

BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th March 2012

PRESENT:

John Godbold (Chair)
Fenella Jarvis (Vice Chair)
Ian Tait
Heather Nicholson
Dean Upton
Will Hawthorne

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr Charlotte Bailey (HCC)
Cllr Brian Laming (WCC)
Cllr Lynda Banister (WCC)
3 Members of the public

APOLOGIES:

Chrissie Sanders
Nicola Blencowe
Martin Macpherson (Clerk)

1059. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2012 were **AGREED** and signed by **JG** as an accurate record.

1060. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

a) Police

No Report – This is the fourth consecutive meeting the police have failed to forward a report and they have not been represented in person since September 2011. **JG** will take up with North Walls.

DU reported that:

- (i) Silverwood Close will shortly become a “No Cold Calling Zone”. Council **AGREED** to fund the necessary signage.

b) Open Space

Councillors reported that:

- (i) The pruning across the parish had been very severe.
- (ii) Some areas had been cleared more than once whilst other areas had not been worked upon at all.
- (iii) Waste cuttings and arisings had not been removed on completion of work.
- (iv) The area around Sainsburys is very unkempt.

BL reported that:

- (v) He had had a meeting with the Landscape Department but their work in Badger Farm remains below standard and erratic. He was still waiting for the WCC Tree Surveyor to visit the Parish.

DU commented on:

- (vi) The inadequate lighting in some places in the parish. **CB** suggested that rather than attempting to get HCC to rectify these shortcomings now it would be better to collect documented evidence of the black spots with a view to getting HCC to turn up the intensity later.

c) Planning

MM reported that:

- (i) 2 new applications had been received.

Falcon View Replacement of garage door with window. Front garden grass replaced by gravel. Footpath to house entrance replaced and additional footpath to bin area. New conservatory at back of the existing garage.

Councillors AGREED to recommend that the adequacy of parking should be considered by the planning authorities.

Rooks Down Way Replacement conservatory.

- (ii) No new applications had been approved:

- (iii) No applications had been refused

d) Play Equipment

MM reported that:

- (i) "In-house" fortnightly play equipment inspections are up to date.

- (ii) The most recent Vita Play inspection took place during the first week in March.

- (iii) At the last meeting it had been agreed that the Log Chain Crossing should be decommissioned because of the expense of repairing the worn and rusty D Shackles identified as a B Level Risk in the February report (Minute 1051 d) (iv) Page 798 refers). This work had now been completed by removing the chains from the Trim Trail.

e) Transport

At the last meeting Brian Collin had briefed Councillors that the Town Forum had earmarked £10K and were now seeking partnership funding from the University, Business Groups and Parish Councils in order to fund improvements to the late night bus services. Council had discussed this approach, noting that no firm decision was required yet. They were however unanimous that funding was only likely to be forthcoming if the Stanmore service was extended to include Badger Farm (Minute 1053 Page 802 refers).

Three members of the public made representations to the meeting about the lack of public transport to Badger Farm after 2130 and the special problems of

Sainsbury's night staff, university students and those attending evening classes were highlighted.

The matter was discussed at some length and Councillors concluded that:

- (i) They supported the points raised by the members of the public.
- (ii) They noted that the Stagecoach contract is about to be renegotiated.
- (iii) Brian Collin would be invited to the next meeting to update Council on the way ahead.

