

## **Sibford Gower Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

#### **Present**

Parish Cllrs Peter Abbott, Muriel Chandler, Martin Layer, Oswyn Murray and Robin Spicer.  
Two Local Electors and the Clerk.

#### **Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Proposed by Cllr Muriel Chandler and seconded by Cllr Peter Abbott it was unanimously resolved that Cllr Robin Spicer be re-elected as Chairman.

Proposed by Cllr Robin Spicer and seconded by Cllr Muriel Chandler it was unanimously resolved that Cllr Martin Layer be re-elected as Vice Chairman.

#### **Minutes**

It was proposed by Cllr Muriel Chandler and seconded by Cllr Martin Layer that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2009 be approved as a correct record. The Minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

#### **Matters Arising**

Village Pond area: Oxfordshire Highways confirmed, following the recent Annual Parish Meeting, that the broken edging stones to the pond will be replaced.

Ducks: There was no response from the owner of the ducks from the Village Pond as to suggestions regarding how the ducks might be prevented from encroaching on private gardens following verbal and a written complaint. The Parish Council is to write to the owner informing that the course of action for the complainants (which will be advised to them) is to complain to the District Council which will in turn investigate the situation.

#### **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman had nothing specific on which to report.

#### **Clerk's Report**

Following a complaint by a local resident at the recent Annual Parish Meeting concerning very low flying aircraft, he had ascertained the official channel for making complaints and this had been advised to the resident so that she may take the matter forward if she so wishes.

The Clerk informed the Meeting of the take over of the local bus service by Stagecoach from Amos on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009. There has been an unofficial stopping place in Pound Lane that greatly assists the residents from High Meadow but which is not officially recognized by the bus companies. A dialogue is currently taking place with Oxfordshire County Council with a view to making the stop official

#### **Financial Matters**

Annual Return to the External Auditors for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009

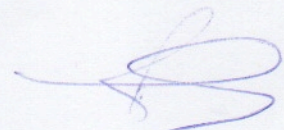
Section 1. Statement of accounts

Section 2. Annual Governance Statement

Proposed by Cllr Peter Abbott and seconded by Cllr Martin Layer, it was resolved that these be duly approved as correct.

Section 4. Annual Internal Audit Report – The Internal Audit had been carried out by Mr David Soden to whom grateful thanks were expressed and the Clerk was instructed to write to him in this regard.

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**Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009**

Proposed by Cllr Muriel Chandler and seconded by Cllr Oswyn Murray it was resolved that these be duly approved by the Council. Grateful thanks were expressed to Mr David Soden for carrying out the duties of Independent Examiner and the Clerk was instructed to write to him in this regard.

Proposed by Cllr Martin Layer seconded by Cllr Robin Spicer, it was resolved that sanction be given to the following payments:-

Cheque No. 92 dated 26.05.09 £1,097.99 in favour of P B Hardman (six months salary in arrears £900.00 and reimbursement of expenses £197.99)

**Retrospectively**

Cheque No. 85 dated 14.01.09 £150.00 in favour of Sibford Preparative Meeting (S137)

Cheque No. 86 dated 25.03.09 £ 50.00 in favour of ARCh (S137)

Cheque No. 87 dated 06.04.09 £126.26 in favour of OALC (Subscription)

Cheque No. 88 dated 09.04.09 £ 342.82 in favour of Allianz Insurance PLC (Renewal of Insurance Policy)

Cheque No. 89 dated 16.04.09 £ 20.00 in favour of ORCC (Membership)

Cheque No. 90 dated 30.04.09 £ 114.82 in favour of D Spicer (cost of electricity supply to light at High Meadow steps. (Parish Councils Act 1957 s.3)

Cheque No. 91 dated 30.04.09 £110.01 in favour of Sibford Ferris PC (VAT Refund re Burial Ground fencing)

