

## WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Wanborough Parish Council held on **27<sup>th</sup> April 2009** in Wanborough Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough at 19:30.

**PRESENT:** Mr W Suter (Chairman), Mr G Sumner (Vice-Chairman), Mr A Bennett, Mr D Hayward, Mr C Offer, Mr W J Smith, Mr R Whitfield and initially 4 members of the Public.

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

**1**     Apologies: Mr C Hayes and Mr B Biggs.

**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 prejudicial interest in agenda items 6.2, To notify the Schedule to the Permission/Consent received:

S/COND/08/2135 –Redlands Farm, Wanborough Road, SN4 0AA – Change of use of land and buildings to use for the flying of microlight aircraft, the creation of a utilities area and the storing of microlight aircraft and siting of a temporary building.

Application for variation of conditions 10 and 12 on planning permission S/COND/06/0009 dated 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006, for the continued use of the barns and the retention of the temporary building,

**and** 10.6, EDA.

Mr R Whitfield declared a personal interest in agenda item 6.1, To consider Planning Applications received:

**S/09/0395HECO** – Saratoga, The Marsh, Wanborough – Erection of two storey/single storey rear extension.

Mr A Phillipson declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 7.2.4 Request from allotment holder to erect a small tool shed, and install a water butt and compost bin. 2 further members of the Public joined the meeting at 19:40.

**3**     Minutes: the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23rd March 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: Mr Steve Savage asked: What is the plan of action (on flooding in the village) and when is it going to occur? Joe Smith replied that a meeting had been

arranged for Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009, at 10:00, with a hydrologist, to seek advice. It is hoped that he will give us a price, a plan and legal advice. Work is due to start soon on the Lyden Brook to remove the weir.

Public question: SS commented that drainage relief needs to start downstream at the lowest level.

JS The Environment Agency has a programme for the coming year, starting with the Lyden Brook. SBC Dennis Cole is supervising this work.

Public question: SS has arranged to meet with SBC Nick Smith and Mr Yeandle, the neighbouring landowner, in order to discuss the blockage of a ditch on Mr Yeandle's land.

GS reported that the Parish Council has a budget for village maintenance.

BS asked the resident to report back after Wednesday's meeting by email. The hydrologist has worked for Wiltshire County Council, in North Wiltshire, and privately. Malcolm Hinton had recommended him, he has done enforcement work on his behalf.

Public question: Mrs Jo Bains asked: Would it be possible for AB to attend the meeting between Anne Snelgrove MP, SBC and the EA?

WPC will insist on seeing the minutes of the meeting, the Clerk was asked to email AS's office.

20:00 5 members of the Public left the meeting.

#### **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.

Dr Andrew Phillipson (the remaining member of the Public) said that he wished to apply to become a member of Wanborough Parish Council and introduced himself. He then left the building whilst the Parish Council discussed his application. Parish Council unanimously resolved to accept AP as a member of the Council.

AP returned to the meeting and was informed of Parish Council's decision; he then signed the Acceptance of Office book. AP agreed to join the Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments, Eastern Development Area and Civil Protection Emergency Group Committees.

#### **5 Report from Ward Councillor:**

Andrew Bennett reported that he is still awaiting a reply to his invitation from the SBC dog warden, to the Annual Parish Assembly. Stephen Taylor and Brian Mattock of SBC have agreed to deliver a presentation on Connecting People, Connecting Places at the Annual Parish Assembly. The soft rollout will commence at the end of May 2009. The Clerk had circulated a copy of the associated cluster map.

Colin Offer asked about the proposed University. AB reported that the report following the appeal should be available in mid-June. CO asked about the timescale. AB said that he can't answer until the completion of the appeal process.

## 6 PLANNING

Roger Whitfield withdrew from the discussion of the following item.

### 6.1 To consider Planning Applications Received:

**S/09/0395HECO** – Saratoga, The Marsh, Wanborough – Erection of two storey/single storey rear extension.

Parish Council wished to comment on the visual impact that the proposed extension might have on the neighbouring properties. In addition, if the planning application is granted, the Parish Council asked that the facing materials used should be in keeping with the surrounding area.

