



BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 9th 2024 at 7.30pm in the Bushfield Room of the Badger Farm Community Centre.

Members Present: Cllr. John Godbold
Cllr. Helen Barlass
Cllr. Catherine Craven
Cllr. Rhian Dolby
Cllr. Fenella Jarvis

In Attendance: Mrs Howe, Clerk/RFO

By invitation: Cllr. Warwick (H.C.C. and W.C.C.) Cllrs. Laming and Brophy (W.C.C.)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 p.m.

142/24 To receive apologies for absence
Cllr. Cochrane and Skinner.

143/24 Declaration of Interests
No declarations of interest.

144/24 To approve and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2024
Minutes were approved and adopted as a true record of the meeting of Badger Farm Parish Council (B.F.P.C.) and signed by the Chairman.
Clerk to upload them onto the website. CH

145/24 Chairman's report
The Chairman reported that things have been very quiet (holiday period) although there had been the usual small niggles regarding the maintenance of the estate.
The lime tree outside the Chairman's house has had its crown lifted quite considerably.

146/24 To receive report from H.C.C. Member Cllr. Jan Warwick
The report was circulated to members prior to the meeting.
Clerk to upload the report to the website. CH

147/24 To receive report from W.C.C. Members Cllrs. Warwick, Brophy and Laming
The report was circulated to members prior to the meeting.
Clerk to upload the report to the website. CH

Signed by Chairman... ..

Date: September 9th 2024

148/24 To receive Clerk's report

1. Any Councillor who would like to propose a project for the next year will need to send their projected costs to Clerk by Wednesday 25th September.
2. The external audit (BDO) has passed the inspection with no recommendations. We were used as the test case for medium sized parish councils. One observation I made to the External Auditors was the need to be able to write off obsolete items in the assets list. At the moment, if the asset list is altered to reflect any additions a short explanation must be submitted. If any item is removed from the assets list then a very lengthy explanation with several additional steps in the audit procedure is required. The External Auditors (BDO), were receptive and will consider this for next year's audit.
3. The Planning Officer (Matthew Routledge) who is dealing with 23 Rances Way asked for and has received an amended planning application from the applicants. I have asked him three questions about the amended application;
 1. The problem with the retaining wall which affects the neighbour on the left has not been addressed. The owner/s will not be able to exit their car in their driveway.
Reply: The retaining wall has been dropped as shown on the amended plans. WCC await the proposals for the front garden. Regardless of whether or not the retaining wall is built, it is unlikely to be a reason for refusal.
 2. The proposed plan effectively turns number 23 which is currently a detached property into a semi-detached house which alters the street scene.
Reply: No reply to this query.
 3. The neighbour is concerned about the creation of a party between the two properties.
Reply: Party wall agreements, such as for the garage extension, are a civil matter and cannot form part of the planning assessment. It is up to the resident to research and seek advice on party walls. The application is unlikely to be refused because of this, it is not a WCC planning matter.

However, the applicant of 23 Rances Way is creating the party wall so would be responsible for the costs of a surveyor/legal advice to determine this civil matter.

4. The internal auditor Mr. Tim Light is retiring after the 2024/25. He has put in place a successor if Council would like to use them. They are Mulberry Local Government Services Ltd. Their offices are at Farnham, Surrey. I do not envisage this being a problem as they will have access to all previous to previous records and be well briefed by Mr. Tim Light (current internal auditor).
5. H.C.C. now have a pollinator project officer (Karima Smith), in their nature recovery team (Countryside Service department). James Miller who is managing the Wildflower Project has requested BFPC agree to be included on the pollinator pledge list. This will require James to monitor plants and pollinating species on Badger Farm.
6. The new Lengthsman and his team made their first visit on 24th July and completed everything I requested. They were very neat, thorough and quick.
7. We still have a spare bench to be installed. Any suggestions for the location?
8. I have emailed the proposed budget and precept for 2025/26 for consideration by Council in preparation for approval at the October meeting.
9. I contacted SGB regarding the broken slabs on Ridgeway and they will be replaced when they have finished working in the area as they normally do all the remedial work at the same time.
10. We received the 2nd half of the precept £30,202.50p on 4th September, 2024.
11. Mr. Edward Heron has submitted his estimate, £1,200.00 to review the pre-submission draft local plan and to draft the response to WCC for approval by Council.

