

# BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012

### PRESENT:

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

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson (Clerk)  
Cllr Brian Laming (WCC)  
Cllr Lynda Banister (WCC)  
Cllr Charlotte Bailey (HCC)  
PCSO Gavin Cooper  
1 member of the public

### APOLOGIES:

#### 1072. Appointment of Chair

**FJ** proposed **John Godbold** as Chairman and this was seconded by **DU** and unanimously agreed by those present. **JG** completed the Declaration of Acceptance, which was countersigned by the Clerk and placed on file.

#### 1073. Appointment of Vice Chair

**CS** proposed **Will Hawthorne** as Vice Chairman and this was seconded by **FJ** and unanimously agreed by those present. **WH** completed the Declaration of Acceptance, which was countersigned by the Clerk and placed on file.

#### 1074. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012 were **AGREED** and signed by **JG** as an accurate record.

#### 1075. Appointment of Members to Working Parties

Members agreed the following appointments to Working Parties:

- |    |                                   |                                  |
|----|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a) | Open Space                        | Councillors through Brian Laming |
| b) | Play Equipment                    | Will Hawthorne, John Godbold     |
| c) | Planning                          | Fenella Jarvis                   |
| d) | Transport                         | Keith Taylor                     |
| e) | Community Projects                | as required                      |
| f) | Finance                           | John Godbold and the RFO (Clerk) |
| g) | Community Centre Lease Compliance | Will Hawthorne                   |
| h) | Whiteshute Ridge                  | Martin Macpherson                |

- i) Police Dean Upton
- j) Noticeboard Rep John Godbold
- k) WDALC John Godbold
- l) Newsletter Nicola Blencowe

## 1076. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

### a) Police

- (i) PCSO Gavin Cooper outlined the Badger Farm crime statistics since the beginning of 2012. These have already been recorded in the April minutes (ref: minute 1065 a) (i) Page 810). He pointed out that these figures may also now be viewed at [www.crimereports.co.uk](http://www.crimereports.co.uk) .
- (ii) Following the PACT meeting held in March one of the Police priorities set was Anti-social behaviour in Badger Farm. Hi-visibility and plain clothes patrols will be run alongside the "Open Spaces" campaign and the police will take robust action using dispersal orders, seizing alcohol and involving parents.
- (iii) The next Winchester District Parish Policing Partnership Forum chaired by CI Fulton will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm in the Beeston Room, North Walls Police Station and will cover illegal encampments, scrap metal operations, speeding and police performance reviews. **FJ** may attend and has the necessary paperwork.

**DU** reported that:

- (iv) The Silverwood Close "No Cold Calling" zone had now been activated.

### b) Open Space

Nothing to report but see para 1078 below.

### c) Planning

**MM** reported that:

- (i) 2 new applications had been received:
 

Ashbarn Crescent	Erection of log cabin to side of dwelling
Rooks Down Road	Single storey rear extension
- (ii) No 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) Simon White, the Director of Vita Play, is keen to be given the opportunity to submit quotes and drawings for the Davis Kickabout refurbishment.
- (iii) The most recent Vita Play inspection took place on Friday 4 May. The following defects were identified with higher levels of risk (eg A - potential for death, B - severe or C - minor injury):

Equip	Defect	Action	Risk
<b>Central Kickabout</b>			
Trim Trail	Traverse ropes worn to core	Replace	C
Wicksteed Multi Play	2 post caps missing 1 post cap broken	Replace	C
Trim Trail	Broken Post (see (ii) above)	Replace	B
Trim Trail	Support Leg loose in ground	Replace	B
Rope Bridge	Support Leg loose in ground	Replace	B
<b>Davis Kickabout</b>			
Flat Seat Swings	Cracks in frame	Monitor/Fill	C
Cradle Swings	Cracks in frame	Monitor/Fill	C
Multi Play	Cracks in frame	Monitor/Fill	C
	Rope on Incline ladder worn	Replace	C
Safety Surfacing	Algae & Moss	Clean	C

- (iv) In view of the additional defects reported on the Trim Trail and Rope Bridge support posts **MM** had not progressed the claim for the post that had been vandalised on 7 April until Council had taken an overall view about the future of this equipment.

**JG** reported that:

- (v) He had inspected the new defects and had come to the conclusion that there were three possible ways ahead for the old equipment on the Central Kickabout:
  - (a) Repair individual defects on a case by case basis as they occurred. This was likely to be very expensive and not cost effective in the long run.
  - (b) Make selective repairs to maintain those pieces of equipment that were in reasonable condition and decommission those that had become not cost effective.
  - (c) Decommission all the old equipment now and replace with new. This is unaffordable.

Council **AGREED** that Option B was the best way forward.

- (vi) As a result of the decision at para (v) above the following action will now be undertaken:

- (a) Replace the trim trail vandalised post (insurance).
  - (b) Replace the rope bridge support leg loose in the ground (PC expense)
  - (c) Decommission the trim trail high rope equipment with the loose support leg.
- (vii) Council then discussed the long term future of both play areas noting that without substantial grant support any development / replacement plan was unaffordable. They **AGREED** the following:
- (a) A full survey of the equipment on the Davis Kickabout should be conducted to establish whether a further five year life could be achieved with minimal financial outlay.
  - (b) Provided the outcome of the survey was favourable Council should plan to replace the Central Kickabout equipment within two years and before the Davis (five years). This plan is entirely dependent on finding a source of substantial grant funding.

e) Transport

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

- (i) The Park & Ride service has been reduced to every 30 minutes in the evenings and the service now finishes before 9pm.
- (ii) Stagecoach are now running the No 2 service providing three buses a day in each direction to Oliver's Battery but nothing in the rush hours.
- (iii) The smartcard (The Key) on Bluestar provides 20% reductions on fares.

