

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Wanborough Parish Council held on **24th November 2008** in Wanborough Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough at 19:30.

PRESENT: Mr W Suter (Chairman), Mr G Sumner (Vice-Chairman), Mr A Bennett, 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) and 6 members of the public.

1 Apologies: Mrs A Basevi and Mrs L Berry.

2 Declaration of interest: Mr W J Smith declared a prejudicial interest in agenda items 6.1, To consider Planning Applications received: S/COND/08/2135KIWA – Redlands Farm – Variation of condition nos. 10 and 12 (from previous planning application S/06/0009), and 7.4.1, Signage outside Redlands Farm, as he has a beneficial interest in Redlands Farm and Redlands Airfield Ltd.

Mr A Bennett declared a personal interest in agenda item 6.1, detailed above, but he wished to remain in the room in order to advise Parish Council should the need arise. He would not participate in the discussion of the planning application S/COND/08/2135KIWA – Redlands Farm.

Mr D Hayward declared a personal interest in agenda item 7.2, 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 previous meeting held on 27th October 2008 had been circulated to all Parish Councillors. Mr A Bennett asked for a modification to be made to minute number 4, 3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence: “He reported that the Chief Executive of SBC has responded to the *previous* letters stating that the matter is now closed.”, and to minute 6.3.2, 3rd sentence: “ Mr Andrew Bennett has spoken to SBC and this fine *is not being pursued*.”. The minutes and modifications were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4 To appoint new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer: The Chairman warmly welcomed the new Clerk, Mrs Pamela Patricia Shepherd of 4 Yonder Way, Wanborough, Swindon, SN4 0BX. The Clerk thanked the Parish Council for appointing her and said that although she had previously served the Council from 1998 to 2000 there had been numerous changes in procedure and legislation in the intervening years, and not to hesitate in “spelling things out” to her.

Meeting was adjourned for Public Questions

Mr W J Smith left the building at 19:37 before any public questions were raised.

Q. Has there ever been a proven planning breach at Redlands Farm?

A. Mr A Bennett replied that the applications have twice been taken to the Ombudsman but nothing has yet been proven. The Chairman stated that Parish Council is not aware of a breach and none is being pursued.

Q. At what point will the protestors be informed that there has been a breach?

A. The Chairman said that following the SBC decision and appeal process the Parish Council will consider the matter to be closed. In addition the support seems to outweigh the complaint.

Q. How much public money has been spent on investigations?

A. The Chairman said this question should be directed to SBC.

An email had been received from a member of the public, who had been unable to attend the meeting, copies of the email had been circulated to all Parish Councillors prior to the meeting and copies were distributed to members of the public attending the meeting. The Chairman said that he did not intend to read the email out loud, bearing in mind the ten minute time limit on public questions.

Mr W J Smith returned to the meeting at 19:50.

5 Report from Ward Councillor:

SBC is considering whether to delegate the power to approve temporary signage within a parish to the appropriate Parish Council. An officer hasn't yet been appointed to police the fly posting, so the fine imposed on the Wanborough Farmers' Market will not be pursued.

The proposed road closure of Kite Hill (top section from Church Road to Hill Top, Kite Hill) by Swindon Services, while maintenance of the verge/bank is carried out, is scheduled to take place from the 5th to the 26th January 2009. The Clerk was asked to place a notice in The Lyden Magazine January 2009 issue.

The Ethical Framework training which was due to be delivered by Stephen Taylor on Thursday 13th November 2008 has been rescheduled for Thursday 22nd January 2009 at Haydon Wick Parish Offices.

The Coate development planning meeting recommended for refusal of permission due to failure to determine because of lack of information.

6 PLANNING

6.1 To consider Planning Applications Received:

S/08/2089SC – Ridgewood, Ham Road – Erection of detached garage – revision to previous approval S//08/0028.

S/08/1820JABU – 4 The Maltings – Erection of a car port and storage building (variation of planning permission S/08/0022).

S/08/2091HECO – 21 Greenaway – Erection of first floor side extension.

S/08/2095CLMC – 5 Springlines – Erection of first floor side/single storey rear extension.

S/08/2149JABU – 12 Ham Road – Erection of larger dormer window to rear.

After due consideration of the above planning applications the Council resolved that it had no objections to any of the applications and did not wish to comment on any to SBC.

Mr W J Smith left the building at 20:10 before Council discussed the following application. At the same time Mr A Bennett withdrew to the Public seating area of the Village Hall but remained available for advice when required.

S/COND/08/2135KIWA – Redlands Farm – Variation of condition numbers 10 and 12 (from previous planning application S/06/0009).

After due consideration of the above planning application the Council unanimously resolved (seven Parish Councillors voted) that it would support this planning application for continued use and the variations of conditions numbered 10 and 12. The Council requires clarification from SBC whether approval of continued use would mean permanent approval.

Agenda item 7.4.1, Signage outside Redlands Farm, was discussed. The Clerk was instructed to ask Mike Brice of SBC to clarify the situation over the signage and whether he has contacted anybody in the Landscape Department to establish whether the hedge, reported to have been removed, is an ancient hedge.

Mr W J Smith rejoined the meeting and 5 members of the Public left at 20:30.