12. The new website is underway with Eyelid Productions. The cost will be £650 for the set up fee and £100 p.a. thereafter to monitor the website for plug ins etc. The security with the new company is vastly superior to the previous website company. This will save BFPC (the residents) approximately £380 p.a. with TLC). I have also set up an account with Cloud Next who will be hosting our emails. This will cost £119.98 p.a. saving Council (residents) approximately £800 p.a. Together the saving to Council is £1,280 p.a. (approx.)
13. I wrote to WCC to request an extension to the submission date for the Local Plan. This was refused. I have written to Edward Heron explaining the situation and await his reply.

149/24 Finance

1. To approve payments for Parish expenses for July and August 2024

The payments schedule was circulated to Council prior to the meeting.
Council approved the payments for July and August which totalled £8,959.40

2. To agree August 2024 bank statement with the bank reconciliations

The Chairman verified the bank statements reconciled at £136,251.22

3. To consider awarding a grant of £400 to CAB

Resolved: Council awarded the grant of £400 to CAB

Clerk to arrange the grant.

CH

4. Review of external audit

The external audit passed the inspection. The Parish Council's audit was considered to be very thorough and was used as an example for other Councils of a similar size. No areas were highlighted as requiring attention

5. To consider awarding a grant of £200 to the Community Centre for the design of a website and publicizing the application for the Bushfield Camp regeneration

Resolved: Council agreed to award the CC a £200 grant.

Clerk to arrange the £200 grant.

CH

150/24 To receive reports from Members

The Parish get together evening has been arranged for Thursday 24th October. Cllr. Craven is organizing the event.

151/24 To consider planning applications received from Winchester City Council

Applications received:

24/01744 - 23 Wheatland Close, SO22 4QL - remove existing rear bay and replace with a glazed extension.

Resolved: Council agreed to accept the planning officer's decision.

Clerk to inform W.C.C.

CH

24/00584 – 31 St Anne's Close, SO2 4QL – material changes to original application.

Council are concerned that the material changes to the application are such that a new should be submitted. Cllr. Craven to contact the planning officer.

CC

152/24 To discuss Badger Farm Estates Management

There is concern that Sainsbury's are ignoring their duty to keep shrubbery tidy. Brambles are now so tall they are creating a problem for people walking along the pathway. They are a safety issue. Cllr. Barlass to contact Sainsbury's manager.

HB

Clerk to ask the new Lengthsman if he would be happy to undertake extra work for the Parish Council to commence next year in June through to September and how much they would charge for the extra work.

CH

Trees which were cut down by WCC are now sprouting again which looks very unsightly. Clerk suggested stump grinding but it was thought WCC would not agree to that as it is too costly.

Cllr. Laming to ask WCC to do something to stop the re-sprouting. BL

The memorial bench is not looking very good.

Clerk to ask Tony Nelson to sand the bench down and re-varnish with yacht varnish. CH

153/24 Highways

Parking near Stanmore remains an unresolvable problem. To put a blanket parking ban on Badger Farm would not be viable or acceptable. The other alternative would be parking permits which Council thought the residents would object to. The Chairman suggested to place a parking restriction for two or three hours during the middle of the day which would prevent all day parking there while people walked into town for work, university or shopping.

154/24 Playgrounds

Council are intending to revamp the Elder Close playground in 2025. This has been factored into the budget for next year.

155/24 To discuss the parish magazine

The cost of producing the parish magazine will be £520.00 for 1200 copies, A5, 8 page, colour, stitched, magazines on 170gms silk paper and delivered to Cllr. Dolby's address. The cost of printing the magazines when with TLC was £287.

Cllr. Laming to ask if Sarsen Press could do it any cheaper. Clerk to give Cllr. Laming the details. CH

156/24 To discuss signing up BFPC to join the HCC Pollinator Project

Resolved: BFPC agreed to sign up to the Pollinator Project. Cllr. Barlass has put her name forward as the BFPC contact but will also nominate Mr. James Miller to be the named contact as he is co-ordinating the wildflower project after the resignation of Sarah McColl from Council.

Cllr. Barlass to inform HCC and Mr. Miller HB

157/24 To discuss the website

Covered under item 148/24.12 in the Clerk's report.

158/24 Items for the October 2024 Agenda

- 1. Parish magazine**
- 2. The local plan - BFPC's response to WCC**
- 3. Progress on the new website**

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked those who participated in the meeting and closed it at 9.00 p.m.

The **next meeting** will be held in the Bushfield Room Badger Farm Community Centre on **Monday 7th October, 2024 at 7.30 p.m.**