

## **Sibford Gower Parish Council**

**Minutes** of the meeting held on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019** at 7.30pm in the ICT Suite Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School.

**Councillors Present:** David Allen, Roger Mallows, Hugh Pidgeon (Chair) Amanda Ransom

**In attendance:** The Clerk, Vanessa Mulley and 11 other members of the community.

### **Introduction**

All attending residents were welcomed with special thanks to John Perris from the Hook Norton Road Development Group.

Apologies received from Richard Irons – Speeding Group.

No new Declarations of Pecuniary Interest were made.

### **Meeting Recordings**

No requests received to record the meeting.

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

All 4 councillors present were happy with the minutes from the last meeting and no points were raised from this.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th June 2019 and the minutes from the 2P1C event were both approved and signed.

### **Correspondence**

No notable correspondence

### **Assets & Services**

**Burial Ground** – Cllr Amanda Ransom will be reviewing our working policies on all the grassy areas of the village and this will include the Sibfords Burial ground. 3 interments have taken place over the last 6 months. Cllr Hugh Pidgeon, who has taken the lead responsibility for the ground, acknowledged his appreciation to his predecessor in that role, Peter Hardman, for all the work he has discovered this involves. Cllr Pidgeon is reviewing all the documentation and procedures currently in place and will be making recommendations to the Council in a formal report at the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 meeting. Our thanks go to the former Clerk for all his hard work on this over the years.

**Millennium Field** – Comments from the community have been received regarding how the field should be maintained. This is another area which will be under review by Cllr. Amanda Ransom from an ecological perspective. All suggestions have cost implications. One grass cut a year in late summer has been suggested which would reduce current costs, and would be a benefit from an ecology point of view but would have to be timed correctly for maximum benefit. Advice from a specialist charity will be sought to help with this review. Cllr. David Allen suggested that it would be advisable for a joint working group to be formed that included participation from the Town Estates Charity. The parish council are responsible for the maintenance and management of the field but the TEC contribute 50% of the costs for the maintenance.

There are lots of aspects of the field which need to be looked at which will be done over the course of time. A member of the TEC, Paul Clayson, was present at the meeting and felt that there was confusion on both sides as to the responsibilities of involved parties and felt that a closer partnership between PC and TEC would be beneficial.

A resident spoke briefly regarding the volunteer working party that contributed to the upkeep in March this year, and Cllr. Hugh Pidgeon confirmed its success and anticipated running the same event next Spring. The resident suggested that such a working party might meet monthly to keep the area looking nice. Another resident shared her concerns regarding the younger trees in the field which had died due to a lack of maintenance and kindly volunteered to join the joint working group.

**Defibrillator** – Lots of help has been received from Julie Philips at Hook Norton Brewery, Christine Coles, Clerk to the Swalcliffe Council, and Christopher Fry from the South-Central Ambulance Charity. A defibrillator has been identified but costings will need to be looked at as there are additional costs associated with its purchase we were unaware of, ongoing consumables costs and an electricity supply and cabinet heating costs involved. Cllr. David Allen would like to see a detailed proposal for this as no provision had been made for this in this year's budget.

The TEC had been generous in providing a grant to the previous council to help towards financing this but funds had been returned pending the purchase. We are hopeful that when we are in a better understanding of the costs involved, we will be able to approach them again for their support. A resident spoke briefly regarding the positioning of the unit at the village hall not being central to the village. Cllr. David Allen confirmed that both the village hall and church were regularly attended by large groups so it seemed sensible to locate at the village hall, and Cllr Pidgeon spoke of the importance of providing supplementary wider awareness and first responder training – a free provision made locally by the SCA Charity.

## **Finance**

**Banking** – The Clerk confirmed that 7 bank transfers were made since the last meeting with a further 2 to be done within the next week, details of which can be located in Appendix A.

**Budget** – No unexpected payments requested against the budget so all on track

**Other Financial Matters** – The VAT report has been logged and a payment for the full amount has been received. The audit was successful with no comments from the community. A working group will be taking place soon to begin the budget process again ready for the next financial year.

