

BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th November 2006

PRESENT:

Keith Taylor (Chair)
John Godbold
Ian Tait
Ray Stannard
Anne Church
Fenella Jarvis

IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson
Cllr Charlotte Bailey
Cllr David Spender
2 Members of the Public

APOLOGIES:

Fiona Davidson
PC Joe Zubaidi
Cllr Brian Collin

649. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th October 2006 were **AGREED** and signed as an accurate record.

650. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

a) Open Space

Members of Council made the following observations:

- (i) The steps from Silverwood Close to the Stanmore footpath were overgrown
- (ii) The footpath from Kestrel Close to Honeysuckle Close was overgrown and required cutting back.
- (iii) The footpath from Rooksdown to Stanmore Lane was being used by motorcycles. Council decided that little could be done to improve the situation since the barrier needed to be wide enough to allow wheelchair access.
- (iv) A mattress had been dumped on the Meadow Way / Plough Way intersection but has subsequently been removed.
- (v) The short stretch of footpath from Sainsburys along Meadow Way to the May Tree Close turning was very overgrown.

DS undertook to follow up with WCC. He also reported that:

- (vi) Further damage had occurred to the Elder Close footpath wall and there might also be an asbestos risk. He would get WCC Environmental Health to re-inspect to assess the health and safety risk.
- (vii) Additional work has been authorised to cut back overgrown foliage in Swift Close and Elder Close.

(viii) The overgrown trees and bushes on the footpath between Silverwood Close and Wheatlands Close will be cut back.

b) Play Equipment

MM reported that:

(i) All play equipment inspections were up to date.

JG reported that:

(ii) There had been a minor case of vandalism on the Davis Kickabout but no significant damage had occurred.

(iii) Grants, the contractor for the new play equipment, had informed him that there would be a three month delay in delivery of the equipment. **MM** will now take over supervision of the installation and contract.

c) Planning

KT reported that:

(i) 4 new applications had been received:

Larkhill Rise	2 Storey Side Extension
	Single Storey Front Extension
Larkhill Rise	Single Storey Side Extension
	Front Porch
Silverwood Close	First Floor Side Extension
Sainsburys	1 External Illuminated Sign

Council **AGREED** that **KT** should object to the Sainsburys application.

(ii) 1 application had been approved:

Kestrel Close	Erection of Shed
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(iii) No applications had been refused in the last month.

MM reported that:

(iv) WCC are undertaking a "peer review" of the planning process in December. Parish Councils have been invited to attend from 10.30 to 1200 in Avalon House on Wednesday 13th December. **KT** will try to attend.

JG reported that:

(v) There were a large number of Estate Agents signs throughout the Parish that remained in place long after the sale had been completed contrary to planning regulations. **JG** will forward a list to the Clerk who will action with the Companies concerned.

d) Transport

MM reported that:

- (i) The next Southampton Airport Community and Stakeholders Conference will take place from 09.00am to 1.00pm on Friday 17th November in the Mathew Le Tissier Suite, St Mary's Football Stadium. **KT** will try to attend.
- (ii) The next Winchester Passenger Transport Area Review meeting will be held on Thursday 14th December from 1000am until 1200 in the Conference Room, Ashburton Court East, The Castle. **KT** will investigate attendance.

e) Community Project

MM reported that:

- (i) BF & OB RCA had requested a donation to assist with the purchase of fireworks for the party held on 11th November. Council **AGREED** a donation of £ 300.

f) Parish Website

KT reported that:

- (i) He intended to mark the 20th Anniversary of the formation of the Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents Community Association with a photo display on the website.

g) Finance

MM reported that:

- (i) The bank balance remained healthy and expenditure remained within budget. The bank statements and reconciliation for October were signed by the Chairman.
- (ii) He was in the process of opening a NatWest Bonus Saver Account to provide a secure fund for the Clerk's gratuity. **KT, JG** and **FJ** signed the mandate and authorised an initial transfer of £703.
- (iii) The 2005/06 Audit had been returned by the Audit Commission for one minor amendment. This had been actioned by **KT** and **MM** on 30 October.

h) Community Centre Lease Compliance

MM reported that:

- (i) Pam Brown Associates (Environmental Consultants) had written informing the Council that they manage the Sainsbury property portfolio for asbestos related issues. They suggest that the Asbestos at Work Regulations 2002,

that came into force on 21 May 2004, require an asbestos survey. They also suggest that a copy of the survey should be provided for retention on the Sainsburys asbestos database. **MM** has written to Pam Brown Associates pointing out that Sainsburys do not own the Community Centre. Nevertheless, the regulations do indeed require “those in control of the building to take reasonable steps to determine the location and condition of materials likely to contain asbestos . . . “. Details have been passed to **KT** who has discussed the matter with the Chairman of BF & OB RCA. The issue will be followed up once Pam Brown Associates have responded about the ownership and responsibility issue.

