



BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Parish Council held on 12th February, 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the Bushfield Room, Badger Farm Community Centre

Members present: Cllrs. Godbold (Chairman), Barlass, Cochrane, Craven, Dolby, Jarvis, McColl and Skinner

Also present: Christine Howe – Clerk/RFO

Invited: Cllrs. Warwick, (H.C.C. & W.C.C.) Brophy and Laming (W.C.C.)

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.

21/24 The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting

22/24 To accept apologies for absence
No apologies.

23/24 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011
No declarations of interest.

42424 Minutes – To approve and adopt minutes of the meeting on 8th January, 2024
Resolved: The minutes of the meeting on 8th January, 2024 were approved and adopted as a true record of the meeting.
Clerk to upload onto the website.

CH

25/24 Chairman's report
Unfortunately, the fibre optics re-instatement is poor quality on footpaths and roads.
Cllr. Warwick to contact the Highways department to resolve the problem.

The building rubble outside 12 Ashbarn Crescent has now been removed.

Some of the BFPC Councillors walked around the parish which was a very useful exercise and helped the Councillors to identify which plots of land would be suitable for the Parish to take over. It was noted that the condition of the trees was of concern and this needs to be taken into account when discussing the transfer of land with WCC.

26/24 To receive the report from H.C.C. Member Cllr. Jan Warwick
The report was circulated to Council prior to the meeting and will be uploaded onto the website.
Cllr. Warwick took the opportunity to mention that Council could, if residents requested it, seek to have a 20 mph speed limit on some of the roads on BF.
Clerk to upload the monthly report onto the website.

CH

27/24 To receive the report from W.C.C. Members Cllrs. Warwick, Brophy and Laming
 The report was circulated to Council prior to the meeting and will be uploaded onto the website.
 Cllr. Brophy reminded Council the Community Awards are seeking submissions from Parish Councils. Council informed Cllr. Brophy of the good work done by the Repair Café and he agreed to submit the Repair Café for recognition at the Community Awards.
Clerk to upload the monthly report onto the website.

CH

28/24 Finance

1. To approve payments for Parish expenses, January 2024

Payments schedule was circulated to Council prior to the meeting.
 Council approved the payments for January 2024 which totalled £2,065.70

FEBRUARY '24 PAYMENTS (January exp)					
Date Pd	Supplier	Details	Bacs. No.	Vat No.	Gross
01/02/24	BF&OBRCA	Room hire	S/O	-	48.00
01/02/24	H.C.C.	Pension	-	-	308.43
01/02/24	H.M.R.C.	N.I.	-	-	59.57
01/02/24	H.M.R.C.	P.A.Y.E.	-	-	143.60
01/02/24	Mrs. C. Howe	January salary + expenses	-	-	1,033.04
01/02/24	T.L.C.	Website maintenance	S/O	-	40.00
01/02/24	Mr. Tony Nelson	Speed camera maintenance	-	-	100.00
01/02/24	EE Network	Mobile phone	D/D	760729222	8.06
01/02/24	W.C.C.	Dog bin emptying	S/O	-	325.00
				TOTAL	£2,065.70

2. To agree January 2024 bank statement with the bank reconciliation

The Chairman verified the bank statements reconciled at £148,363.83

29/24 To receive the Clerk’s report

- The internal audit date has been set at 4th April so that I can present the completed Audit at the Full council meeting on 8th April.
- Clerk suggested Council use a residents’ questionnaire to seek their opinion on the various projects which are in the pipeline and determine what residents would or would not like to see or have in their parish.
- I have received an email from a house surveying firm requesting advertising space in our parish magazine. I have asked them to contact me in June to enable Council to consider the request.
- I asked for a quote from Green Smile for 8 cuts per year as Council thinks there is no need for no cut in August. Tom Postle warned against that as the grass would be too long on the next cut to do a good job and the finings would be very untidy. I have now passed this over to the Chairman as the parameters keep changing.
- I requested information from HCC regarding responsibility for maintenance of the path/road verges as requested by Council. HCC referred me to the HCC website roads and transport. It states:
 HCC have responsibility but, in urban areas the grass cutting is undertaken by the district council (WCC) and they decide how many cuts are required per year. This is subject to a minimum standard that we (HCC) specify.

I asked what the specification is but H.C.C. did not know the answer.