## **Planning**

**Applications** – A list of newly received notices of outcomes on planning applications can be located in Appendix B

**Mawles Farm** – Negotiations for the Farm's sale are still ongoing, with lots of rumour and speculation regarding the plot. The Council would like to assure the community that we are aware of the situation and will react as soon as any planning applications are received for this site.

**Pheasant Pluckers Inn** – The appeal to the Planning Inspectorate against the decision of the Cherwell District Council to reject the most recent application made for change of use was dismissed. A resident asked whether this was to be the end of the matter. The Council thought this unlikely but time would tell.

### **19/01792/TCS – Nicholas Corner, Burdrop**

Cllr. Roger Mallows confirmed that this was a very straight forward application for an Ash tree to be pollarded.

**Vote:** The council unanimously voted to submit a “No Comment” reply to the application.

**Hook Norton Road Development** – A member of the Sibfords Action Group, John Perris spoke to those present with a brief update. There had been great support from the community and both Parish Councils which saw the application rejected by the Planning Committee of Cherwell District Council. An appeal has now been submitted by the applicants, Land& Partners, and the Action Group are now working on a new submission to the CDC Planning committee to oppose. Funds had been raised by the group which has allowed for professional legal and professional advisors to be hired which has played a significant part in the success achieved by the Group so far.

The hearing will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> September at Bodicote House 10am till 5pm and the group would welcome members of the community to join them for all or part of the day. A resident who has had dealing with similar situations wanted to let the community know that letters of objection can still be submitted and that they will be read, for all the formal advice given that submissions after the submission deadline will not be guaranteed to be accounted for in the deliberation of the committee. Our thanks go to the Action Group for all their hard work.

### **Highways & Footpaths**

**Grass Verges** – Policies on the maintenance of these will be reviewed in conjunction with the millennium field and burial ground project.

**Shepherds Close** – No further correspondence has been received from CDC with ref to the clearing of the path leading up to Burdrop so Clerk will chase for an update. **To be actioned**

**Footpath to Holly Mount** – After many months of research and on-site meetings with Highways CDC it has been finally determined that the raised footpath at the bottom of Main Street is the responsibility of CDC and a new submission to Fix My Street for the repairs to the wooden handrail will be logged by the Clerk. **To be actioned**

The Clerk spoke briefly to advise the community that Fix My Street website managed by Oxfordshire County Council was a fantastic site and can be used by any resident who wishes to log a repair be that a pot hole or damaged road sign etc. It is an easy site to use and is highly recommended.

### **Community Development**

**Speeding Group** – Apologies were received from Richard Irons who was unable to make the meeting. Richard was due to speak to the community to update us on the groups progress but Cllr. Hugh Pidgeon will speak to Richard and request a report to be made available in the next edition of the Sibford Scene, and online. **To be actioned**

**Plastic Free Sibford** – A resident, Pam Ascott, who feels strongly regarding the use of single use plastic opened a discussion with those present to enquire if the community would be interested in forming a group to look at ways we can work together, share ideas and successful solutions. Communication has already been made with someone at CDC who will be happy to work with the group and talk about options and information available. Cllr. Hugh Pidgeon felt this is a huge and important topic for further discussion and suggested Pam Ascott write a piece for the next edition of the Sibford Scene to encourage residents to join the group as an initial starting point. Cllr. Hugh

Pidgeon also spoke briefly of a similar group in Hook Norton who were doing the same thing and suggested that discussions with them would also be useful.

**Notes** - The Council omitted at the meeting to announce a vacancy on the Town Estates Charity's Board of Trustees, one of the 5 on the Board that are nominated by the Gower Council.

An announcement of the vacancy will be made in the October publication of the Sibford Scene and on the Sibfords website.