**Planning Matters****Planning Applications received**

The Parish Councillors had considered the following and raised no objections:-

No. 09/00427/F	Birch Hill, Burdrop	C Radcliffe
	Side extension to provide additional residential accommodation	
No. 09/00407/F & 09/00408/F	7 The Colony, Colony Road, Sibford Gower	J Yates
No. 09/00406/F	Friends Meeting House, Temple Mill Road Sibford Gower	Banbury & Evesham Monthly Meeting United Trust
	Reinstatement of external doorway	

**Highway Matters**

With regard to the problem in the post box area at Burdrop Corner, referred to at the previous Parish Council Meeting, where recent heavy snows had caused the bushes to collapse and overhang the road, the Clerk reported that Oxfordshire Highways had carried out appropriate pruning on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

The Clerk referred to a communication received from Mr Ralph Grant (Oxfordshire Highways) following his attendance at the recent Annual Parish Meeting in which he undertook to give attention to the following matters:-

Lowering kerbs in High Meadow (for the benefit of wheel chair and walking frame users).

Replacement of stolen village entry sign in Pound Lane.

Replacement of pond edging stones.

Blocked pipes in Acre Ditch and Colony Road.

Recent footpath repairs being not considered up to standard.

**Footpath Matters**

On 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009, Sarah Aldous (Rights of Way Field Officer, Oxfordshire County Council), inspected with Cllr Robin Spicer two footpaths (No. 348/7 and 348/22) to consider the very poor state of the styles and water logged conditions. With regard to footpath No. 348/7, there was some discussion regarding the possibility of having gates installed instead of styles and the Parish Council would be looked to with regard to providing half the cost (the other half to come from a County Council Grant). Sarah Aldous spoke to one of the land owners who was not anxious to have gates but promised that he will improve the

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condition of the styles after taking in a silage crop. She had not spoken to the other land owner until she gets the Parish Council's views. As to footpath No. 348/22 (to the rear of the Church), the ground is at times flooded and almost impassable. Sarah Aldous took photographs and will ascertain what improvement works may be practicable to carry out.

The Council decided that its preference was for styles and not gates. The Clerk will advise Sarah Aldous so that she may liaise with the land owners.

#### **The Town Estates Charity**

A copy of the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 was provided for the information of the Parish Council.

#### **Burial Ground**

The Working Committee had agreed the style and colour of the seats to be purchased by Mrs Evelyn Phillips in memory of her late husband for installation in the Burial Ground.

The Working Committee had agreed that a simple post and rail fence with wire netting will be sufficient to separate the part of the land to be used for new burials from that part that is to be sheep controlled. Mr Cedric Brown had been advised and he will put the work in hand.

Sibford Ferris Parish Council did not wish to see trees planted and those who had offered to provide them had been advised.

#### **Public Participation**

Mrs Jean Giles referred to a car that had been parked for a considerable period of time on the grass verge adjacent to the Church. The Council learned that it is broken down but the ownership is known. The Clerk was instructed to have it removed to a less traffic vulnerable position.

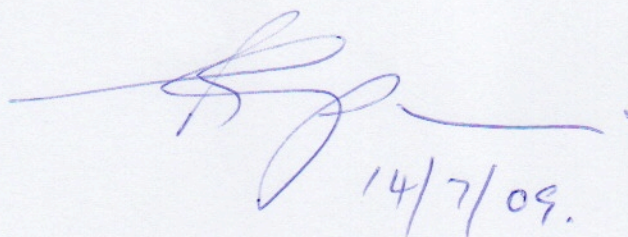
Mrs Glennis Hardman asked that steps be taken to encourage the non-parking of cars at the direct edge of the Village Pond to prevent damage to the kerbstones, some of which are to be replaced shortly. Once again, a notice will be published in the Sibford Scene to try to encourage a response.

Mrs Hardman also requested that the road drain opposite the pond be cleared to prevent flooding. The Clerk will request Oxfordshire Highways to give attention.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2009 starting at 8pm in the usual venue – The Staff Room of Sibford Gower Endowed School.