6. Insurance, if BFPC were to take ownership of some of the plots of land Persimmon Homes are offering, it will not affect our insurance premium.
7. In the event that Clerk should be incapacitated either temporarily or permanently, Clerk handed the Chairman an envelope containing all the BFPC related passwords.
8. Planning application number 23/00031 - 5 Wren Close. An Enforcement notice has been issued due to a possible deviation from permitted size.
9. I have arranged for the memorial bench to be re-varnished. This will be done on an annual basis.
10. Councillors are reminded that this is an election year.
11. The Community centre have requested permission to put solar panels on the centre roof. I have written to Sainsburys and await their response. I have also contacted Godwins, the solicitors which BFPC used in the past when dealing with the lease and await their response.

30/24 To receive reports from B.F.P.C. Members

The trunk of a crab apple tree at the bottom of Lark Hill Rise green has split in two and is becoming dangerous. Cllr. Laming agreed to contact Mr. Ivan Gurdler and request the tree be given priority with appropriate tree work.

BL

Cllr. McColl offered to chase up the tree surveyor Andrew Giles as she has had prior communication with him.

Cllr. McColl mentioned that if overgrown hedges are reported on the WCC app they are dealt with very quickly, in 3 or 4 days.

Cllr. Godbold will report the overgrown laurels at Sainsburys because they are becoming increasingly dangerous as they are now approx. 30 cm. into the road.

JG

31/24 To discuss planning applications received from W.C.C.

Applications:

24/00054 - 14 Hazel Grove, SO22 4PQ

Single storey rear extension in rear garden and single storey extension to front of property, linking the existing garage to the main house.

Comment: No objection

Clerk to inform WCC Planning Department.

CH

32/24 Estate Management

The re-development at Bushfield Camp was discussed and concern raised about parking problems on BF which will be exacerbated if the application is approved.

33/24 Highways

N.T.R.

34/24 Playgrounds

N.T.R.

35/24 To discuss land transfer from Persimmon Homes to BFPC

Council discussed accepting the transfer of land from Persimmon Homes to BFPC.

Currently the maintenance of the land is of a very poor standard whereas, if the land was to be brought into the ownership of the Parish, BFPC could ensure the land will be managed to a high standard and also prevent any unwanted development.

The cost of maintenance of the trees on the land is a consideration which BFPC must

take into account. At the meeting between BFPC and WCC it was agreed WCC would provide BFPC with a full tree condition survey. Despite several requests, WCC have not yet honoured this condition. Until WCC provide the tree survey BFPC are unable to make a decision on whether to take on the ownership of any land on BF estate. **Clerk** to write to WCC and inform them that BFPC will only consider taking over ownership of any land if WCC covers the cost of maintaining the trees.

CH

36/24 To discuss Green Smile maintenance quote for Persimmon land

Clerk passed this over to the Chairman as the parameters keep changing which is causing unnecessary work for both the contractor and Clerk. The Chairman was asked to make an appointment with Green Smile when he knows exactly what is required of Green Smile. The Chairman hopes to meet with Green Smile this week. Clerk informed Green Smile.

37/24 To discuss the amount to be allocated for purchase of a bus shelter

Council agreed one bus shelter should be replaced per year and, **Resolved:** £20,000 per bus shelter was agreed to include cost of installation for the first bus shelter. The cost of subsequent bus shelters will be discussed at full Parish Council meetings when they are due to be replaced. Clerk to write to HCC and inform them BFPC are considering replacing the bus shelters and ask for any recommendations.

38/24 To discuss purchasing a marker stone for King Charles III's Coronation tree

Council considered the quote for a granite marker stone and considered that a granite stone rough-hewn to be approx. 60 x 60 cms. to be appropriate. The wording on the stone to read, To mark his Majesty King Charles III Coronation on 6th May 2023.

Resolved: To purchase the granite marker at a cost of £500.

Clerk to inform the Stonemason and place the order.

CH

39/24 To discuss the locations and purchase of new benches for the Parish

Council are to look at the possible sites for the new parish benches on Wednesday or Thursday this week.

Resolved: The Bridport bench from NBB recycled furniture is Council's preference.

Clerk to order 5 new benches and arrange for them to be installed by AVA recreation.

CH

40/24 To approve the Assets list

Council discussed the Asset list and agreed all assets were listed.

Resolved: Council unanimously approved the Assets list.

Clerk to upload onto the website

CH

41/24 To approve the Risk Assessment

Council discussed the Risk Assessment and agreed all risks were noted.

Resolved: Council unanimously approved the Risk Assessment.

Clerk to upload onto the website.

CH

42/24 Items for inclusion on the Agenda for the 11th March 2024

1. To discuss which company to use for the new website.
2. To approve the locations for the new benches for the Parish.
3. To discuss the Community Centre's request for solar panels.
4. To discuss the quote from Green Smile for grass maintenance.
5. To discuss accepting commercial advertising in the parish magazine.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 9.20 p.m.