

Sibford Gower Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School on Thursday, 21st January 2010

Present.

Parish Cllrs Peter Abbott, Muriel Chandler and Martin Layer (Chairman).
One Local Resident and the Clerk.

Apologies

An apology was received from Cllr Oswyn Murray who is recovering from a minor operation.

Minutes.

It was proposed by Cllr Peter Abbott and seconded by Cllr Muriel Chandler that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th November 2009 be approved as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising.

Allotments: The Clerk advised the residents who had expressed an interest in having allotments that the Parish Council had been unsuccessful in its search for suitable land.

Chairman's Report.

At this stage of the Meeting, the Chairman had nothing specific on which to report.

Clerk's Report.

During the week ended 21st Nov 2009, the timetables went in to make the matter of the bus stops complete.

The Clerk referred to a letter that had been received from the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council. Some years ago the ORCC and Oxfordshire County Council established a network of Parish Transport Representatives (PTRs) to give communities a means of voicing the needs and concerns about local transport. Additional PTRs are now sought to speak for Parishes such as ours and the Parish Council is requested to be involved in this. At this Meeting, it was decided that the way forward would be to place a suitable item in an issue of the Sibford Scene to ascertain what interest may be generated. The Clerk is to liaise with the Clerk of Sibford Ferris PC to establish whether or not its Councillors are willing to take matters forward.

The Parish Council Election will take place this year and the relevant information will be received from Cherwell District Council in due course. However, it has been established that the date is 6th May. In a Parish Council election year, the Annual Parish Council Meeting must take place on, or within fourteen days, the day on which the elected Councillors take office (ie when election results are known). Therefore, the date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting must be between 6th and 20th May. At the March Parish Council Meeting the actual date must be decided.

It was decided that this year's Litterblitz will take place on 17th April.

Financial Matters.

Proposed by Cllr Martin Layer and seconded by Cllr Peter Abbott, sanction was granted for payment of the following:-

Cheque No. 102 dated 26.11.09 £95.00 in favour of Society of Local Council Clerks being renewal of the Clerk's membership (Retrospectively).

Cheque No. 103 dated 12.12.09 £1,000.00 in favour of C Brown being maintenance cost in respect of Holy Trinity Churchyard (Retrospectively).

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Cheque No. 104 dated 12.12.09 £175.00 in favour of C Brown being maintenance cost in respect of the Burial Ground (Retrospectively).

Cheque No. 105 dated 09.01.10 £15.95 in favour of Shaw & Sons Ltd in payment of purchase of 'The Parish Councillor's Guide'.(Respectively)

Precept for the Financial Year 2010/2011: After consideration of the Council's current financial position and the expenditure envisaged during the coming financial year with sufficient monies for contingency purposes, it was agreed that the precept request be set at £5,000 (down £1,000 on the figure for the current financial year).

Planning Matters.

Planning Applications received, considered and no objections raised.

No. 09/01438/F Jasmine Cottage, Burdrop J Skowronski
No. 09/01439/F Demolition of existing lobby and erection of kitchen extension

No. 10/00001/TCA Glebe Farm, Main Street, Sibford Gower O Murray

7 x Ash Trees – Remove

Dr Murray, because of his personal involvement, took no part in considering this application

Planning Applications received, considered and objections raised.

No. 09/01586/F Holly Close, Main Street, Sibford Gower K Manning
Proposed erection of a detached dwelling and the creation of an opening in the stone boundary wall for vehicular access from the highway and the erection of a new boundary fence – resubmission of 09/00990/F
(Cllr Oswyn Murray, because of a personal interest, took no part in the consideration of this application)

No. 09/01557/F Bishops End, Burdrop G R Noquet
Change of use from closed public house to dwelling
Application subsequently withdrawn

Planning Decisions received.

No. 09/00253/TCA Bramley Close, Bonds End Lane, Sibford Gower P Abbott
1 x Ash Tree – Remove. Consent (Tree in Conservation Area)

No. 09/00250/TCA Temple Close, Temple Mill Road, Sibford Gower M Pougatch
1 x Black Walnut – Crown lift by 1m (trim tips). Consent (Tree in Conservation Area)

No. 09/00311/TCA The Red House, Through Burdrop, Burdrop G Priestman
3 x Fir trees – Crown reduction by approx 15 feet

No. 09/01438/F Jasmine Cottage, Burdrop J Skowronski
and 09/01439/LB
Demolition of existing lobby and erection of kitchen extension
Permission for Development and Listed Building Consent subject to conditions

No. 09/01599/DISC 7 The Colony, Colony Road, Sibford Gower J Yates
Discharge of Condition No. 2 of 09/01280/LB
Confirmation of clearance of Planning Condition

Highway Matters.

The Parish Council had received many complaints regarding the condition of the roads during the recent snowy and icy weather. Pound Lane, Main Street leading on to Acre Ditch had been completely ignored by Oxfordshire Highways despite the fact that they form part of a bus route and are the means of access to the school, church and the village hall.