**There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked all present for attending and closed the Meeting at 9.15pm.**



14/7/09.



## Correspondence received

<u>Date</u>	<u>Rec'd</u>	<u>Sender</u>	<u>Subject</u>
25.03.09		Early Learning & Childcare OCC	Services for children
27.03.09		CDC	1. Support for Rural Housing Development in your Parish 2. Swift and Swift Conservation 3. Cherwell News 4. Cherwell Countryside Forum - Developing a Vision for the future of Rural Cherwell
		AOLC	Update for Members - Mar 2009
01.04.09		CDC	Standards C'tee Meeting - 08.04.09 Agenda
02.04.09		Cotswolds Consv. Bd	Rural Skills Training Courses 2009
03.04.09		CDC	Cherwell Recreation Strategy Action Plan 2009/10
		Information Commissioner's	Freedom of Information Act
06.04.09		OALC	Subscription request
07.04.09		CDC	Parish Presentation on Development Control Matters
08.04.09		NHS Oxfordshire	Newsletter - Issue 12 - 03.04.09
		Oxfordshire Rural Children's Centre Project	Project Newsletter - Spring Edition 2009 - Issue 7
		Oxfordshire Highways	Agreed Capital Maintenance Programme
		CDC	Planning application No. 09/00427/F. C Radcliffe
		CDC	Notice of alterations to Register of Electors
09.04.09		OCC	Review of Subsidised Bus Service - Banbury area 2009
		Allianz	Invitation to renew insurance cover
11.04.09		CDC	1. Planning application - Vine Cottage - A L Boyd. Appeal 2. Cherwell Senior's Groups Newsletter Apr- Jul 2009
13.04.09		Mr & Mrs A Crisp	Letter of complaint re Pond Ducks
15.04.09		Open Spaces Society	Request for donation
17.04.09		CDC	Planning applications Nod. 09/00407/F & 09/00408/F. 7 The Colony. J Yates
		CDC	Advice of payment of precept
		BDO Stoy Hayward	Re Annual Audit for y/e 31.03.09
18.04.09		ORCC	Calor Oxfordshire Villages of the Year Competition
		Equality & Human Rights Commission	Public Sector Duties
20.04.09		Oxfordshires Playing Fields Assn	The Playing Field - Spring 2009
22.04.09		CDC	1. Cherwell Sustainable Community Strategy - Workshop 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2. Calendar of Meetings 2009/10
24.04.09		OCC	Re County Council Election
		S E Regional Office	Re European Parliamentary Election
30.04.09		Cotswolds Cons Bd	Supporting Rural Skills
		OALC	Update for Members - April 2009
02.05.09		CDC	Planning Application No. 09/00406/F. Banbury & Evesham Monthly Meeting United Trusts
07.05.09		SLCC	The Clerk - May 2009 - Vol 41 No. 3
09.05.09		CDC	Update Report on Rural Affordable Housing
		OCC	Review of subsidised bus services in Banbury and surrounding areas
11.05.09		ORCC	News Bulletin (By email)
12.05.09		S. Ferris PC	Ack re chq £110.01 VAT refund
13.05.09		A Mullis	Re new bus service
		OALC	Agenda re AGM - 08.06.09
		CDC	1. Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme 2008.09 2. Event Recycling 3. Cherwell Rural Strategy 2009-2014 4. Summer Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting - 17.06.09
16.05.09		CDC	Legal Services offered
18.05.09		OCC	Home 2 School Newsletter: Summer 2009
19.05.09		NHS Oxfordshire	The Better Healthcare Programme Newsletter - Issue 13 - 18.05.09
21.05.09		Thames Valley Police	Posters re Forces Open Day 8 <sup>th</sup> August
		The Banbury & District Show	Posters re 14 <sup>th</sup> June
26.05.09		Bk of Ireland	Change in banking arrangements.