

BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th April 2009

PRESENT:

Keith Taylor (Chair)
John Godbold
Ian Tait
Daniel Phelps
Will Hawthorne
Dean Upton

IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson (Clerk)
Cllr David Spender (WCC)
Cllr Charlotte Bailey (HCC)
PCSO Warren Carne

APOLOGIES:

Ray Stannard
Fenella Jarvis
Cllr Brian Collin (WCC)

830. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2009 were **AGREED** and signed as an accurate record.

831. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

a) Police

WC reported on the monthly crime figures.

(i) There had been:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Criminal Damage | May Tree Close |
| 1 Drunkenness | Ashbarn Crescent |
| 1 Neighbours Dispute | St Annes Close |
| 2 Road Related Incidents | Badger Farm Rd & Meadow Way |
| Theft of Bicycle | Central Kickabout |

(ii) There had also been 3 complaints about persons using “mini motos / pitt bikes” on Whiteshute Ridge and Bushfield Camp. He reported that this was his top priority and action is in hand to resolve the problem.

(iii) He appealed for more volunteers to carry out the Neighbourhood Watch Street Co-ordinator role. **DU** said that Emma Smith, as the Badger Farm Co-ordinator, would welcome volunteers. Her email contact details are now on the Parish website.

b) Open Space

JG reported that:

- (i) He had obtained a quote of £30 for each of the seven benches to be pressure washed and treated. Council **AGREED** to accept this quote and **JG** will put the work in hand.

DP reported that:

- (ii) The new grass sown by HCC at the entrance to May Tree Close had been very successful and he hoped that it could be extended. **DS** said that he would investigate.
- (iii) He asked about the autumn bulb planting programme – this will be discussed at the July meeting.

c) Planning

MM reported that:

- (i) 1 new application had been received:

Ivy Close Conservatory to rear

- (ii) 2 applications had been approved:

Kestrel Close Conversion of existing garage with single storey extension and conservatory to rear.
Barley Down Drive Open sided carport to side

- (iii) No applications had been refused.

DS reported that:

- (iv) WCC Planning Department (Enforcement) are in negotiation with Sainsburys about the re-siting of the re-cycling centre and a new planning application is expected shortly.

d) Play Equipment

MM reported that:

- (i) Play Equipment inspections were up to date.
- (ii) The 3 cm hole in the safety surface by the Burma bridge on the Central Kickabout has been repaired by **WH** with a kit purchased from Associated Surfaces and Materials, Northampton.
- (iii) The Annual Play Areas Inspection for 2009 by Dunlop Playground Services on behalf of WCC was carried out on 11 February 2009. The Inspector's overall statement was that "I was pleased to find that the standard of maintenance remains high".

| Equipment | Site | Risk | Comment/Action |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| Central Site | | Low/Medium | |
| RSS Multi-Unit Obstacle Course | Central | Low | Hole in safety surfacing. Raised edges. |
| Wickstead Bridge, slide and ramp | Central | Low | Step treads not level |
| Wickstead Cradle seats | Central | Medium | Provide barriers to direct children away from swings on entering. |
| Davis Site | Davis | Medium | Raised Edges – No deterioration since last year |
| Wickstead Slide Unit | Davis | Medium | Replace missing plug. Remove raised edges |
| Swing Cradle Seats | Davis | Low | |
| Swing Flat seats | Davis | Medium | Remove raised edges |

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.

e) Transport

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 February and March 2009 were signed by **KT**.
- (iii) As expected WCC have now introduced staged payment of the precept. £13,800 (the first 50%) was paid on 10 April and the balance will be received in September.

h) Community Project

JG reported on:

- (i) His limited investigations to date about the provision of a Fitness Trail.

i) Community Centre Lease Compliance

NTR

i) Whiteshute Ridge

MM reported that:

- (i) The annual tree survey had been completed. Of the 175 trees surveyed all but 19 were assessed as being in “good” condition. 3 trees were assessed as “poor” but none are unsafe. There is therefore no immediate remedial work required on safety grounds although 1 tree has a split limb that should be removed for arboreal reasons. **MM** has contracted SERCO to do this job.

k) County Council Rep

CB reported on:

- (i) Issues raised by residents. During her recent canvassing the following two issues were mentioned.
 - (a) Part of the roadway in May Tree Close requires re-surfacing – she will take up with HCC Highways.
 - (b) Speeding on Meadow Way and the Ridgeway.
- (ii) Street Lighting. Changes in hand due to environmental considerations.

l) City Council Reps

DS reported on:

- (i) Park & Ride (South). Sporadic road and lane closures will have to take place in the vicinity of the Bushfield roundabout during the next nine months.

m). Notice Board Rep

NTR

n). Newsletter Rep

NTR

o). WDALC

NTR

832. Football Equipment

MM reported that:

- a) At the last meeting it had been agreed to return the balance of £10.49 of the HCC football grant however the County Council Youth Team Manager, Mr David Mackie had since refused to accept the cheque and insisted that the money be spent on youth football in Badger Farm. Cheque No: 001410 had therefore been cancelled and the Parish Council now holds £10.49 on deposit on behalf of the Football Club.

833. Parish Council Financial Regulations

MM reported that:

- a) The Badger Farm Parish Council Financial Regulations had not been updated since June 2006 and he had therefore produced a revised set. The only changes necessary had been to add one new bank account (the Bonus Saver Account for the Clerk's gratuity), delete reference to the National Savings Account which had now been closed and update the Section 137 paragraph. All other changes were cosmetic.
- b) Councillors **AGREED** the new set of regulations; they were signed by the Chairman and RFO and placed on file by the Clerk.

834. Parish Computer

MM reported that:

- a) The Parish Computer, a Dell Dimension 4100, was now over nine years old and was becoming increasingly temperamental. In particular the following issues were causing problems:
 - (i) It has no USB port making it impossible to backup to a memory stick
 - (ii) The D drive disc driver is broken making it impossible to work from CD-ROM or DVD or backup work without emailing to a separate machine.
 - (iii) It is using Windows Millennium 2000 which apart from being notoriously temperamental is now unable to host other new programmes, particularly recent HM R & C tax software.
 - (iv) The monitor is on its last legs.
 - (v) The Brother HL-1250 printer is currently adequate but is unlikely to last much longer.
- b) He asked Council to approve the purchase of a suitable laptop to replace the PC and monitor. Council **AGREED** that **MM** should purchase a suitable laptop and associated operating system. Maximum budget allocated to be £500 ex VAT.

835. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) Draft Assessment of Need for Local Reserve Site Release. WCC has conducted its review of the supply of housing land and concluded that the earmarked reserve site at Pitt Manor will not need to be released in the coming year.
- b) Barton Farm. There will be a community and stakeholder consultation exhibition preview for Councillors at St Barnabas Church Hall on Thursday 23rd April from 12pm to 1pm. Two further public exhibitions will be held at:
 - (i) St Barnabas Church Hall from 1.00pm to 8.00pm on Thursday 23rd April
 - (ii) Saxon Suite, Winchester Guildhall from 10.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday 25th April.
- c) City Alcohol Exclusion Zone. WCC are conducting a review of the AEZ. Comments may be filed online at www.wdsp.co.uk/communitysafety/consultations by 30 April.

836. Payment of Accounts

Since the last meeting cheque 001410 has been cancelled (see para 832 a. above).

The following payments were approved and signed:

| Cheque | Payee | Details | Amount | VAT |
|--------|----------------|------------------------------------|------------|----------|
| 1411 | M D Macpherson | Clerk Salary & Expenses | £ 390 .52 | - |
| 1412 | cancelled | cancelled | £ - | - |
| 1413 | WCC | Annual Play Equip Inspections | £ 85.10 | £ 11.10 |
| 1414 | SERCO | WSR. Tree Survey & Felling | £ 4,683.73 | £ 610.92 |
| 1415 | Assoc Surfaces | Safety Surfacing Repair Kit | £ 69.41 | £ 6.31 |
| 1416 | HM R&C | 4 th Quarter PAYE & NIC | £ 392.71 | - |
| 1417 | Allianz | 2009 Insurance Premium | £ 1,883.33 | - |

837. Any other business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2135.

Signed

Date