Roger Whitfield returned to the discussion.

**S/09/0138** – Parsonage Farm House, Church Road – Proposed revised application to pool lobby, reduce size and scale of previously approved plans. The Parish Council did not wish to make any comments on this planning application.

**S/09/0545ROBI** – 5 The Lynch Field, Wanborough - Erection of single storey rear extension. The Parish Council did not wish to make any comments on this planning application.

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

**S/COND/08/2135** – Redlands Farm, Wanborough Road, SN4 0AA – Change of use of land and buildings to use for the flying of microlight aircraft, the creation of a utilities area and the storing of microlight aircraft and siting of a temporary building. Application for variation of conditions 10 and 12 on planning permission S/COND/06/0009 dated 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006, for the continued use of the barns and the retention of the temporary building.

### 6.3 To notify Conservation Area Consent received:

**S/CAC/09/0220/RM** – 23 and 25 Church Road, Wanborough – Demolition of existing extensions to dwelling.

### 6.4 To notify the Schedule to the Refusal of Planning Permission/Consent:

**S/CAC/09/0220/RM** – 23 and 25 Church Road, Wanborough – Erection of single storey side/rear extensions and erection of new boundary wall.

6.5 Notification of SBC Planning Committee : Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2009, Agenda item 5 Draft Eastern Development Area SPD. All Councillors had been notified of this meeting.

## 7 COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES

### 7.1 Hooper's Field and Recreation:

7.1.1 The Clerk had met with Chubb fire on 7/4/2009 and made the following recommendations:

- A fire risk assessment should be carried out, PC could find an example on the internet (no cost involved);
- HF conservatory – a CO2 extinguisher and a foam extinguisher are needed; Parish Council unanimously agreed this expenditure.
- The Clerk had obtained a Fire log book to be kept at HF.

7.1.2 Andy Clinning, Wanborough Cricket Club Captain, had telephoned the Clerk to say that he estimated that £600 would be required as an annual budget to maintain the roller and greens mower used by WCC.

Parish Council unanimously approved this expenditure.

7.1.3 The Clerk had again requested maintenance to the hedge and ditch by SBC. The Clerk was asked to request SBC to clean the gullies along the Woodland Trust and Hooper's Field frontage.

7.1.4 Additional CCTV equipment had been installed by the Lengthsman.

7.1.5 The Clerk had instructed the Lengthsman to install the swing spares on the swings at Church Meadow.

7.1.6 The Clerk was asked to instruct the Lengthsman to check the ditch behind the football dug-outs.

7.1.7 GS and CO are currently applying for funding for play equipment.

## 7.2 Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments:

7.2.1 Tree planting at Church Meadow: GS reported that Sarah Troughton has requested further tree planting at Church Meadow, in order to screen the view of Great Western Hospital. She would be happy to contribute towards the cost of the trees. GS, CH and JS agreed to meet to discuss. Liddington are importing disease resistant elms to replace dead native ones. AB agreed to investigate.

7.2.2 The Pound, Lower Recreation Field: GS reported that soil has been dumped and that the ditch needs clearing in this area of the village. The Clerk was asked to contact the Lengthsman for advice and how to protect the wall. A mixed native hedgerow might be suitable for planting.

7.2.3 Best Kept Allotment and Best New Allotment Competitions 2009: The Clerk reported that the first round of judging will take place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009, and the second round will be on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2009, at 17:30.

AP left the building.

7.2.4 Request from allotment holder to erect a small tool shed, and install a water butt and compost bin. Planning permission was granted for this application.

AP returned to the meeting.

7.2.5 AB reported that SBC Housing Maintenance has inspected the hedge and fence behind Boxhedge. There is a sarsen stone preventing access to Stacey's Lane and this is under investigation. AB agreed to enquire into the erection of posts or stones alongside the highway at Pond Farm.

