

SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School on 17th January 2012

Present

Parish Councillors Peter Abbott, Roger Alder, Oswyn Murray (Chairman) and Alan Parkin.
Peter Hardman (Clerk) and eighteen local residents.

Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Gilian Soden who had a previously arranged engagement and Cllr and District Cllr George Reynolds who is in Australia

Minutes of the previous Meeting on 22nd November 2011

Proposed by Cllr Roger Alder and seconded by Cllr Peter Abbott, the Minutes of the previous Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

Matters arising were included in the reports of the Chairman and the Clerk.

Chairman's Report

Sibfords Community Plan: In the absence of Mrs Sue Mattinson, the Chairman read her report which sets out the current situation: there had been a 79% response to the questionnaire, and the answers were being correlated; the next Newsletter (News 8) will be issued at the end of January.

The Sibfords Broadband Usergroup: Mr Paul Hobson and Mr Tony More, who were at the Meeting, have agreed to form a group to press for improvements to Broadband speeds in the area. The Ferris PC had already indicated its support. The group will be announced in the Sibford Scene.

The Local Plan and The Neighbourhood plan: These have the Chairman's attention and updates will be provided in due course. The eventual Sibfords Community Plan will, when completed, require adoption by the Parish Council.

Conservation Area: Dr Rose Todd (Conservation Officer, Cherwell District Council) and her team are working on a review of the Ferris, Gower and Burdrop conservation areas and an exhibition will take place from 3pm to 6.30pm in the Village Hall on 21st February 2012 followed by a Public Meeting from 7 to 8pm.

Co-operation between the Ferris and the Gower Parish Councils: a response is still awaited from the Ferris Parish Council as to agreement on exchange of agendas and the attendance of members from one Council at the other's meetings. The Clerk was instructed to contact the Clerk of the Ferris PC.

Diamond Jubilee: The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that a grant of £500 be made in connection with the cost of celebratory events that may be organised. The Clerk was instructed to take matters forward with the Village Hall Committee.

Clerk's Report

Grit Bins: In previous years, the filling and refilling of grit bins rested with Oxfordshire County Council. However, starting this year, the initial filling will be carried out by the County Council but the responsibility for refilling has been laid on the shoulders of the Parish Council which has been supplied with grit for refilling the bins as and when required. When, and if, residents find that a particular bin requires topping up they are asked to phone the Parish Clerk (Peter Hardman – Tel: 780391) who will make the appropriate arrangements. In this regard, Sibford Gower Parish Council is very grateful to local resident Alan Berks for undertaking to accommodate the reserve grit and carry out the refilling as and when needed. It should be noted that the grit is for highway use only and is not to be used for private properties. The Parish Council has been given to understand that legal action will be taken against anyone found so doing.

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