

BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th January 2008

PRESENT:

Keith Taylor (Chair)
John Godbold
Ian Tait
Fenella Jarvis
Sarah Keene
Daniel Phelps
Ray Stannard

IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson (Clerk)
Cllr Brian Collin
Cllr David Spender

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Charlotte Bailey
PCSO

735. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2007 were **AGREED** and signed as an accurate record.

736. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

a) Open Space

DS reported that:

- (i) The winter maintenance programme will commence shortly and run throughout February. Councillors knowing of areas requiring attention should contact him within the next week.

RS reported that:

- (ii) The bushes next to the footpath running across the open space to Stanmore were very overgrown and require cutting back. **DS** will action.

b) Play Equipment

MM reported that:

- (i) Repair to the damaged Timber Multi Unit equipment vandalised on the night of 6 September has been completed by RSS. **RS** will now replace the ropes. Allianz Insurance have agreed to pay the cost less £150 excess.
- (ii) Play Equipment inspections were up to date.
- (iii) He had arranged for both play areas to be inspected by an independent qualified inspector contracted by WCC. The total cost for this annual inspection will be £72 plus VAT. The inspection will be carried out at the end of this month.

- (iv) At the last meeting he had been tasked to check the indemnity cover in the insurance policy to confirm that Councillors would be covered if they undertook some of the weekly inspections. The policy states that “The Insurer will indemnify the Insured against legal liability to pay compensation and claimants costs and expenses in respect of accidental Injury to any person. . . .”. In addition “the Insurer will pay costs and expenses incurred by the Insured (a) in connection with the defence of any claim (b) for representation of the Insured (in court).” Council **AGREED** that this was satisfactory.
- (v) Inspection Regime. The current arrangement calls for weekly inspections which will now cost £32.35 per week and weekly removal of litter and blow over of the safety surfacing at £18.81 per visit. Total annual costs will therefore be £2,660.32. He reminded the meeting that The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) recommend “a regime of weekly recorded inspections of the play area looking for very obvious faults and a monthly, more detailed inspection”. They suggest that “This can be easily conducted by volunteers” and an example check list is available on their website. Adopting these recommendations could save the Parish Council significant expenditure. Council **AGREED** that the SERCO contract should be altered to fortnightly inspections and that the intervening weeks should be conducted by councillors. **MM** will produce an excel spreadsheet check list. **JG** will conduct Davis inspections, **SK** will cover the Central Kickabout.

c) Planning

MM reported that:

- (i) No new applications had been received:
- (ii) No applications had been approved:
- (iii) No applications had been refused in the last month.
- (iv) Sainsbury had informed him that improvements to the store lasting some six months have just started. All work has received planning approval. The improvements include an 11,265 sq ft extension, relocation of the recycling area and provision of a new car wash facility. Work will be conducted between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. Overnight working will only take place inside the store. The Project Manager will attend the next meeting and brief Council on the work. A site visit may be possible.
- (v) New reports of certain breaches of planning consent (enforcement investigations) will be suspended until 1 May in order to clear a large backlog.

d) Transport

MM reported that:

- (i) WCC Environment Scrutiny Panel will conduct a fact finding review on the impact of aircraft movements to and from Southampton Airport. A meeting will be held at 6.30pm in the Guildhall on Monday 28 January. Representatives of Parish Councils and other interested parties may present their views for a maximum of 10 minutes. **KT** will attend.

e) Community Project

NTR

f) Parish Website

NTR

g) Finance

MM reported that:

- (i) The bank balance remained healthy and expenditure remained within budget.
- (ii) The bank statements and reconciliation for December were signed by the Chairman.

h) Community Centre Lease Compliance

NTR

i) Whiteshute Ridge

KT reminded Councillors that:

- (i) The Cross Country meeting will take place on the Ridge on Sunday 20 January at 9.00am.

JG reported that:

- (ii) A number of the wooden treads on the steps from Honeysuckle Close up to the Ridge were rotting. Action **MM**.

j) Police

- (i) There was no police representative present.

MM reported that:

- (ii) The next Parish Partnership Forum will be held on Tuesday 29 January 2008 at 7.30pm in the Wickham Community Centre. No Councillors will be able to attend.

k) County Council Rep

CB was unable to attend but provided a written report covering:

- (i) Romsey Road closure.
- (ii) Tower Art Centre. Management will be transferred to King's School on 21 April.
- (iii) HCC Targets
- (iv) School Places Plan. Winchester District had a 5% primary school surplus last year but is expected to have a 5% deficit by 2012.
- (v) HCC Strategic Partnership with Police, Fire and Rescue, Health authorities, Probation services and Educational establishments will agree key targets to achieve more "joined-up" services.

l) City Council Reps

BC reported that:

- (i) Oliver's Battery Neighbourhood Watch Scheme will be launched in mid-February once all the co-ordinators have been appointed.

DS reported on:

- (ii) Open Space (see 736 a) (i) above).

m). Notice Board Rep

NTR

n). Newsletter Rep

NTR

o). WDAPC

NTR

737. Council Contact Details

Councillors updated their contact details for the benefit of **KT** and **MM**.

738. Winchester Local Development Framework

MM reported that:

- a) The meeting to be held on 17 January will now take place in the Guildhall at 7.30pm as opposed to the Discovery Centre as previously arranged.

KT reported that:

- b) WCC Head of Strategic Planning had briefed a meeting on 7 January about the process for defining the LDF. It was now time for the Parish Council to formulate its position with regard to the proposals set out in PC minute 729 I) (iv) at the last meeting in December. After considerable discussion it was **AGREED** that individual Councillors should research the issues by working through the online consultation questionnaire before attending a special meeting on 4 February to define a joint response. In the meantime **KT** will attend the 17 January meeting.

739. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) There is a vacancy as a Parish Representative on the Standards Committee for 2007/08 and 2008/09. Nominations must be returned by Tuesday 22 January. **SK** will consider applying.
- b) There will be a training session for new councillors at Alton Malting Centre on Wednesday 19 March at 6.00pm. **DP** and **SK** will attend.
- c) The Hampshire County Youth Band Association have asked for a donation. Council **AGREED** that this was unaffordable.
- d) The next BF & OB RCA user group meeting will take place in the Community Centre on Wednesday 16 January at 8.00pm. **KT** will attend.

740. Payment of Accounts

The following payments were approved and signed:

Cheque	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT
1338	HALC	Councillor Training	£ 40.00	-
1339	M D Macpherson	Clerk Salary & Expenses	£ 393.16	-
1340	Record RSS	Play Equipment Repair	£ 1,132.70	£ 168.70
1341	BF & OB RCA	Hire of Hall	£ 11.93	-
1342	SERCO	WSR – Tree trimming	£ 123.42	£ 18.38

741. Any other business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2115.

Signed

Date