



BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th February, 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the main hall of Stanmore Primary School

Members Present: Cllr John Godbold – Chairman
Cllr Helen Barlass, Cllr Ali Cochrane, Cllr Fenella Jarvis, Cllr Jackie Johnston,
Cllr Sarah McColl

In attendance: Mrs. Christine Howe (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)

Also attended: Cllr Laming (WCC)

Public question time - the public are invited to speak for 3 mins each on a topic relevant to this parish or an item on the agenda – total time allowed for the public session is 15 mins.

2 members of the public attended the meeting

14/22 To open the meeting and accept apologies for absence from BFPC members
No apologies as all present.

15/22 To receive Declarations of Interests in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011
No declarations of interest were received.

16/22 Minutes – To approve and adopt the minutes of the meeting on 10th January, 2022
Resolved: The minutes of the meeting on 10th January, 2022 were approved and adopted as a true record of the meeting.

17/22 Chairman's report

The last month has been pretty quiet.

Following the last meeting Christine and I had a very cordial meeting and jointly decided how we were going to work together going forward.

I was invited to attend an RCA meeting with BL and all the trustees. The meeting went very well, and we now have a relationship we can build on. The RCA asked if they could give us all a presentation on developing the facilities at the Community Centre particularly the ongoing need to improve the kitchen. The presentation and decision will be at our March meeting.

Further to my published Recreation report the new fencing has been installed not without a few teething problems though and negative comments from some residents.

It is my intention to meet with all the PC Chairmen from adjacent parishes to find out what we have in common and how we can work together.

18/22 To receive the report from HCC Member Cllr. Jan Warwick
The report was circulated prior to the meeting.

19/22 To receive the report from WCC Members Cllrs. Williams and Laming
The report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Although the land at Lark Hill Rise has not yet been registered with the Land Registry, W.C.C. are happy to keep maintaining (grass cutting), the area.

Signed by Chairman.....

14th February, 2022

20/22 Finance

1. To approve the payments for running the parish during January, 2022

Council approved the payments for January 2022 at £1,884.24

2. To agree the monthly bank statement for January, 2022 with the bank reconciliation

The Chairman verified the January, 2022 bank statement reconciled at £119,257.04

21/22 To receive the Clerk's report

1. The Stanmore School hall has been booked up to July for Council meetings. We do not meet in August and from September onwards, we anticipate the Community Centre will have a permanent room (Bushfield) available for Council meetings.
2. The hourly rate of the Lengthsman has increased which will in turn cost Council an extra £200 p.a. The Lengthsman scheme which is run by H.C.C. will cease operating at the end of March 2023 which gives Council time to prepare for arranging an alternative contractor to maintain the parish.

22/22 To receive reports from BFPC Members

Biodiversity Report February 2022 – Cllr. McColl

We had 150 excellent entries for the Wildflower sign design competition. A shortlisted selection was placed before the Councillors at the meeting for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners to be selected. (The actual prizes have all arrived safely). We will be posting the winning entries on our PC website and Facebook page and I will send copies of the winning designs to be printed onto signs for the 5 wildflower areas. The plan is to mark out the areas with stakes and rope (as per last year) in early March and then to add some plug plants in April.

A number of our residents have volunteered to help with this. I will be dropping some leaflets in the houses adjacent to the two new areas in Lowden Close and Maytree Close to explain what we are doing. I also think it's worth pressing on with our "clean up your dog mess" messaging after I read this interesting article regarding the effect of dog waste and the resultant phosphorous and nitrogen pollution on the environment. It's particularly relevant to the work of the Wildlife Trusts on Whiteshute Ridge see the following link; <https://www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/sustainable-living/dog-pee-poo-nature-returnsb2009191.html>

Cllr. McColl who was contacted by Hursley Parish Council as they wish to set up a wildflower reserve in their Parish, met with David Killeen and Eleanor Bell to discuss their plans and tell them about what we have been doing in Badger Farm.

23/22 To discuss planning applications received from WCC

Although no planning applications have been received from Winchester planning department, the Clerk will contact Mr. Sean Quigley to ask when comments are required on an application which has been lodged but not yet sent to Badger Farm Parish Council.

24/22 Estate Management

Covered under item 21/22 Clerk's report number 2.

