

# BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th February 2010

### PRESENT:

Keith Taylor (Chair)  
John Godbold  
Dean Upton  
Daniel Phelps

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson (Clerk)  
Cllr David Spender (WCC)  
Cllr Charlotte Bailey (HCC)  
2 members of BF & OB RCA

### APOLOGIES:

Ray Stannard  
Ian Tait  
Will Hawthorne  
Fenella Jarvis  
Cllr Brian Collin (WCC)

### 896. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010 were **AGREED** and signed as an accurate record.

### 897. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

#### a) Police

**MM** reported that PC Joe Zubaidi had forwarded a written report for the previous month. There had been:

1 Attempted Burglary  
1 Nuisance  
  
1 Criminal damage  
1 Uninsured vehicle  
1 Fraud  
1 Indecency

Honeysuckle Close  
Off-road bikes on Bushfield Camp. 1 youth given a vehicle seizure warning.  
Dog Bin vandalised  
Seized in Badger Farm Road  
Elder Close – bogus timeshare selling  
Sainsbury's roundabout.

#### b) Open Space

NTR

#### c) Planning

**MM** reported that:

(i) No new applications had been received:

(ii) 1 application had been approved.

Larkhill Rise                      Single storey side extension (retrospective)

(iii) No applications had been refused.

#### d) Play Equipment

**MM** reported that:

- (i) Play Equipment inspections were up to date.
- (ii) The dog bin on the Davis Kickabout had been vandalised during the snow when the lid had been ripped off, presumably for use as a sledge. A new one was ordered on 20 January but the WCC Dog Warden does not wish to replace the bin until mid-March in case there is further snow.

**JG** reported that:

- (iii) The turf on the Davis Kickabout had been damaged by irresponsible car owners. He had reported this to WCC who will roll it flat.

e) Transport

**MM** reported that:

- (i) Neville Crisp (WCC) had added Badger Farm to the waiting list for a Speed Reminder Sign on the Ridgeway. Waiting time is about 6 months.
- (ii) **CB** had found some HCC money as part of the Safer Routes to School Scheme to make improvements to Badger Farm Road. She suggested that the footpath between the Ridgeway and the bus stop by the underpass be widened and that railings should be erected on the edge of the pavement. Council's initial views were that they were content with moving / widening the footpath. Opinion was divided about the advisability of railings but all **AGREED** that these should not restrict driver's visibility when approaching the Ridgeway. All were concerned about vehicles using the Ridgeway as a drop off point.

**KT** reported that:

- (iii) He had attended the Winchester Air Group meeting and noted that air traffic over Badger Farm had increased markedly recently.
- (iv) WCC were advertising a free taxi service in and out of the city whilst St Cross road was closed.

f) Parish Website

NTR

g) Finance

**MM** reported that:

- (i) The bank statements and reconciliation for January 2010 were signed by **KT**. The cleared balance on 1 February 2010 was £38,904.84. There was one un-presented cheques to the value of £50.00.

**KT** reported that:

- (ii) He had attended the WCC 2010/11 Budget consultation.
- h) Community Project  
**DP** reported on his Parish Survey:
  - (i) **MM** will now develop an action grid and present it at the next meeting.
- i) Community Centre Lease Compliance  
NTR
- j) Whiteshute Ridge  
**MM** reported that:
  - (i) Bad weather had prevented the fitting of the new dog bin but the work will be completed as soon as SERCO can achieve access to the site.
  - (ii) A branch had come down across Whiteshute Ridge Lane (BOAT) although the lane remained passable by pedestrians. It has since been removed.
- k) County Council Rep  
**CB** reported that:
  - (i) The vacancy for a “Lollypop man” on Badger Farm Road had now been filled.
  - (ii) Grit Bins (See Minute 898 below)
  - (iii) HCC Highways Department will monitor school “drop-off” parking on the Ridgeway to establish whether there is a safety issue.
- l) City Council Reps  
**DS** reported on:
  - (i) Biodiversity. He encouraged Councillors to identify suitable sites within the Parish that could be developed.
- m). Notice Board Rep  
NTR
- n). Newsletter Rep  
NTR
- o). WDALC  
NTR

## 898. Grit Bins

**MM** reported that:

- a) Since the last meeting he had received a further request for a bin in St Anne's Close. He had informed the resident that her request would be added to the Council's waiting list. The Council **AGREED** the following priorities for new bins at the last meeting (Minute 891 para (f) page 666 refers):
  - (i) Broad Chalke Down
  - (ii) Harrow Down.
  - (iii) Lower part of Lowden Close, Falcon View.

