

## Sibford Gower Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010

#### Present

Parish Cllrs Peter Abbott, Roger Alder, Oswyn Murray (Chairman), Alan Parkin and Mrs Gilian Soden.  
Four local residents and the Clerk.

#### Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Peter Abbott and seconded by Cllr Roger Alder that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010 be approved as a correct record and they were then signed by the Chairman.

#### Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

#### Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing to report at this stage of the Meeting.

#### Clerk's Report

Following an earlier enquiry, the Clerk advised the Meeting that the Parish is within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and our representative is Liz Hodges (Chipping Camden Town Council).

At the recent Annual Parish Meeting in Sibford Ferris, the subject of a Parish Plan was raised and the Sibford Ferris PC Chairman asked that the Gower PC be approached to establish as to whether a joint Parish plan might be developed. Cherwell District Council is anxious that a plan is not led by a Parish Councillor. Some time ago, the Gower Parish Council attempted to find someone from the community who would be willing to take a leading role but there was no response. Cllr Alan Parkin said that he would make further enquiries as to possible feasibility. The Clerk was instructed to advise the Ferris PC of the present position.

A communication had been received from Mr Tom McCulloch, Rural Housing Enabler, Oxfordshire Rural Community Council regarding progress towards a potential Rural Exception Site development in the Ferris and the Gower. There are two sites which may be pursued – Hook Norton Road (Ferris) and Hawkes Lane (Gower). The Parish Councils have been asked to indicate whether they would support enquiries being made with the landowners of both preferred sites. The Parish Council is content for enquiries to be made but with regard to the Gower site concern has been conveyed to Mr McCulloch about the safety of access into Hawkes Lane. Obviously, it will remain to be seen as to how the landowners react.

#### Financial

##### External Audit for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010

BDO LLP completed the external audit for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 and there were no matters that came to their attention that required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report. The Annual Return was presented to the Council and proposed by Cllr Alan Parkin and seconded by Cllr Peter Abbott was approved and accepted. The notice of the conclusion of the Audit is to be displayed on the Parish Council notice board for a period of fourteen days.

Proposed by Cllr Gilian Soden and seconded by Cllr Roger Alder, it was resolved that the following payments be made:-  
Cheque No. 110 dated 14.06.10 for £368.20 in favour of Aon Limited being the premium for the Council's Insurance policy.(retrospectively).

Cheque No. 111 dated 13.07.10 for £100.00 in favour of Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust being a donation (S137).

To Page 734

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Cheque No. 112 dated 13.07.10 for £40.00 in favour of Open Spaces Society being Membership due 01.08.10

Cheque No. 113 dated 13.07.10 for £141.00 in favour of BDO LLP being the fee in respect of the external audit of the accounts for the y/e 31.03.10.

### Planning Matters

Planning Applications had been received, considered and no objections raised.

No. 10/00141/TCA 5 Norway Spruce – Fell	Wykham Arms, Sibford Gower	D Bradley
No. 10/00144/TCA 2 Lawson – Fell	Quince Cottage, Bonds End Lane, Sibford Gower	P Baadsgaard
No. 10/00149/TCA 2 Yews - Fell	The Yews, Main Street, Sibford Gower	C Deleamont

(No objections raised but suggested that, in view of the house name, they be replaced by two smaller yews to grow on slowly.)

### Planning Decisions received:-

No. 10/00464/F Single storey extension Permission for development subject to conditions	The Jitty, Burdrop	Ms A Broe
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Consent granted in respect of the following:-

No. 10/00141/TCA 5 Norway Spruce – Fell	Wykham Arms, Sibford Gower	D Bradley
No. 10/00144/TCA 2 Lawson – Fell	Quince Cottage, Bonds End Lane, Sibford Gower	P Baadsgaard
No. 10/00149/TCA 2 Yews - Fell	The Yews, Main Street, Sibford Gower	C Deleamont

Decision dated 14<sup>th</sup> May 2010 to dismiss the appeal made in respect of the planning application submitted by Mr K Manning for Holly Close, Main Street, Sibford Gower was received from The Planning Inspectorate.

### Highway Matters

There were no matters raised.

### Footpath Matters

There were no matters raised.

### Churchyard

With regard to the maintenance of Holy Trinity Churchyard, some time ago an arrangement was made with Sibford Ferris PC that the two Parish Councils would be responsible for certain defined areas. The Gower PC has paid, under a Local Government Act available to it, for maintenance work to be effected. The Ferris PC is not willing to do so and has relied on a volunteer whom, it is understood, does not now wish to carry on the work. The result is that the part of the Churchyard previously maintained by the volunteer became overgrown and unsightly. The Ferris PC, in May this year, advised the Gower PC that it will not be looking to make any contributions towards charges for upkeep. The Gower PC took the view that, as the Churchyard is situated in the Parish, it would be responsible for and finance the maintenance of the whole of the area until such time as the Ferris PC may wish to become involved again.

To 735

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**Burial Ground**

With regard to the new Burial Ground area, the Ferris PC agreed on the regular upkeep of that part for current use and is happy to share costs, on a pro rata basis, with the Gower PC. The Ferris PC feels that regular mowing of the adjacent reserve area at the electorate's expense is inappropriate and is not willing to contribute towards the costs, having suggested other uses for the land. However, the Gower PC did not consider these suitable or appropriate bearing in mind the close proximity to where burials will be taking place. Therefore, the Gower Councillors have taken the decision to totally pay for the periodic mowing of the reserve land.

**Bus Service**

A suggestion had been received by the Parish Council that the route of our bus service to Banbury be altered to take in the Horton Hospital and Morrisons. The view was expressed that the latter stop would help shoppers with M&S being now the only food store in the town centre. The suggestion was passed to the Ferris and Gower Transport Representative who expressed the view that the current route is quite adequate for most purposes and that the suggested new route would have certain disadvantages. He mentioned that in addition to M&S, Wilkinsons now has a comprehensive food section. The Clerk is instructed to put the matter before County Cllr George Reynolds to establish whether he had any thoughts on the subject.

**Public Participation**

Mr Tony Haynes referred to the footpath from Hawkes Lane to the road leading to the surgery (Footpath 18) which he said was overgrown and became muddy in wet weather. The Clerk was instructed to speak with Oxfordshire CC's Rights of Way Officer.

**Any other Matters**

No other matters were raised.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next Meeting will be in the Staff Room of Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2010 starting at 8pm.

**There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked all present for attending and closed the Meeting at 8.58pm.**

Osgo Murray

6th September 2010