25/22 Highways and Recreation:

Highways

Our speed sign continues to help drivers monitor their speed and does appear to be having the desired effect albeit very small up to now. Our collaboration with OBPC to monitor speeds on Badger Farm Road has had to be put on hold as OB are having software issues with their sign. The district report goes into some detail regarding the BFR depot and M3 (smart motorway). The speed sign has not been placed on Badger Farm Road because we do not have a bolt big enough to attach it to the pole. Cllr. Godbold will measure the pole so we can order a big enough bolt so the speed camera can then be used on Badger Farm Rd.

JG

Cllr. Dolby mentioned that the speed camera was flashing on 5 m.p.h. and was concerned that After all the heavy rain, there could be water ingress. Clerk to contact Mr. Nelson to investigate.

CH

Recreation

The replacement railings on DKA have been installed. There were a few teething problems which are nearly complete. AVA are going to dismantle the inclusive roundabout to try and establish what causes the roundabout to stop revolving. Hopefully they will be able to rectify the problem so we don't have to buy a new one.

The pre-school group are continuing to make good use of the play area on fine days.

26/22 To discuss retaining current contractor for playground inspections and maintenance

Council are pleased with the current contractor (AVA) as they offer a prompt service at reasonable rates making the best use of the parishioners finances.

Resolved: Council agreed to retain the current contractor for playground inspections and maintenance Clerk to inform AVA that we require their services for another year.

CH

27/22 To discuss appointing a contractor for parish maintenance

The previous contractor has informed Council that due to ill-health he is no longer able to do any work for BFPC. Mr. Nelson already undertakes some work for BFPC (speed camera allocation) and are pleased with his standard of work. The Clerk established he would have time to do the parish maintenance work for the Parish. Mr. Nelson is also the self-employed groundsman/handyman for another parish and comes highly recommended. Council agreed to appoint Mr. Nelson as a maintenance contractor. Clerk was asked to collate a list of possible contractors so Council has a number of Contractors to choose from.

Resolved: To appoint Mr. Nelson as a new groundsman/handyman for BFPC. Clerk to inform Mr. Nelson and ask him to commence on the refurbishment of parish Benches. Clerk to also compile a list of other possible groundsman/handman.

CH

28/22 To decide the winning design for Wildflower signs

There were 150 entries for the Wildflower design competition and from those, 15 were shortlisted. Council then had to select only three winners which was made very difficult as not only was the standard very high, but the pictures were all completely individual showing some very detailed work

It was an extremely hard decision but Council did eventually select three pictures. The winning entries are as follows:

1st Prize (Hedgehog house and feeding kit and wildflower seeds) to **Alice Shepherd**

2nd Prize (Bee hotel and wildflower seeds) to **Jessica Barson**

3rd Prize (Bird nesting box and wildflower seeds) to **Ellen Masters**

There are also 15 Highly Commended awards who will each receive packets of wildflower seeds.

29/22 To discuss sites for additional parish benches

This was not discussed.

30/22 To discuss the Queen's Platinum Jubilee bench design and location

The location suggested for the bench is on Plough Way. This was chosen because it Affords a good view of Whiteshute Ridge not only in the winter but also in summer. Additionally, it is a good place for residents to rest on their way back from shopping. Clerk was asked to look for a suitable commemorative bench.

CH

Cllr. Jarvis suggested that the tree trunk which was left after WCC cut the tree down, could be used for another way to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It could be carved with a suitable theme. Clerk to try and locate a professional Wood Carver.

CH

Cllr. Laming to ask the tree expert at W.C.C. if we would be allowed to use the Remaining trunk in this way.

BL

31/22 To discuss the applicant(s) for the casual vacancy

There was one applicant for the casual vacancy. The Clerk confirmed the applicant is eligible to become a Councillor prior to the meeting. Clerk forwarded the applicant's resumé prior to the meeting. The applicant answered questions from Council on why he would like to join Council and what expertise he would bring to the team. After the applicant left the room, Council voted unanimously to invite the applicant to join BFPC.

Resolved: Clerk to inform the applicant at the end of the meeting that Council would Like him to join BFPC.

CH

32/22 Items for inclusion on the Agenda for the 14th March 2022 meeting

1. To co-opt the applicant onto Council.
2. To receive a presentation by OB&BFRCA in support of a grant application.
3. To discuss the Queen's Jubilee Bench and location.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 8.45 p.m.

Date of next meeting: 14th March, 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in Stanmore Primary School hall.