7.2.6 The Allotment Committee agreed to assess the current demand for allotments.

7.2.7 The Lengthsman had been instructed to commence emptying the litter bins. The SBC and Biffa contracts have been cancelled.

7.2.8 The Clerk had asked SBC to cut the hedge back, as the 30mph sign near to Inlands Farm can't be seen and had reported that the sign board is missing from the reverse of this sign. Reference numbers: 0395-2226 and 0395-2235. SBC aims to repair within 6 weeks.

The Clerk had previously reported another problem with the corresponding sign on the opposite side of the road. Reference number: 0395-1883.

7.2.9 The Clerk had reported to SBC that at footpath 14, Wanborough, from Oakapple Close to Upper Wanborough a tree on the pathway is leaning over and needs cutting back. The surface is poor. A gully has been cut alongside by local residents. It can no longer be used by pushchairs and needs urgent attention. Reference number: 0395-2232. SBC aims to repair within 2 days.

The Clerk was asked to advise the residents of Springlines that as a resident has complained about this problem and it has been reported to SBC, SBC may fill in the gully that has been dug.

7.2.10 The Clerk had reported to SBC that at footpath 30, Wanborough, between the rear of the Harrow Inn, High Street, and Horpit there is a very dangerous high stile which needs repair. Reference number: 0395-2233. SBC aims to repair within 2 days.

7.2.11 The Clerk had reported that on Footpath 9, Wanborough, King's Lane at the Southern end just below Mayfield, Wanborough, SN4 0ED, a large box hedge has fallen across the footpath and it is obstructed. Reference number: 0395-2238. SBC aims to repair within 2 days. The Clerk had previously reported that further down the same footpath several sandbags, that support the pipe under the footpath, have fallen into the ditch. Reference numbers: 0395-2229 and 0395-1134. The Clerk had spoken to SBC Nick Smith about these problems and he said that he would deal with them.

7.2.12 The Clerk had reported to SBC that an electric fence has been strung across footpath 25, adjacent to Ducksbridge, Burycroft, Wanborough, Swindon, SN4 0AP, and that the footpath is impassable. Reference numbers: 0395-2228 and 0395-2237. SBC aims to repair within 2 days.

7.2.13 The Clerk had asked Swindon Skips (Sharon) to remove the skip at the end of The Lynch Field, SN4 0DA. It should have been removed on 17 or 18/4/2009. This was removed on 24/4/2009 and the barrier was damaged. The Lengthsman was instructed to repair the barrier.

7.2.14 The Clerk had reported to SBC that at Footpath 9, Wanborough, where the footpath crosses the field belonging to Sharp's Farm, between the small bridge with stile at the corner of the field and the track to the stables, there are mud and deep pits, due to usage by horses. The footpath is almost impassable. A walker, who had to divert from the footpath to the edge of the field, was asked not to trespass by a man, presumably the landowner. The designated footpath needs to be kept in good order and walkable. Reference number: Reference numbers: 0395-2230 and 0395-2237. SBC aims to repair within 2 days.

7.2.15 The Clerk had reported to SBC that between Pond Farm and Stacey's Lane, Church Road, Wanborough, Swindon there are trees leaning into and obstructing the footpath. This causes pedestrians to walk on the road instead, which is very dangerous at this point. Reference numbers: 0395-2231 and 0395-2239. SBC aims to repair within 2 days.

7.2.16 The Clerk had reported to SBC that at footpath 14, Wanborough, Swindon, SN4 0EW, between Oakapple Close and Upper Wanborough a tree on the pathway

is leaning over, ivy covering included, and needs cutting back to allow passage. The footway of the path is poorly surfaced now and has been made worse by the gully cut in to prevent storm water going into the adjacent gardens. Reference number: 0395-2241. SBC aims to repair within 2 days.

7.2.17 GS asked the Clerk to report a broken electricity manhole cover adjacent to the water-pumping station on The Hollow.

7.2.18 It was reported that on the upper fields barbed wire had been erected to ensure no public right of way. A resident intends to contest this.

