

# BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th July 2012

### PRESENT:

John Godbold (Chair)  
Will Hawthorne (Vice Chair)  
Heather Nicholson  
Nicola Blencowe  
Fenella Jarvis  
Chrissie Sanders  
Dean Upton

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson (Clerk)  
Cllr Brian Laming (WCC)  
Cllr Charlotte Bailey (HCC)  
Cllr Lynda Banister (WCC)  
Damien Offer (WCC)  
4 members of the public

### APOLOGIES:

PCSO Gavin Cooper

### 1089. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

### 1090. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

#### a) Police

- (i) PCSO Gavin Cooper had emailed that “due to unforeseen circumstances” he was unable to forward a crime report but would report personally at the September meeting.

**DU** reported that:

- (ii) The “No Cold Calling” signs in Silverwood Close had now been erected.

#### b) Open Space

**MM** reported that:

- (i) The dog bin from the end of Kestrel Close on the Davis Kickabout had been moved to the vicinity of the steps in Ivy Close on 18 June. Subsequently he had received one telephone call and three emails from a single resident in Lowden Close complaining that the bin had been moved. He had undertaken to raise the issue at this meeting.
- (ii) The resident concerned then addressed the meeting making the following points:
  - (a) She alleged that the bin had been moved without sufficient consultation and stated that a survey she had conducted suggested that it was very heavily used.
  - (b) Since its removal dog walkers had been hanging their bags on trees and the now vacant site of the bin. She had cleared this up but would not do it again.

- (c) She considered that there was no requirement for the new bin to be sited in Ivy Close as there was already a bin on the second path very close to the new site.
- (iii) The Council's position was put to the meeting by the Chair. He reiterated previous discussions (See Minutes 1011 page 759, 1032 page 782, 1039 page 789, 1046 page 794, 1060 page 808 and 1076 page 815 which all refer).
- (iv) After discussion it was **AGREED** that:
  - (a) The visibility of existing bins would be improved by cutting back the growth around them.
  - (b) The Council could not afford any additional bins.
  - (c) Council would consider moving the small bin currently sited on the second Ivy Close path to a new site at the bottom of the 51 step path on the Davis Kickabout. This will be reviewed at the next meeting in light of experience.

c) Planning

**MM** reported that:

- (i) 1 new application had been received:
 

Ashbarn Crescent	Erection of a Summerhouse in rear garden (retrospective)
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- (ii) 1 application had been approved:
 

Rooks Down Rd	Single storey rear extension with internal alterations
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- (iii) No applications had been refused

d) Play Equipment

**MM** reported that:

- (i) "In-house" fortnightly play equipment inspections are up to date.
- (ii) He had accepted Vita Play's quote for refurbishment of the equipment on both Kickabout areas on 14 June. Minute 1084 d) (vii) Page 820 refers. Simon White has informed **MM** that he is planning to get all works for both areas completed by no later than the end of August 2012. It could be completed this month if the "bought out" parts come in on time.
- (iii) The most recent Vita Play inspection took place on Sunday 1 July 2012. No new defects have been identified since the last inspection.

e) Transport

**KT** had forwarded a written report covering the following:

- (i) The Olympic torch will come to Winchester on Wednesday 11 July and roads around the City centre will be temporarily closed. The torch route is along Hyde Street, left into North Walls [about 1:30pm], around to Broadway [about 1:45pm], up the High Street [1:50pm] and Upper High Street [1:59], passing near the train station and then along Andover Road [2:03]. The bus station exit into the Broadway will not open until 2pm, but services will still operate outside the City centre and from the back of the bus station.
- (ii) On the trains, WiFi is being introduced on many of the services to London. Trains will not run between Eastleigh and Fareham on 15th and 22nd July however no engineering work is planned over the period of the Olympics.

f) Communications

**DU** reported that:

- (i) He had completed a teach-in for Councillors on how to modify the site. It can be downloaded from the web. He will email Councillors with details.

g) Finance

**MM** reported that:

- (i) At the end of the first quarter of the financial year (30 June 2012) actual income & expenditure compared with budgeted income & expenditure was:

<b>Income</b>				
Category	Budget to date	Actual to date	Shortfall	Surplus
Precept	14,200	14,200		
Other Income				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>14,200</b>	<b>14,200</b>		
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Category	Budget to date	Actual to date	Overspend	Underspend
Business	1,144	3,719	2,575	
Clerk Salary	1,605	1,605		
Donations	625	100		525
Litter	744	1,035	291	
Open Space	0	0		
Play Equipment	233	192		41
Whiteshute Ridge	1,450	0		1,450
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,801</b>	<b>6,651</b>	2,866	2,016

Expenditure is £850 over budget mainly caused by paying the insurance premium up front in May.

Council **AGREED** that this situation is entirely satisfactory.