**Future Meetings**

**Next Open Meeting** – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Details of the next Planning meeting will be determined on receipt of appropriate planning applications, and a schedule of meetings for 2020 will be published in November 2019

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.11pm

**Signed**.....

**Dated**.....

## APPENDICES

### Appendix A to Minutes of SGPC Meeting – 05<sup>th</sup> September 2019

#### Planning Applications

Since the previous Meeting, the following planning applications had been considered and decisions received: -

Date	To be in b	App. ref	Site	Owner	Application	Comments	Council Decision
03/10/2018	23/10/2018	18/01501/F	The Pheasant Pluckers Inn, Burdrop, Banbury, Oxon, OX15 5RQ	Mr G.R Noquet	Change of use from class A4 (ACV Listed) to class C3 dwelling house	Application not supported with various comments	Appeal Dismissed
23/03/2019	13/04/2019	19/00485/LB	Goodmays Burdrop Banbury OX15 5RQ	Ms Nicola Heales	Reinstatement of the partition and door to the dining room; reinstatement of the ceiling to the master bedroom (bedroom 1); and reinstatement of correct detailing to the chimneys etc	No Comment	
21/05/2019	21/06/2019	APP/C3105/W	The Pheasant Pluckers Inn, Burdrop, Banbury, Oxon, OX15 5RQ	Mr G.R Noquet	Appeal to change of use	Refusal	Appeal Dismissed
14/06/2019	05/07/2019	19/00834/F	Meadow Cottage, 6 The Colony Road, Sibford Gower, Banbury, OX15	Mr Richard Irons	Garage/workshop rear extension & garden summer house	Support application and recommend approval	Granted subject to the conditions set out in the scheduled
21/06/2019	19/07/2019	19/01002/F	Nicholas Corner, Burdrop, Banbury, OX15 5RQ	Mr & Mrs T Woolhouse	Demolition of existing stable block, erection of replacement stable block	Supported with comments	Granted subject to the conditions set out in the scheduled

Date	To be in b	App. ref	Site	Owner	Application	Comments	Council Decision
25/06/2019	23/07/2019	19/01113/F	Nicholas Corner, Burdrop, Banbury, OX15 5RQ	Mr & Mrs T Woolhouse	Minor amendments to design scheme	No Comment	Application Permitted
25/06/2019	23/07/2019	19/01101/LB	Stickleys House, Main Street, Sibford Gower, Banbury, OX15 5RT	Mr S. Gommersall	Relocation of staircase, minor internal alterations associated with staircase and alterations to a single window and external door	No Comment	
18/07/2019	08/08/2019	19/01120/F	Land To The West Of Haynes Barn Colony Road Sibford Gower Banbury OX15 5RY	Mr A. Finding	RETROSPECTIVE - Single storey agricultural barn	No Comment	Granted subject to conditions
09/08/2019	30/08/2019	19/01387/F	Muddle Farm Barn, Colony Road, Sibford Gower, OX15 5RY	Mr & Mrs Besterman	Variation of Condition 2 (plans) of 18/01563/F - alterations to the design of the replacement dwelling; the construction of a replacement outbuilding; provision of a new 2m high wall; demolition of two bays of a stable built	No Comment	
02/09/2019	ASAP	19/01792/TCA	Nicholas Corner Street Through Burdrop Burdrop OX15 5RQ	Mrs Imogen Woolhouse	T1 x 13m Ash - To be pollarded to previous pruning points, approximately 4m off.	No Comment	

### Appendix B to Minutes of SGPC Meeting – 05<sup>th</sup> September 2019

#### Cheques issued/Bank Transfers made

No.	Date	Cheque No.	Amount	Payee	Details
66	24/06/2019	Bacs	£126.60	Thomas Fox	11/04/19 Church yard Mow
67	05/07/2019	Bacs	£253.20	Thomas Fox	Church Yard Mow 05/06/19, 19/06/19
68		Bacs	£270.00	NR Prickett	11/06/19 verges cut
69		Bacs	£72.00	W.C. & E.F. Lovesey & Sons	Mow paths 05/06, 18/06
70	31/07/2019	Bacs	£253.20	Thomas Fox	Mow churchyard, 03/07, 17/07
71		Bacs	£156.50	Sibford Ferris PC	50% Burial Fees
72	18/08/2019	Bacs	£324.00	W.C. & E.F. Lovesey & Sons	Mow field 2/7, Paths 24/7