Building Society account and the Parish Council's funds from the closed Lloyds Bank Tennis Club Expansion account into this account to form a Hooper's Field Maintenance account.

8.5 Civil Protection Emergency Group:

The group's inaugural meeting was held on Monday 2nd March 2009, at Hooper's Field pavilion, at 19:30. Sam Weller of SBC attended the meeting to give a presentation and he encouraged questions during his presentation. He also discussed developing our own parish emergency plan.

Bob Biggs agreed to be Chairman of this group. The next meeting was scheduled for 20th April 2009 at 19:30, at Hooper's Field pavilion. The Clerk was asked to book the meeting room.

It was suggested that a booking diary for HF might be put on the village website. The Clerk was asked to enquire of Mark Woodman how much this might cost.

9 FINANCE

9.1 Financial statement:

The monthly statement was circulated. It was proposed by Gary Sumner and seconded by Colin Hayes 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 March 2009 be endorsed and the transfers to cover March 2009 expenditure be approved."

9.2 Monthly cash flow statement:

The monthly cash flow statement was circulated. It was proposed by Gary Sumner and seconded by Colin Hayes that the statement be accepted.

10 OTHER

10.1 Transport:

10.1.1 The Clerk had confirmed that any Councillors who wished to, would meet with Suzanne Montgomery at 10:30 am on Thursday 26th March 2009, at the Village Hall. Bill Suter, Andrew Bennett and Dave Hayward had said that they would attend if possible.

Bob Biggs reported that the potholes had been filled in on Church Road between the Callas Hill crossroads and the Ham Road road junction.

10.2. Wiltshire Association of Local Councils:

Andrew Bennett reported that a meeting had been held during the previous week. Three new locations had materialised at the last moment and were included in the SHLAA report. Kenny Duncan and Richard Bell will be co-ordinating the comments received, a two week extension would be allowed on request for the comment period. It was anticipated that a request for extension would be viewed favourably. The consultation period may be lengthy.

Future Swindon Borough Council legal costs will be rechargeable to the Parish Council. The Parish Council may use alternative legal services, for instance Adrian Moore of Liddington had been consulted in the past.

Connecting People Connecting Places, a soft beginning was being planned. Area panels comprising seven clusters are being considered by SBC, each with its' own participatory budget. Colin Offer commented that the system had worked for three years. The Clerk agreed to email the clusters map to WPC.

The March 2009 newsletter and various information had been received by the Clerk.

10.3 Neighbourhood Tasking Group:

The Clerk had reported the following problems to the Police:

- i. The graffiti on the “Welcome to Wanborough” sign at the entrance to The Marsh, off Pack Hill.
- ii. The graffiti on the basket ball hoop on the Lower Recreation Field.

The Clerk had received the following reply:

“Pam,

Thank you for reporting these matters. In light of the spate of thefts/burglaries which occurred last week plus isolated incidents of Anti-social behaviour such as these, I have asked all the Officers on the NPT to focus patrols in and around the village both on a uniform basis and in plain clothes to allow a greater element of surprise. Over this weekend, we have spent a considerable amount of time during each evening patrolling in the village but as yet, we have not identified any groups potentially responsible. We will of course keep on focussing where our duties allow.

In relation to my email, I am unaware of a problem with receiving emails and assume it was a one off problem.

Kind Regards PC 1905 Rory Draper (Rural South Beat Manager - Swindon East)”.

Bob Biggs confirmed that he would liaise with the Neighbourhood Tasking Group for future meetings, taking over from Anita Basevi. The meetings set the priorities for the policing of the South area, comprising Wroughton, Chiseldon and the villages, including Wanborough. These priorities for the South are reviewed and changed if necessary at each quarterly meeting, depending upon activity and demand. It was confirmed that Martin Hook is the local co-ordinator for Neighbourhood Watch.

10.4 Grants:

The Clerk had placed an article in the February 2009 issue of The Lyden Magazine saying that Parish Council would be pleased to receive applications for grant funding from local voluntary and not-for-profit organisations.

Grant applications had been received from St Andrew’s Church flower club and St Andrew’s Church organ restoration fund. Copies had been emailed to all Councillors prior to the meeting. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to donate £100 to St Andrew’s Church flower club and £500 to St Andrew’s Church towards the restoration of the church organ.

10.5 Parish Plan:

The Clerk had purchased a data projector for use by the Parish Plan Group and the Parish Council. The Parish Council unanimously approved the expenditure of £504.95 to purchase this item of equipment.

10.6 Eastern Development Area:

The Clerk had asked Natalie Wyatt of SBC for a copy of the Supplementary Planning Document. Natalie Wyatt had replied as follows:

“The Eastern Development Area Supplementary Planning Document is still in draft form at present; therefore it is presently unavailable for release. The document will be posted on Swindon Borough Council’s website once it has been taken through

planning committee”.

Andrew Bennett commented that the EDA is unlikely to be finished by 2040. The start is anticipated in 2012/14. AB, who is the Ward Councillor, had not seen the SPD yet.

AB reported that there is currently no Central Government funding for infrastructure, which is insisted on by the Regional Spatial Strategy (instructed from Central Government).

AB suggested that it might be appropriate to seek options for amelioration: find a benefit out of it or put up a barrier/rural buffer. Section 106 funding might be sought to augment Wanborough’s facilities. The Master Plan is an outline for the consultation process. The local transport plan is not ready. The Regional Spatial Strategy (currently in Draft version) states that development and infrastructure provision should proceed in parallel, i.e. at the same time.

11 Parish Council Newsletter:

The newsletter had been printed and the inserts for the “Buy a Tile” campaign, for the Village Hall roof appeal, had been received by the Clerk from Tessa Lanstein. The Clerk distributed a copy of the newsletter to each Councillor.

The Clerk agreed to draw up a distribution list and deliver this together with the appropriate number of copies of the newsletter to each Parish Councillor on Wednesday 25th March 2009.

12 Wiltshire Community Web:

Dave Hayward commented that this initiative is not meant to cover the SBC area, the Clerk said that it is and agreed to confirm this.

13 Take a Stand:

Parish Council agreed to apply for bicycle stands under this scheme, to be positioned beside the car park at Church Meadow. The Clerk agreed to promote this offer in the next issue of The Lyden Magazine.

14 Annual Parish Assembly: Monday 11th May 2009:

A questionnaire concerning a Parish Plan would be devised after the Eastern Development Area Supplementary Planning Document (EDA SPD) consultation had taken place.

A suggested agenda for the evening was discussed. AB agreed to invite the SBC dog warden and proposed for a discussion/presentation on Connecting People, Connecting Places, CP2, by Brian Mattock, the responsible SBC Cabinet Member; the Police were to be invited; AB agreed to contact Sue Webber of Planning Aid; Parish Councillors’ reports – Chairman’s Address: BS, Planning and Finance: CO, Hooper’s Field and Recreation: CH, Village Hall committee: RW, Allotments: DH, EDA & flooding: GS.

GS + JS agreed to inspect for more properties bordering the roads that are prone to flooding in the village.

AB reported that a Contravention Notice had been issued by SBC, concerning the caravans parked at The Black Horse public house, against both the landlord (publican) and landlord, Arkells, of The Black Horse public house. This is due to go through Enforcement, as part of the planning process, with no response from either.

15 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence received since the last meeting on 23rd February 2009 was listed in the Clerk's Notes and was available at this meeting.

Meeting closed at 22:10.

Date of next meeting Monday 27th April 2009.