- (ii) NatWest Bank have so far failed to forward the monthly bank statements due on 1 July presumably because of their well publicised IT failure. No monthly reconciliation is therefore possible. **MM** undertook to contact **JG** when they arrive.
- (iii) **WH** had delivered the necessary forms to add his signature to the bank mandate to NatWest on Thursday 21 June.
- (iv) Allianz Insurance had paid a cheque to the value of £105.00 in response to our claim for the vandalised playground post. This represents Vitaplay's estimate less the policy excess and VAT. The cheque was paid into the bank on 9 July 2012.
- (v) He had received a request for a donation from Vitalise, a charity who provide high quality respite care breaks for the disabled. Council **AGREED** that a donation of £50 would be appropriate.

h) Parish Lengthsman

**MM** reported that:

- (i) The Lengthsman will work carry out his first work package in Badger Farm on 16, 17 and 18 July. **JG** will meet him at Lark Hill Rise at the beginning of the first day. The work package had been forwarded to Chris Sanders on 20 June who had acknowledged receipt.

i) Community Centre Lease Compliance

**MM** reported that:

- (i) The next User Group Meeting of the Community Centre and AGM of the Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents Association will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 18 July.
- (ii) BF & OB RCA continue to appeal for volunteers to sit on their Management Committee.

j) Whiteshute Ridge

**MM** reported that:

- (i) He had again taken up the issue of the Maintenance contract with Scandor who had now admitted that they had failed to complete the strimming of the steps from the Davis kickabout onto the Ridge. This job has now been completed.

- (ii) A thirty foot limb on a tree on the Ridge had been torn off in recent bad weather. The tree surgeon had removed it and at the same time identified a large rot pocket in the base of the crown. This will be reported in the next tree survey together with recommended action.
- (iii) A resident of Harrow Down had contacted him about a very overgrown bush on the Ridge behind his property that is blocking the light. He had offered to employ a tree surgeon to cut it back. **MM** had established that there was no TPO on it and then approved the proposal.

k) County Council Rep

**CB** reported on the following topics:

- (i) Cattle on Shawford Down.
- (ii) Clarendon Way. She undertook to arrange a meeting with HCC highways to see what can be done to improve access down Whiteshute Lane.
- (iii) HCC had failed to recruit a crossing person for the Sainsburys roundabout. She noted that the number of pedestrians met the criteria for a “controlled crossing” but accepted that this might not be popular.

l) City Council Reps

**LB** reported that:

- (i) She had reviewed the possibility of converting some open space grass in May Tree Close into additional parking space with WCC. They had agreed that it was feasible but considered it low priority and it was therefore unlikely to attract funding.
- (ii) The issue of responsibility for the Falcon View raised flower beds had finally been resolved. WCC will maintain them in future.
- (iii) She and **BL** had attended the PACT meeting and raised the issue of parking obstructions. The police are happy to respond to reports of obstruction on the pavement or highway.
- (iv) Open space trees marked with orange paint have been identified for pruning / felling by WCC.

m). Notice Board Rep

No Report

n). Newsletter Rep

**NB** again asked that:

- (i) Councillors should pass items for the newsletter to her by 20 July. The editor’s deadline for the next edition is 10 August.

o). WDALC

NTR

### 1091. Ecology & Biodiversity – Whiteshute Ridge

**Damian Offer**, the WCC Landscape and Open Spaces Officer, gave an informal presentation on possible options for the future management of Whiteshute Ridge. He made the point that without an innovative plan which sought to raise revenue in order to provide capital for maintenance of the chalk downland it would rapidly revert to scrub and woodland. He discussed the use of volunteers, the advice available from the Hampshire Wildlife Trust, the selling of bailed grass and the grazing of cattle. He also recommended discussing the issues with Shawford and Compton who had recently put a new scheme in place for the maintenance of Shawford Down.

Councillors discussed many of the issues raised and were grateful for the advice. It was **AGREED** that an informal meeting should be conducted on Monday August 13 to allow Councillors to form some sort informed opinion before bringing the matter back to full Council.

### 1092. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) As a result of the Localism Bill (2011) Parish Councils are obliged to adopt a new Code of Member's Conduct. The act presumes that Parish Councils will take the lead from the District Council. WCC have yet to resolve difficulties in interpretation of new rules on "interests".
- b) The Local Plan Part 1 – Joint Core Strategy has been submitted to the Secretary of State. It will be considered at a Public Examination to be held in September/October this year.

### 1093. Payment of Accounts

The following payments were approved and signed:

1592	M D Macpherson	Clerk Salary (June)	£	435.78	£	1.33
1593	VitaPlay	Playground Inspections (July)	£	76.80	£	12.80
1594	HM R & C	First Quarter PAYE	£	320.80	£	-
1595	David Denby	Tree Surgeon – WSR	£	175.00	£	-
1596	Vitalise	Section 137 – Donation	£	50.00	£	-

### 1094. Any other business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2130.

Signed

Date