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

S/LBC/08/1787/RM – The Lynch House, 33 Church Road – Conversion of tack room into hobby room.

S/08/1791/CLMC – Green Gates, Ham Road – Erection of ground and first floor extensions and detached garage.

7 COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES

7.1 Hooper's Field and Recreation:

The Clerk was asked to put scheduling of future Hoopers' Field Management Committee meetings onto the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting. The possibility of holding 4 meetings per year was suggested. Non-members casual play to be managed by the Tennis Club, to be included on the 1st HFMC agenda. Dawn Hopkins to be asked to provide a solution at this meeting.

Mr G Sumner agreed to continue his investigation into maintenance of the cricket pitch. Mr A Bennett agreed to contact SBC about suggested maintenance of the cricket square.

The Clerk confirmed that she is still waiting for information on the lease of the Beanlands open space from SBC.

7.1.1 Casual lettings of the pavilion.

Mr G Sumner (Vice-Chairman) raised the issue of a lack of a fire escape from the main hall. The Chairman agreed to contact the Fire Officer to arrange a fire safety inspection as soon as possible. Mr A Bennett agreed to enquire into the steps

needed for Parish Council to apply for an entertainment licence.

7.2 Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments:

The Clerk was asked to accept the Swindon Commercial Services quote for a total of £405 (four hundred and five pounds) to prune back two trees, one at the Beanlands open space and one at the Lower Recreation Field. The Clerk was also asked to instruct the Lengthman to cut the ivy at the base of the trees along the top of the Lower Recreation Field.

Action points: i. The Lengthman requires further instructions on the work to be carried out at the Rotten Row bus shelter; ii. A copy of the Hintons' map of the Springlines footpath ditch is to be passed to Mr A Bennett for him to take to SBC; iii. Footpath 25, Wanborough Road to Marsh Farm to A419, requires maintenance. Mr A Bennett agreed to supply a map; iv. Clerk to send a letter to Kay Lacey to let her know that the footpath issues have been brought to the attention of the SBC footpaths officer.

7.2.1 Traffic survey results for High Street, Callas Hill and Kite Hill.

After consideration of the report received from Ms S Montgomery Parish Council unanimously resolved to install three vehicle activated signs to be located on Callas Hill (Northbound), High Street (Southbound) and Kite Hill (Northbound). The Clerk was asked to contact Ms S Montgomery about optimal positioning of the signs taking into account the local electricity supplies.

7.3 Wanborough Village Hall Management Committee:

7.3.1 Mr C Hayes and Mr R Whitfield reported on the meeting held on 10th November 2008.

The new roof project is ongoing.

Following a recent break-in, the rear door is to be replaced.

7.4 Planning and Finance:

The Freedom of Information Act, New Model Publication Scheme had been emailed to all Councillors and the Parish Council agreed to adopt the Scheme.

It was agreed to schedule a meeting of the Planning and Finance Committee for Monday 15th December 2008 to be held at 19:30 in Hooper's Field Pavilion.

Mr B Biggs said that he would like to attend the Swindon Strategic Partnership conference on "Sharing future success in a changing Swindon" on Monday 23rd February 2009 at the Steam Museum from 10:00 until 15:30.

A letter and consultation document had been received from Communities and Local Government on "Code of Conduct for local authority members and employees". The consultation period ends on 24th December 2008. The Parish Council was asked "Should the employees' code extend to the employees of Parish Councils?" and it answered that the Parish Clerk is in a unique position and the code should not be extended to include her, or the employed Lengthsman.

7.4.1 Already dealt with under agenda item 6.

8 FINANCE

8.1 Financial statement:

The monthly statement, prepared by Mrs A J Raymond, was circulated. It was proposed by Mr C Offer and seconded by Mr G 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 November 2008 endorsed and the transfers to cover November 2008 expenditure be approved."

8.2 Monthly cash flow statement:

The monthly cash flow statement, prepared by Mrs A J Raymond, was circulated. No questions were raised concerning the statement. It was proposed by Mr C Offer and seconded by Mr G Sumner that the statement be accepted.

8.3 Half year accounts to 30th September 2008:

It was proposed by Mr G Sumner and seconded by Mr C Hayes that the accounts, prepared by Mrs A J Raymond, be accepted and they were signed by the Chairman..

9 OTHERS

9.1 Transport:

Mr B Biggs reported that the 15:00 bus on Saturdays is missing. Timetables are now displayed in the bus shelters. He had enquired of Mike Reid why there are no signs to Wanborough after the A419 and is awaiting a reply. He is also investigating the confusions regarding the pedestrian lights on the A419 southbound slip road at Commonhead.

9.2 Wiltshire Association of Local Councils:

9.2.1 Meeting held on 20th November 2008.

Mr A Bennett had nothing to report as he had not received any papers.

9.3 Neighbourhood tasking group:

9.3.1 Meeting held on 31st October 2008.

An email report had been received by the Chairman from Mrs A Basevi, the Clerk was instructed to ask her to email her report to all Councillors.

9.4 Grants:

No requests received.

9.5 Parish plan:

Mr A Bennett provided copies of Civil Protection Emergency information to Council. It was agreed to add to next month's agenda, and form a sub-committee to cover.

10 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Meeting closed at 21:45.

Date of next meeting Monday 22nd December 2008.