f) Communications

Nothing to report

g) Finance

**MM** reported that:

- (i) Expenditure remained within budget.
- (ii) The cleared bank balance on 30 April 2012 was £54,742.36. There was one un-cleared cheques to the value of £125.00. The bank statements and reconciliation for April 2012 were signed by **JG**.
- (iii) The VAT claim for £1,507.52 for the period 1 September 2011 to 31 March 2012 had been paid into the bank on 18 April 2012

- (iv) The first half Precept payment for 2012/13 of £14,200 had been paid into the bank on 20 April 2012.
- (v) The 2011/12 End of Year Employer Tax Return (P35) had been filed online on 22 April 2012.
- (vi) He had written to Aon Insurance Ltd enquiring what additional premium would be payable to increase the Fidelity Guarantee from £40K to £60K in accordance with the Internal Auditor's recommendation (Minute 1068 d) Page 814 refers). No reply has been received yet.

h) Parish Proposals and Action Grid

NTR

i) Community Centre Lease Compliance

NTR

j) Whiteshute Ridge

**MM** reported that:

- (i) At the last meeting Councillors sought clarification of the permitted uses of Whiteshute Ridge and the responsibilities vested in the Parish Council. **MM** explained the provisions of the lease dated 1992 and read the relevant articles to Councillors. A discussion on the scope of some of the clauses in the lease ensued. The general consensus was that they were couched in very general terms and this was in the Parish Council's favour leaving considerable room for interpretation.
- (ii) Councillors raised the issue of investing the £14,500 WCC retained money in a higher yield account or bond. After discussion it was agreed that **MM** would present options to the next meeting.
- (iii) **BL** undertook to get the WCC Head of Wild Life to attend the next meeting and to provide advice.

k) County Council Rep

**CB** was unable to remain at the meeting but left a written summary of the main issues she had dealt with during the year. This was read to the meeting and subsequently placed on file.

l) City Council Reps

**BL** reported that:

- (i) Buses. He continued to monitor the situation.
- (ii) Speeding. He noted that traffic on the Ridgeway consistently exceeded the speed limit and hoped the police would take action.

- (iii) Silverwood Tree House. It had now been removed.
- (iv) Central Footpath from Sainsbury to Ashbarn Crescent. WCC will conduct a tree survey.
- (v) He had received a further complaint about dog bags being strewn around Ivy Close. After discussion it was **AGREED** to re-site the second dog bin, currently on the Davis Kickabout, to the vicinity of the steps down from the Ridge to Ivy Close.

**LB** distributed a written report to each Councillor. This covered:

- (vi) WCC Informal Scrutiny Groups
  - (vii) Bus Services
  - (viii) Pitt Manor
  - (ix) Bushfield and Barton Farm development
  - (x) Police attendance in the Parish
- m). Notice Board Rep  
No report
- n). Newsletter Rep  
NTR
- o). WDALC  
NTR

### 1077. Local Elections

**WH** reported that:

- a) All Councillors had now completed the "Return of Expenses and Declaration" form and these had been passed to WCC. He held a receipt from WCC. **JG** thanked **WH** for his hard work during the elections and this was endorsed by Councillors.

### 1078. Parish Lengthsman

**MM** reported that:

- a) The formal Agreement between Otterbourne Parish Council (the Lead Parish) and Badger Farm Parish Council (the Associate) has now been signed by both parties. **MM** has retained a copy.

- b) The Lengthsman contract has been awarded to Chris Sparkes of Hedgesparrow who will work a 7 hour day flexible between 0800 and 1800.  
([mary.sparkes@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.sparkes@btinternet.com))
- c) Badger Farm's "lead" parish is Twford and worksheets need to be emailed to the Lead Parish one month before the start date.
- d) The Lengthsman will work in Badger Farm on 16, 17 and 18 July, 3, 4 and 5 September, 3, 4 and 5 December 2012 and 4, 5 and 6 March 2013.
- e) Parish must nominate a lead Councillor who will meet the Lengthsman at the beginning of the day, agree the work content and sign off at the end of the day.
- f) The Parish Council will need to finalise the work sheet for his first visit at the next meeting. Individual jobs will have to be defined in considerable detail including exact location and extent. **HS** and **CS** have already passed their initial thoughts to **MM**. The remainder of Council should do the same by 10 June 2012.

### 1079. Donation

**MM** reported that:

- a) He had received a request for a donation from Victim Support Hampshire & the Isle of Wight. Council **AGREED** that a donation of £100 was appropriate.

### 1080. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) Community Centre Hire Charges have been increased by 2% from 1 June 2012.
- b) WCC have invited comments on the draft of the new "Vision for Winchester Town". Details may be found on their website.

### 1081. Payment of Accounts

The following payments were approved and signed at the meeting:

1581	M D Macpherson	Clerk Salary (April)	£ 428.00	£ -
1582	VitaPlay	Playground Inspections (May)	£ 76.80	£ 12.80
1583	Do the Numbers	Internal Audit 2011/12	£ 235.00	£ -
1584	Aon Ltd	Insurance Policy Renewal	£ 2,455.75	£ -
1585	BT	Clerk Telephone	£ 52.21	£ 8.70
1586	Victim Support	Donation	£ 100.00	£ -

### 1082. Any other business

A member of the public stated that she had attended the meeting intending to make representations about the dog bags in Ivy Close but having heard the discussion minuted at para 1076 l) (v) page 815 above she was content with the action proposed. She subsequently made a number of unsubstantiated statements relating to the Council's handling of a previous complaint made by her and her perception that the Council was in the habit of "snooping and

taking photographs of minors". Both suggestions were refuted by Councillors who stated that her views were completely unfounded.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2150.

Signed

Date