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Many residents had contacted Oxfordshire Highways as had the Clerk who was told that Oxfordshire Highways had considered that the gritting of Hawkes Lane was sufficient to allow the residents of the Parish to access the Shipston/Banbury road (B4035). The Clerk subsequently made contact with Oxfordshire Highways to stress that this certainly was not the case, that Hawkes Lane did not form part of the bus route and that, to the best of the Councillors' knowledge, had been gritted only the once. At the Meeting, the Clerk was instructed to write to Oxfordshire Highways setting out what the Parish Council considers to be absolutely the minimum requirement for snow clearance in the event of future snow and ice situations ie Pound Lane, Main Street/Acre Ditch as the bus route and Hawkes Lane. He was also instructed to write to Mr Tony Baldry MP seeking his help in ensuring that County Councils are financially able to deal with treating roads where passable conditions are a priority for local residents.

Turning to the matter of grit bins, a request had been received from a local resident that a bin be installed in The Colony and Cllr Peter Abbott felt that one should be installed in Burdrop, possibly on Burdrop Hill. Oxfordshire Highways are prepared to install bins (at a cost to the Parish Council) and attend to subsequent maintenance and filling. The Clerk was instructed to liaise with the authority in this regard. The bins could be purchased using existing funds and not directly from the precept. In this regard, it was decided that part of the monies bequeathed to the Council by the late Miriam Tebbs should be used as the bequest specified that it should be used for the benefit of the village. The Councillors considered that the purchase of the bins was, therefore, quite appropriate.

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from Mr Geoff Reeve (Highway Inspector, Oxfordshire Highways) advising that on 18th January he visited the Parish, noted and issued defects for potholes recently caused by the snow and ice. Remedial work is, therefore, expected.

Footpath Matters.

A review of the condition of footpaths in Main Street/Acre Ditch is due following complaints received some six months ago regarding the resurfacing work that had been carried out. This will have the Parish Council's attention.

The Clerk was instructed to speak with an official of the Friends Meeting House to seek co-operation by pruning the hedges which overhang the adjacent footpath.

Churchyard.

Contained within the Precept request for the coming financial year is a sum sufficient to cover the cost of the maintenance of that part of the Churchyard for which the Parish Council has accepted responsibility.

Burial Ground.

Contained with the Precept request for the coming year is a sum sufficient to cover the cost of maintenance. The total cost is shared on a pro-rata basis with Sibford Ferris Parish Council.

Public Participation

The member of the public present at the Meeting raised the matter of the condition of footpaths being deteriorated by the tread of horses. The Clerk was instructed to speak with the County's Rights of Way Officer to establish whether riders may access footpaths as opposed to bridleways.

Any Other Business

No matters were raised.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 25th March 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 9.25pm.

Correspondence received

<u>Date</u>	<u>Rec'd</u>	<u>Sender</u>	<u>Subject</u>
18.11.09	CDC		Planning application No. 09/01586/F. Holly Close, Main Street, Sibford Gower K Manning
20.11.09	Clerks & Councils Direct		News. Nov 2009. Issue 66
24.11.09	CDC		A district-wide local list of buildings and structures of architectural or historic significance
25.11.09	CDC		Planning application No. 09/01557/F. Bishops End, Burdrop. G R Noquet
26.11.09	CDC		1. Content and Quality of Planning Applications 2. Cherwell Parish Liaison Mtg - 11.11.09 - Information 3. Upper Heyford Base Planning Forum - Cancellation of Meeting - 03.12.09
28.11.09	SLCC CDC		Membership Renewal Form 1. Register of Electors 2. Rural Housing Event - 22 Feb 2010
03.12.09	OCC CDC		Local Transport Plan 3 (TTP3) Consultation 3: Long List of Schemes Planning application No. 09/00253/TCA. Bramley Close, Bonds End Lane, Sibford Gower. P Abbott. Consent
09.12.09	NHS Oxfordshire CDC		Newsletter. Nov 09. Issue 18 Planning application No. 09/00250/TCA. Temple Close. Mr Dugatch. Consent
12.12.09	OCC CDC		Ack by Rights of Way Officer re letter re footpaths Review of Local Validation Checklist
15.12.09	CDC		Planning application No. 09/00311/TCA. The Red House, Burdrop. G Priestman
16.12.09	ORCC		Parish Transport Representatives Handbook
18.12.09	CDC		Planning applications 09/01438/F & 09/01439/LB. Jasmine Cottage, Burdrop. J Skowronski. Permission for development and Listed Building Consent subject to conditions
23.12.09	OALC Cotswolds Consv Bd		Update for Members - Nov/Dec 2009
24.12.09	CDC ORCC		Update - Dec 2009/Jan 2010 Planning application No. 09/01599/DISC. 7 The Colony. J Yates. Discharge of condition
31.12.09	NHS Oxfordshire		Review - Autumn/Winter 2009
04.01.09	CDC		Health News - Issue 4 - 2009
08.01.10	CDC		Cherwell Link - Winter 2009
14.01.10	Clerks & Councils Direct CDC SLCC		Planning application No. 10/00001/TCA. Glebe Farm. O Murray News - January 2010. Issue 67 Planning application No. 09/01557/F. Bishops End. Noquet The Clerk. January 2010
15.01.10	CDC		Re Parish Precept 2010/2011
18.01.10	OCC		Home 2 School Newsletter: Spring 2010
20.01.10	Oxfordshire Rural Children's CDC ORCC		Project Newsletter - Late Winter 2009 edition Rural Affordable Housing - Workshops - 22 .2.10 News Bulletin - Jan 2010