

BADGER FARM PARI SH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th March 2014

PRESENT:

John Godbold (Chair)
Will Hawthorne (Vice Chair)
Heather Nicholson
Dean Upton
Chrissie Sanders
Fenella Jarvis

IN ATTENDANCE:

Martin Macpherson (Clerk)
Keith Taylor (Transport Rep)

APOLOGIES:

Julie Lacey
Cllr Phil Bailey (HCC)
Cllr Brian Laming (WCC)
Cllr Lynda Banister (WCC)
PCSO Gavin Cooper
PC Gareth McGaw

1213. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2014 were **AGREED** to be an accurate record and were signed by **JG**.

1214. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties

a) Police

(i) **PCSO GC** had forwarded a written report for the period 10 Feb to 4 March:

May Tree Close Criminal Damage. Dustbin fire outside house.

(ii) **GC** also reported that a male had been arrested, charged and found guilty of fraud and misrepresentation (among other offences) after going from door to door in Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery soliciting money. He was sentenced to 16 weeks imprisonment.

b) Open Space

JG reported that WCC had started the annual grass cutting round.

c) Planning

MM reported that:

(i) No new applications had been received.

(ii) No applications had been approved.

(iii) No applications had been refused.

d) Play Equipment

MM reported that:

(i) "In-house" fortnightly play equipment inspections are up to date.

- (ii) The most recent Vita Play inspection took place on 10 March 2014. The following defects were identified with higher levels of risk (eg A - potential for death, B - severe or C - minor injury):

Equip	Defect	Action	Risk
Central Kickabout			
Trim Trail	Two traverse ropes worn to core	Monitor /Replace	C
Davis Kickabout			
Multi Play	Rope on Incline ladder worn	Monitor /Replace	C
Swings	Wobbly base legs. See note below	Monitor /Replace	C

There is more and more movement occurring at ground level to the legs for both the flat and cradle swings. This is a likely indication that the timber is decaying. They may well need replacing at some point during 2014.

Council **AGREED** that these defects should be monitored.

e) Transport

KT had forwarded a written report:

- (i) Buses. The 69 service is fully operational again following the road works at Colden Common although further work will start again shortly.

Trains. The service from Eastleigh to Fareham is still diverted due to the landslip at Botley, and this is not expected to be resolved until later this month. At Winchester station, the new multi-storey car park and footbridge are almost complete and due to open this month.

KT reported that:

- (ii) HCC are conducting a review of Local Bus and Community Transport services in order to find savings of about £1.5M per annum. **KT** will respond to the consultation. Councilors **AGREED** that their priorities are:
- (a) Maintenance of existing evening and Sunday services
 - (b) Maintenance of existing timetable for concessionary services

It was noted that most of the Badger Farm Services are self-funding and therefore outside the scope of this survey whilst the Stagecoach No 5 service is heavily used by students and hospital visitors.

- (iii) The next Parish Council Transport Reps Meeting will take place on Saturday 15 March at the Ashburton Hall, The Castle at 09.30am. **KT** will attend.

f) Communications

DU reported that he had recently completed some preparatory work for the new BF & OB RCA website which would go live online shortly.

g) Finance

MM reported that:

- (i) At the end of the fourth quarter of the financial year (31 March 2014) actual income and expenditure compared with budgeted income & expenditure is expected to be:

Income			
Category	Budget to date	Actual to date	Balance
Precept	28,975	28,975	
Other Income	105	25	
Total Income	29,080	29,000	(80)
Expenditure			
Category	Budget to date	Actual to date	Balance
Business	4,048	3,831	217
Clerk Salary	6,439	6,347	92
Donations	1,000	1,200	(200)
Litter	2,792	3,573	(781)
Open Space	0	0	0
Play Equipment	1,336	943	393
Whiteshute Ridge	7,703	8,505	(802)
Total	23,318	24,399	(1,081)
Cap. Project	0	1,787	(1,787)
	23,318	26,186	(2,868)

The following points are relevant:

- (a) The £781 deficit for Litter is accounted for by paying the April to September 2014 collection charge in advance.
- (b) The £802 deficit for Whiteshute Ridge is accounted for by having to pay for unbudgeted storm damage.
- (c) The £200 deficit for donations was accepted by Council when agreeing the donation to BF & OB RCA (Minute 1209 a) Page 918).
- (d) Although no Capital Project expenditure was budgeted this year there is £15,697 available to service the £1,787 debt incurred for 2 new notice boards.

Council **AGREED** that this was a satisfactory state of affairs at year end.

- (ii) The cleared balance on 1 March 2014 was £45,758.26. There was one unpaid standing order to the value of £21.29 making the Net worth £45,736.91. The bank statements and reconciliation for February 2014 were signed by **JG**.
- (iii) The second half VAT claim for £1,174.68 for the period 1 October 2013 to 10 March 2014 was forwarded to HM R & C on 10 March 2014.

h) Parish Lengthsman

The Lengthsman will next be working in the Parish on 24, 25 and 26 March. Council **AGREED** that he should carry out the following work:

- (i) 1 Day on the new Whiteshute Ridge Hedge - clear away surrounding growth and trim.
- (ii) 2 Days – repair and maintain 2 sets of steps from Davis Kickabout and Harrow Down to WSR.

i) Community Centre Lease Compliance

MM reported that after Sainsburys' had exercised their right to inspect the Community Centre an issue about ownership and the Asset Register required clarification with the Auditors.

j) Whiteshute Ridge

MM reported that:

- (i) Two further trees had come down across Whiteshute Ridge Lane. The first had been cleared by David Denby on 17 February. The second was reported on 2 March and cleared on the 4th.

k) County Council Rep

No report

l) City Council Reps

No report

m). Notice Board Rep

NTR

n). Newsletter Rep

NTR

o) WDALC

NTR

1215. Donation

Council have received a request for a donation from Open Sight, a charity seeking to provide “practical support for blind and partially sighted people across Hampshire”. Council regrettably **AGREED** that a donation was not affordable this year.

1216. Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- a) Section 150 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 is about to be amended by Parliament. The change will mean that:
- (i) The requirement for two Councilors to sign all cheques will be dispensed with.
 - (ii) Council will have to decide whether they wish to abandon the “two signature rule”.
 - (iii) Should they wish to abandon the rule they must first put in place “effective systems and arrangements compliant with proper practices”.
 - (iv) The publication “Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – A Practitioner’s Guide (England)” will need to be amended to define “proper practice” before Council can decide whether they wish to implement this change.
- b) WCC have notified Parish Councils that the Chairmen will be invited to a Service of Commemoration to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War on Sunday 22nd June at 3.30pm in the Cathedral.

1217. Payment of Accounts

The following payments were approved and signed:

1691	M D Macpherson	Clerk Salary & Expenses (Dec)	£	330.00	-
1692	Vita Play	Play Inspections (Jan)	£	76.80	£ 12.80
1693	D Denby	WSR – Tree Clearance	£	160.00	-
1694	Biffa	Litter – Waste Collection	£	778.75	£ 129.79
1695	D Denby	WSR – Tree Clearance	£	290.00	-

The following payment was approved and signed on 19 March:

1696	D Upton	Website Hosting Fee	£	75.00	-
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1218. Any other business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2100.

Signed

Date