



BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th April 2006

PRESENT:

Keith Taylor (Chair)
John Godbold
Fenella Jarvis
Ian Tait
Anne Church
Fiona Davidson

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Charlotte Bailey
Ray Stannard

IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson
Cllr David Spender
Cllr Brian Collin
1 Member of the Public

17. Introduction

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those attending the Assembly.

18. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous assembly meeting held on 11 April 2005 were **AGREED** and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

19. Parish Council – Chairman's Report

The following is the text of the Chairman's report read to the meeting by **KT**:

Badger Farm is a Parish where we don't have huge planning or environmental issues (although that could change of course), but we do have a number of concerns which affect people's everyday lives. These issues tend to vary by seasons, with noise being a problem in the summer, and leaves and ice being a problem in the winter. This year has been no exception, but we have had several other things happen as well.

Firstly, in October, Derrick Makewell suffered a stroke, and could no longer act as chairman of the Residents' Association. The rest of the committee have rallied round and kept the centre running smoothly, but we all feel the loss of Derrick's guidance. Thankfully, he is now out of hospital and back at home. The Parish Council is involved, because we hold the lease of the Community Centre.

At about that time, the Parish council installed three signs on the central kickabout area asking people to play ball games away from the fences and walls so as to prevent damage. The first sign was vandalised whilst the contractors were still on site, and the other two within 24 hours. We then decided to replace the signs with heavy duty ones in quick-setting concrete, but these did not last much longer, and there is still a problem with damage to garage walls in that area, despite the new goalpost which we have erected on the field.

We have been looking into various schemes to have adults patrol play areas and liaise with the older children using them. You should see a scheme start in the next few weeks, although we have to be sensitive to the needs of all concerned. Also on the central kickabout area, the youngsters' play equipment has been removed because it was becoming unsafe. We have identified replacement equipment, and

hope to install it soon. We are also extending the pyracantha hedge planted to protect resident's fences at that end of the field.

Other things that happened last year were a gardening competition which showed just how much some residents look after their gardens, and some aircraft noise problems which made others wonder why they bothered. The Parish Council attended several meetings of the Southampton Airport Users' group, and have been kept informed about the airport plan, which does have a small impact on the Parish in the form of more airport traffic.

There has been concern over bus services to Badger Farm, particularly in the evenings, and more recently due to the effects of the road works in Southgate Street. This brings me on to the subject of traffic on Badger Farm road, and the concerns over the effect that another Park and Ride proposed for south Winchester might have (albeit not until 2009). The proposed scheme could have a positive effect by extending bus lanes and improving junctions; not to mention removing some private cars from Badger Farm road.

Recently, we have had our first set of travellers actually in the Parish, on Whiteshute ridge, although there were also a large group on Bushfield Camp before that. There is a standard process for moving on travellers, but it costs the Parish hundreds of pounds to implement; money which could better be spent on more useful local projects.

The Parish Council has been working closely with the City on keeping Badger Farm looking tidy. We have recently identified many areas where shrub maintenance has been carried out to keep the Parish looking tidy. Looking ahead to the autumn, we will see a new scheme to try to increase the amount of recycling we do. The scheme will include (limited) garden waste collection, but at the same time reduce the collection of non-recyclable waste to every two weeks.

To end on a positive note, I am amazed at the variety of activities that take place in this Community Centre. There is nearly always something going on in the three main rooms (as well as the bar), including playgroups, yoga, weight watchers, acting, magic, Tae Kwon-Do and bridge. We are very lucky to have such a useful resource so close at hand.

I hope you all enjoy the Easter break.

20. Presentation of Parish Council Finances for 2005/2006

The Parish Clerk reported that the accounts for the year 2005/2006 had been prepared but not yet audited. He went on to outline that:

- a) During 2005/2006 the Parish Council had received a total income of £25,022. This was made up of a Precept of £24,000 from the City Council and £1,022 interest on investments.
- b) Expenditure amounted to £29,753. This consisted of:
 - (i) Clerk's Salary £5,774
 - (ii) Administration £3,649
 - (iii) Litter £ 850
 - (iv) Open Spaces £2,869

(v)	Play Equipment	£4,563
(vi)	Whiteshute Ridge	£8,745
(vii)	Donations	£3,300

- c) All this resulted in a final balance of £20,293 with another £14,500 held in reserve for the lease of Whiteshute Ridge.

21. Question Time

The Chairman urged members of the Parish to contact one of the Councillors if they had any ideas for Community Projects in the future. There being no questions from the Public the Chairman closed the meeting at 1950.

Signed

Date