KT had forwarded a written report:

- (iv) Rail services to London during the Easter holiday will be diverted via Staines.
- (v) Fares on Blue Star buses will be raised from 18 March.

f) Communications

Following on from the impressive demonstration of the new web site by **DU** at the last meeting he now stated that:

- (i) The new web site should be fully operational by 16 March.
- (ii) The new address will most probably be badgerfarmparishcouncil.gov.uk

Council suggested that the new website should be advertised in the Community Centre.

g) Finance

MM reported that:

- (i) At the end of the final quarter of the financial year (31 March 2012) actual income & expenditure compared with budgeted income & expenditure is expected to be:

Income				
Category	Budget to date	Actual to date	Shortfall	Surplus
Precept	27,900	27,900		
Interest	50	24	26	
Other Income	0	2,776		2,776
Total Income	£27,950	£30,700		£2,750

Expenditure				
Category	Budget to date	Actual to date	Overspend	Underspend

Business	4,400	3,900		500
Capital Project	0	1,738	1,738	
Clerk Salary	6,706	6,439		267
Donations	3,250	1,500		1,750
Litter	2,050	3,270	1,220	
Open Space	1,338	0		1,338
Play Equipment	2,640	1,357		1,283
Whiteshute Ridge	7,067	8,869	1,802	
Total	£27,451	£27,073		£378

Income is £2,750 higher than predicted mainly caused by the payment of an unbudgeted sum of £2,775 in respect of damage on Whiteshute Ridge by S & SE. Expenditure is £378 under budget mainly caused by the limited number of donations granted. The end of year surplus is likely to be in the order of £3,100.

- (ii) The cleared bank balance on 1 March 2012 was £40,788.65. There were two un-cleared cheques to the value of £625.00 payable to the Carroll Centre and Dean Upton. The bank statements and reconciliation for February 2012 were signed by **JG**.
 - (iii) He had written to Aon on 14 February asking that they increase the Public Liability limit of indemnity to £10M (Minute 1055 i) page 803 refers). Aon have this matter in hand and will issue a new cover note. The additional premium is likely to be £33.75.
 - (iv) Scottish and Southern Energy had settled their outstanding debt for damage on Whiteshute Ridge and a cheque for £1,821.00 had been paid into the bank on 14 March.
- h) Parish Proposals and Action Grid
- NTR
- i) Community Centre Lease Compliance
- WH** reported that:
- (i) WiFi has now been successfully installed.
 - (ii) The replacement carpet in the Bushfield Room has now been laid.
- j) Whiteshute Ridge
- JG** reported that:
- (i) The wind damaged trees had now been removed.

- (ii) On 2 February 2012 he had forwarded a copy of Scandor's invoice (03/02) for the supply and planting of the replacement hedge to James Flood of S & SE requesting payment into BFPC's bank account. This sum of £1,821 has now been paid – see Minute 1060 g) (iv) above. Council wished to record their appreciation of the work done by **MM** and **JG** in ensuring that the damaged area had been restored at no cost to the Council.

k) County Council Rep

CB reported on:

- (i) The interviewing process for the Parish Lengthsman had started. She noted that the Parish Council's Public Liability and Employer Liability insurance cover should be for £10M.
- (ii) HCC intend to install an extra street light in Rance's Way. The criteria for the installation of other additional lights is not clear but may be possible in due course.

l) City Council Reps

BL reported that:

- (i) He continued to receive complaints from Ivy Close residents concerning bagged dog mess being dumped in the street and adjacent area.

m). Notice Board Rep

JG reported that:

- (i) A poster containing the local MPs contact details will be placed on the parish notice boards. **HN** asked if a notice advertising the new website could be posted at the same time – this will be done.

n). Newsletter Rep

NTR

o). WDALC

NTR

1061. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) A letter of thanks from the Carroll Centre for the Council's recent donation.

1062. Payment of Accounts

The following payments had been approved and signed since the last meeting:

1568	Dean Upton	Payment for Website Domain	£ 125.00	£ -
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The following payments were approved and signed at the meeting:

1569	WCC	Dog Bin emptying	£ 409.50	£ -
1570	L Godbold	Play Equipment Repairs	£ 200.00	£ -
1571	M D Macpherson	Clerk Salary (February)	£ 427.00	£ -

The following payments were approved and signed on 31 March 2012:

1572	Vita Play	Play Equipment Inspection	£ 76.80	£ 12.80
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1063. Any other business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2120

Signed

Date