### 7.3 Wanborough Village Hall Management Committee:

RW reported that three tenders had been issued and one had withdrawn. David Kilminster is dealing with the process. The estimated cost for the core roof is £40,000 to £50,000. A joint meeting between Wanborough Parish Council, Wanborough Village Hall Committee and a representative from the Diocese of Bristol was suggested for mid-May 2009. The Clerk was asked to check the contracts with the Diocese of Bristol.

### 7.4 Planning and Finance:

No meeting had been held.

### 7.5 Civil Protection Emergency Group:

A meeting was held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009, at Hooper's Field pavilion, at 19:30. Bob Biggs was confirmed as Chairman of this group. The Clerk has provided BB and DH with templates of an Emergency Plan and Form for distribution to residents, together with the completed Covingham and Haydon Wick plans and other related information. BB, DH and AP intend to meet to draw up a draft plan and form.

## **8 FINANCE**

### 8.1 Financial statement:

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

### 8.2 Monthly cash flow statement:

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

### 8.3 End of Year Accounts 2008/09:

The Financial Statement 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 was circulated. The Parish Council unanimously approved the Financial Statement and it was signed by the Chairman, Bill Suter.

The Parish Council unanimously resolved to reappoint Mrs P P Shepherd as the Responsible Financial Officer for the forthcoming financial year, to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. The Parish Council unanimously resolved to reappoint Alford Bryant as the Internal Auditor for the forthcoming financial year, to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.

## 9 OTHER

### 9.1 Transport:

9.1.1 Bill Suter, Andrew Bennett, David Hayward and the Clerk met with Suzanne Montgomery and Emily Sykes of Swindon Borough Council at 10:30 am on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2009, at the Village Hall. The various suggested sites for the vehicle activated signs were visited during the course of the meeting. It was unanimously decided that two signs should be located at:

- Kite Hill - to be activated by Northbound traffic. Located on the Eastern side of the road, adjacent to the access into Greenaway off Kite Hill, on the Northern side of the footpath. The sign would be suspended at a height of 2.4 metres on a cantilevered post.

A straggly self seeded elder growth, comprising a main stem and 'bits' of 10 feet or so, would need to be removed in order to install the post. It is outwith the conservation area and of no concern re. removal. Suzanne Montgomery agreed to arrange the removal.

It was also noted that there is a need for some trimming/cutting back of other shrubs/trees just uphill of the access, bordering the road off Limesprings.

- Callas Hill - to be activated by Northbound traffic. Located on the Eastern side of the road, on the grass verge adjacent to Callas Rise, on the Northern side of Callas Rise. It is hoped that the sign on Callas Hill may be erected on the existing power cable support pole, making this simpler and also cheaper.

When considering the Southbound sign in the High Street, it was felt that there are no suitable locations between Horpit crossroads and the roundabout, outside The Brewers Arms public house, because the chicane and roundabout already act as speed restrictions, and the survey outside the Village Hall did not identify a major problem of speeding vehicles Southbound in the High Street. However, another potential site was identified for the installation of a further sign, on the grass verge outside The Harrow public house, to be activated by Southbound traffic. This location would be suitable for powering the sign by a solar panel. It was unanimously decided that installation of this sign would be delayed until the effects of the first two signs had been monitored for a period of time.

Suzanne Montgomery agreed to remain involved in the project and to carry out utility searches, this should take approximately 3 to 4 weeks.

The Parish Council ratified the above decisions.

The Clerk was asked to send the traffic survey to AP.

9.1.2 The Clerk had reported to SBC that an ornamental cherry tree is obscuring the road sign outside The Gables, High Street, Wanborough, Swindon, SN4 0AE. This road sign is close to the roundabout on the High Street and needs to be clearly visible. Reference numbers: 0395-2227 and 0395-2236. SBC aims to repair within 6 weeks.

### 9.2 Wiltshire Association of Local Councils:

The WALC April 2009 newsletter and various other information had been received.