Council further **AGREED** to add St Anne's Close to priority three.

- b) He had investigated sources of finance to support the provision of additional bins and the current situation was:
  - (iv) **CB** had provisionally offered to fund a proportion of the cost of additional bins from her delegated grant fund.
  - (v) HCC had announced that they hoped to be able to purchase some 4,000 additional bins at a cost of about £800K but details have yet to be announced and a full review of the situation will take some time.
- c) Council **AGREED** to:
  - (vi) Purchase three additional bins to be sited in Broad Chalke Down, Harrow Down and Lowdon Close with financial assistance from **CB**. Application for funding should be made by the end of February and bin locations should be discussed with Chris Wilson in HCC Highways.

## 899. Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery RCA

Rachel Skinner, the Vice Chairman of the RCA, reported the following:

- a) The current Chairman has resigned w.e.f. from July 2010 and the RCA are unable to find a volunteer to replace him.
- b) The Management Committee is now down to only 4 members and despite extensive efforts they have been unable to recruit new members to sit on the committee.

After prolonged discussion Council suggested that the following actions should be attempted:

- c) **DU** will approach a potential committee member.
- d) BF & OB RCA should attempt to recruit a part time manager to reduce the work load on volunteers.

- e) BF & OB RCA should seek help from Oliver's Battery Parish Council
- f) BFPC might be able to provide a rotational Parish Council member to sit on the Management Board if all else fails.

Rachel Skinner undertook to keep the Parish Council informed and to provide an update to the May meeting.

### 900. Membership of NALC

At the December meeting **MM** had outlined the issues surrounding HALC's membership of NALC (Minute 886 b) Page 662 refers). In summary HALC believe that subscriptions do not represent value for money and that about a third of the County's £90,000 contribution will be wasted. Badger Farm's contribution this year will be about £100. NALC theoretically provides lobbying services, legal services, events and information but these services have been consistently ineffective and HALC provides better legal advice anyway. In response NALC have written to all Parish Councils lobbying for their support and suggesting that HALC's position is based on inaccurate assumptions. In an attempt to gauge Parish and Town Council's opinions HALC have now produced a questionnaire for completion which seeks answers to four questions.

- a) Do you think HALC should remain in or withdraw from NALC? Council **AGREED** that they should "Withdraw".
- b) Should HALC remain in NALC what three things should NALC provide that it does not at present? Council **AGREED** that these should be:
  - (i) Substantially more feedback on lobbying activity and greater say for small local Councils in setting lobbying priorities.
  - (ii) Substantially more consultation with small local Councils.
  - (iii) Development of a partnership culture and abandonment of the present autocratic style of management.
- c) If HALC remains a member of NALC should HALC continue to use Hedley's Solicitors to provide a legal query service? Council **AGREED** that they should.
- d) If HALC left but BFPC opted to remain with NALC would it be acceptable for the County service to be provided from the Sussex Association? Council **AGREED** that this question was "Not Applicable" since BFPC will leave NALC if HALC does.

### 901. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) An invitation to attend the next WCC Environment Scrutiny Panel enquiring into the effectiveness of the established Emergency Planning Procedures on Thursday 4 March at 1600 in the Guildhall. **KT** will attend.

### 902. Payment of Accounts

The following payments were approved and signed:

<b>Cheque</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>
1450	M D Macpherson	Clerk Salary & Expenses	£ 421.33	-
1451	SERCO	WSR – Maintenance	£ 3,275.92	£ 487.90
1452	BT	Clerk Telephone	£ 44.92	£ 5.86

**903. Any other business**

**JG** reported that the road name signs at the junction of the Ridgeway and Meadow Way were still missing.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2120.

Signed .....

Date .....