

BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th March 2008

PRESENT:

Keith Taylor (Chair)
John Godbold
Ray Stannard
Fenella Jarvis

IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson (Clerk)
Cllr David Spender
Cllr Brian Collin

APOLOGIES:

Ian Tait
Sarah Keene
Daniel Phelps
Cllr Charlotte Bailey
PC Mark Smith

749. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2008 were **AGREED** and signed as an accurate record.

750. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

a) Open Space

MM reported that:

- (i) **CB** had informed him that she had reported the poor state of maintenance of some of the footpaths to HCC where they were responsible.

b) Play Equipment

MM reported that:

- (i) Play Equipment inspections were up to date.
- (ii) **DP** was unable to attend but had forwarded a written report about his and **RS**'s intentions regarding the purchase and siting of new play equipment on the Central Kickabout. He is currently investigating the following:
 - a) The costs of repairing and / or replacing the safety surfacing.
 - b) The costs of repairing and maintaining the existing equipment.

He proposed a two stage approach:

- c) Stage 1. Develop the space to the left (facing the wall) – perhaps by providing a small slide, a swing and a small bouncer.
- d) Stage 2. Develop the right hand side with new safety surfacing and equipment when funding allows.

He also noted that the shrubs planted two years ago were now maturing well and proposed that further planting along the Elder Close garage walls would enhance the area and discourage further graffiti.

Council **AGREED** these proposals in principal and **RS** will investigate the cost of the additional planting.

- (iii) The Annual Play Areas Inspection for 2008 by Dunlop Playground Services on behalf of WCC was carried out on 4 February 2008. The Inspector's overall statement was that "the standard of maintenance has continued to improve and I was pleased to see that many bushes, shackles, seats and chains have been replaced".

Equipment	Site	Risk	Comment/Action
Central Site		Low/Medium	
Multi-Unit Obstacle Course	Central	Low	Monitor surface. Replace bearings on rotating log.
Davis Site	Davis	Medium	Raised Edges – No deterioration since last year
Wickstead Slide Unit	Davis	Medium	Timber chipped – monitor. Replace missing caps and plugs
Swing Cradle Seats	Davis	Low	
Swing Flat seats	Davis	Medium	Remove remains of manufacturers label

The definition of a Low Risk is "monitor and take reasonable practical action if required." The definition of a Medium Risk is "take action to reduce if possible". Council **AGREED** to monitor the medium risk items. **JG** will remove the manufacturer's label from the swing seat. No other immediate work was required. The report was passed to **RS**.

- (iv) The new inspection regime will start on 3 April 2008 and the first Councillor inspections will therefore be required on 10 April.

c) Planning

MM reported that:

- (i) 3 new applications had been received:

Ivy Close	2 storey side extension
Charfield Close	2 storey side extension, 1 new window to rear and alterations to existing windows.
Sainsburys	Redevelopment of filling station including demolition and replacement of existing kiosk, demolition and replacement of canopy, realignment of pumps and installation of 1 additional pump.

- (ii) No applications had been approved:

- (iii) No applications had been refused in the last month.
 - (iv) **BC** will try to arrange a briefing to the Council from WCC Planning Department about the planning process with a couple of Badger Farm case studies. It was hoped that this would help Council to define more formally what may or may not be acceptable.
- d) Transport
- NTR
- e) Community Project
- NTR
- f) Parish Website
- KT** reported that:
- (i) Jane Fielding had resigned as the Webmaster. The new incumbent is Sarah Munns (sarahmunns@aol.com).
- g) Finance
- MM** reported that:
- (i) The bank balance remained healthy and expenditure remained within budget.
 - (ii) The bank statements and reconciliation for February 2008 were signed by the Chairman.
 - (iii) The 2007/08 VAT return claiming £1,725.96 repayment was forwarded to H.M. Customs & Excise on 8 March 2008.
- h) Community Centre Lease Compliance
- NTR
- i) Whiteshute Ridge
- MM** reported that:
- (i) The revised quote from SERCO for maintenance of the Ridge for 2008/09 had been received and is £5,108.56 plus VAT. Since this was within the agreed limit set at the last meeting he had accepted it.
 - (ii) The spraying and control of the ragwort will cost £2,704 plus VAT. Council **AGREED** that this was reasonable given the scale of the work. The total Whiteshute Ridge work for next financial year will therefore cost £7,812:56

against an agreed budget of £12,000 leaving approximately £4,000 for contingencies.

- (iii) During the annual tree survey the contractors have found two ash trees that are in very poor condition. Advice is that these trees must be felled on health and safety grounds. **MM** had authorised the work to proceed.

DP reported that:

- (iv) He had been asked whether Council would be prepared to fund a doggie bin at the footbridge access from Oliver's Battery. Council **AGREED** that they would not since Badger Farm residents do not use that access and regular emptying would be difficult and expensive.

j) Police

PC MS was unable to attend but reported on the monthly crime figures:

2 reported thefts - one of a trailer, the second being the theft of a credit card from an unknown location but registered against the victims address.

3 reported rowdy behaviour/ suspicious persons.

1 reported domestic incident - verbal only.

2 incidents of a civil matter one being a neighbour dispute regarding a boundary.

k) County Council Rep

No report.

l) City Council Reps

BC reported on:

- (i) Oliver's Battery Neighbourhood Watch scheme would be up and running this month. He would then turn his attention to Badger Farm.
- (ii) Council Tax. Badger Farm Band D will be £27:40 for 2008/09.
- (iii) A 999 call from a resident that had not been passed to the police. Inspector Baxman was investigating.

DS reported on:

- (iv) Foliage. He had checked that the WCC maintenance programme was on track.
- (v) Parking Payment arrangements. The structure currently in place will remain and Winchester car parks will not now all become Pay & Display.

(vi) WCC had formed a “bond of friendship” with the Hampshire Combined Cadet Forces.

m). Notice Board Rep

NTR

n). Newsletter Rep

NTR

o). WDAPC

NTR

751. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) The Hampshire & IoW 101 service will now continue until March 2009 at least.
- b) Sainsburys had forwarded a follow-up letter after their presentation to the last Council meeting. This provided an update on progress and outlined their intentions for development of the petrol station. Copies had been passed to all Councillors.
- c) HCC had forwarded a new Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way for Winchester which defines the status of all footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways and BOATs. It has been placed on file.

752. Payment of Accounts

The following payments were approved and signed:

Cheque	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT
1348	M D Macpherson	Clerk Salary & Expenses	£ 393.16	-
1349	WCC	Annual Play Inspections	£ 84.60	£ 12.60
1350	SERCO	WSR – Tree Survey	£ 958.80	£ 142.80
1351	SERCO	Play Ground Inspections	£ 747.86	£ 111.38

753. Any other business

KT reported that he had attended the inaugural meeting of the Oliver’s Battery Greening campaign. He thought it had been a useful and commendable attempt to stimulate interest but would rather Badger Farm acted in concert with Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC). Council **AGREED**.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2053.

Signed

Date