### 9.3 Neighbourhood Tasking Group:

9.3.1 The Clerk had reported that the phoneboxes at Church Road (SS322786795) and Foxhill (SS322786799) have been vandalised. BT expected to be able to send an engineer to make them safe by 17/4/2009.

9.3.2 An NTG meeting was held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, at 10:30, at Ellendune Hall, Wroughton.

### 9.4 Grants:

Parish Council had received thanks for grants from the PCC, St Andrew's Church Flower Club and Family Mediation Service. Pc had also received thanks for the Jubilee Ditch Liner from Wanborough Bowls Club.

### 9.5 Parish Plan:

The next meeting will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

### 9.6 Eastern Development Area:

9.6.1 The Clerk had obtained 7 extra copies of the EDA SPD from SBC Kenny Duncan, he said that they will cost £12.50 each. The Clerk had also obtained some of the summary leaflets.

9.6.2 An email had been received from Martin Savage concerning the Swindon Eastern Development, forwarded to WPC.

9.6.3 GS reported that the public exhibitions, held to date, had been poorly attended and that the local residents felt despondent.

Parish Council agreed to produce a letter or email template to enable the flow of comments from the Parish to the Borough Council.

The Consortium or Western Vale Village Group intends to draw up a list of aims. It was agreed that the Public Drop in Exhibition, to be held in HF on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2009, would be publicised by word of mouth, on the village noticeboards and at HF gates. The Clerk agreed to action the latter two methods.

The Clerk confirmed that Kenny Duncan and his team (SBC) will attend prior to the next Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009, at 18:30, to discuss the Eastern Development Area Supplementary Planning Document.

AP agreed that he would compile a summary sheet and email a flyer to the Parish Council.

The Clerk agreed to submit the flyer for the June 2009 issue of The Lyden Magazine.

## **10 Flooding:**

The Clerk had spoken to SBC Simon Masters about the proposed strategic report on flooding at Springlines. SBC has recently attended a workshop with the Environment Agency and Thames Water about such local issues, work is still at an early stage and would form part of a long term strategy. SBC might decide to apply for funding with their partner Halcrow.

The Clerk had spoken to Julie Wright, from Anne Snelgrove MP's office, she said that she has written to Swindon Borough Council to say that they should use their

enforcement powers within the existing Byelaws to address this problem. They are pushing the SBC Group Director to make the Council do the right thing. They will write to everybody involved in the recent email chain.

She also said that Wanborough Parish Council is doing an excellent job, and that the Borough Council should not try to get us to do their work for them.

Anne Snelgrove will meet with Swindon Borough Council, Thames Water and the Environment Agency, on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2009, and this flooding issue is included on the agenda. The Clerk raised the issue of the proposed SBC report on Springlines Meadow flooding with Julie, and she assured her that this would also be included on their agenda. She said that we would be given feedback from the meeting.

#### **11 Annual Parish Assembly: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009:**

Brian Mattock, Swindon Borough Council, the responsible Cabinet Member, has agreed to deliver a discussion/presentation on Connecting People, Connecting Places (CP2). Stephen Taylor, who will be acting as the SBC Director with Ridgeway Cluster responsibility, will also be attending the Annual Assembly.

PC Rory Draper, beat manager for the Swindon South policing team, has been invited to attend to give an update and answer questions.

The Clerk agreed to draw up an agenda for the Annual Parish Assembly; to be held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009, at 19:30, in the Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough.

#### **12 CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence received since the last meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2009 was listed in the Clerk's Notes and was available at this meeting.

**Emails received from Jo Bains and Steve Savage – 14/4/2009 onwards** – had been forwarded to all Councillors.

**Wanborough Show Society** – a letter booking for Church Meadow for Wanborough Summer Show on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2009.

**Paul and Justina Lewis** – email about the Church car park, circulated to all councillors for comments. A follow-up discussion about a chain and waste bin will take place.

**Wanborough Tennis Club email** – requesting the release of the remainder of reserved fund and replying to the request for casual play.

Meeting closed at 22:10.

*Date of next meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009.*