KT reported that:

- (ii) BF & OB RCA had reported that there were rats in the Community Centre. The matter has been taken up with Sainsburys who have called in the WCC team.

i) Whiteshute Ridge

MM reported that:

- (i) Brendon Hogan (Alan Brind Tree Services) had been contracted by Scottish and Southern Energy to cut back the trees under the 11,000 volt power line on the South East Corner of the Ridge and over Whiteshute Lane. Work has now been completed.
- (ii) He had received a quote from SERCO of £ 84.37 + VAT to cut back the overgrown footpath from the bottom of the Sainsburys / Harrow Down footpath to the steps up to the Ridge. Council **AGREED** to proceed with the work.
- (iii) He had spoken to Serco about this year’s WSR tree survey and agreed to delete the requirement for ivy ringing this year. Instead they will:
 - a) Carry out the remaining remedial / safety work from last year’s survey.
 - b) Tag the relevant trees
 - c) Conform to the new Arboriculture Association guidelines
 - d) Resurvey as already required by the contract

Council **AGREED** this course of action.

Councillors questioned why the steps from Ivy Close onto the Ridge had been roped off and appeared to be being worked on.

- (iv) **MM** will investigate.

JG reported that:

- (v) He had discussed the Bushfield Camp problem of travellers and motor cycle access with the Inspector from Winchester City police who had requested that all affected Councils write to the land agents (Cluttons)

requesting that they strengthen the security of the site by constructing a “bund” or moat round the perimeter. This letter should be copied to the Police. Action **MM**.

j) Police

KT reported that:

- (i) He had attended the Police Parish Forum and subsequently received the minutes of the meeting. He welcomed the intention to provide a Parish Community Support Officer for Badger Farm early next year.

k) County Council Rep

CB reported on:

- (i) Park & Ride. The decision on the preferred option will be taken by HCC on 14 November. It is expected that the “Tarmac” site will be selected. Thereafter there will be further detailed investigation and public consultation to flesh out the detail.
- (ii) Winchester Transport Review. Support for more flexible bus services serving new routes is under discussion.
- (iii) Adult Social Care. Despite the intention to generate savings by reducing care provision it now looks as if the proposals will be scaled down.
- (iv) M3 Diversion. After the most recent closure of the motorway HCC are looking at the diversion routes to improve traffic flow.

l) City Council Reps

DS reported on:

- (i) Dog Fouling on the Central Kickabout. New notices have been posted, City dog wardens have now taken a more proactive stance and an article will appear in the next Community newsletter.
- (ii) Bus Shelters. These have been inspected and in part repainted. Other enhancements are also being considered.
- (iii) Alcohol Exclusion Zone. A proposal to extend such zones to the whole of Winchester (including Badger Farm) are being considered by WCC.
- (iv) The new WCC Planning and Transport Portfolio Holder is Councillor Wood after Councillor Lipscombe’s resignation.

m). Notice Board Rep

NTR

n). Newsletter Rep

NTR

o). WDAPC

NTR

651. Budget & Precept 2007/08

MM had distributed a breakdown of Council Spending over the last five years as a basis for discussion of the 2008/09 Budget and Precept bid. After discussion Council **AGREED** the following:

- (i) To set a budget for 2007/08 of £23,979. £15,000 expenditure on new playground equipment is currently included in the 2006/07 budget but may be carried forward if the work is not complete. The expected expenditure consists of:

Salary	£ 6,358
Business Expenses	£ 4,100
Litter	£ 971
Open Space	£ 550
Play Equipment	£ 2,500
Whiteshute Ridge	£ 6,000
Donations	£ 3,500
Total	£23,979

- (ii) To precept WCC for £25,500.

652. Detached Youth Project

RS reported that work was underway, and he had accompanied the outreach workers on the streets on Halloween Night. The initial surveys had collected evidence on Skate Boarders and youngster's use of Badger Farm areas. The team were aware of the Carroll Youth Centre initiative. He felt the project was making good progress and the Team intend to make an interim report to the PC at the December meeting.

653. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative. Central Government (Department of Transport) intend to let out maintenance of street lighting to a contractor through the PFI process. This means that by late 2008 it will be necessary for the Parish Council to have a contract in place with that contractor to avoid responsibility for inspection and maintenance and the associated legal liability for our own lampposts.
- b) Recycling. The new two weekly collection cycle will start in Badger Farm with a recycle and garden waste collection in the week beginning 15 January 2007 and alternate weeks thereafter. Bins and garden waste sacks will be delivered to relevant households from 15 December onwards.

- c) A WCC survey on litter control, fly tipping, abandoned cars, fly posting, graffiti, street sweeping, grounds maintenance and other issues has now been passed to **KT**.
- d) WCC will hold a Climate Change Action Planning Event as the first stage of producing a Climate Change plan in Winchester Guildhall on 27th November from 09.30am to 4.00pm. **KT** will investigate attendance.

654. Payment of Accounts

The following payments were approved and signed:

Cheque	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT
1274	M D Macpherson	Clerk Salary	£ 404.00	-
1275	WCC	Litter - Dog Bin emptying	£ 201.50	-
1276	SERCO	Playground Inspections	£ 906.07	£ 134.95
1277	BT	Clerk Telephone	£ 37.69	£ 5.62
1278	BF & OB RCA	Donation - Fireworks Party	£ 300.00	-

655. Any other business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2155.

Signed

Date