

BYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held on THURSDAY 11th OCTOBER 2012 in BYFIELD VILLAGE HALL at 7.30pm

PRESENT - Cllrs J Gillic (Chairman), A Bailey, M Buckley, J Cannell, D Jones, E Marsh and S Shepherd.
Also present - none.

DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST – None

ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were accepted from – None, all present.
The County and District Councillors had advised they would not be able to attend.

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING(S) –

13th September - Cllr Buckley proposed the minutes be approved as a true record; seconded by Cllr Marsh and agreed by all who had been present.

26th September Cllr Marsh proposed the minutes be approved as a true record: seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed by all who had been present.

2. REPORTS ON MATTERS OUTSTANDING not covered elsewhere on the agenda

a) Registered Village Greens. Registration with Land Registry still on-going.

CIK

b) Draft Village Design Statement (sent to DDC in February 2012) Still no comments from DDC. Clerk to ask DDC if they have any idea when they may be able to look at it.

CIK

c) Noticeboard for Bell Lane. About to be delivered.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that the Council had very recently been approached by a planning consultancy seeking to meet with the Council with the regard to a possible housing development.

It was agreed that the consultant could address the Council at the November meeting under an early agenda item. The Clerk to inform the consultant.

CIK

4. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE requiring a DECISION and not covered elsewhere on the agenda

a) School Governor place. Byfield School governors advised they had a governor vacancy and would welcome someone from the Parish Council. Cllr Shepherd offered to consider this. Clerk to advise the governors.

CIK

b) Village hall noticeboard A suggestion had been put forward from the hall that they install a noticeboard inside the hall for organisations to display information. It was agreed this would not be of any great benefit to the Council as it had its own public noticeboards in the village. Cllr Buckley would take this to the next hall committee meeting.

c) Northants CALC Notice of AGM on 20th October. The Chairman said he hoped to be able to attend. There were no resolutions which the Council wished to put forward.

d) Licensing Partnership Consultation on the 3-year review of the Gambling Act. Agreed no comments need to be made.

5. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM THE LAST MEETING

a) Purchase of land at 'Fiveways' NCC had provided a copy of the report and valuation from the District Valuers' Office. Cllr Overy proposed that the Parish Council offer to purchase the land for £1,500 as restricted amenity land; seconded by Cllr Cannell and agreed by all. The Clerk to write to NCC.

CIK

b) Council website Cllr Cannell proposed that Small World Systems be asked to act as webmasters until the end of the present financial year based on a maximum cost of £500.00. Agreed by all. Cllrs Gillic and Cannell had been given some tuition in acting as webmasters in due course.

Clerk to contact Small World Systems.

CIK

c) Northants CALC Governance Model It was agreed that the proposed changes were acceptable. These would be voted on at the AGM.

- Closure of meeting for public comments and reports. None.

Meeting re-opened.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) FUND BALANCES

The Clerk reported that the financial state at 28 September 2012 showed total assets of £89,308.34 including £49,441 in the NatWest Bonus Reserve a/c and current a/c.

b) Internal control Cllrs Gillic and Overy had carried out a check of recent months. It was noted that on page 21 of the minutes that cheque no. 3089 should show a payment of £104.00 and not £72.00. Minutes duly amended.

c) Poppy wreath Cllr Overy proposed that a donation of £30.00 be made under the power of s137 of the LGA 1972 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for a wreath for Remembrance Sunday; seconded by Cllr Marsh and agreed by all.

Cllrs Gillic and Overy offered to attend the Remembrance Sunday service on 11 November to represent the Council.

d) Grant to Bowls Club (b/f from August meeting) It was agreed that Cllr Gillic write to the Bowls Club offering the balance of the Jubilee events fund (£700) as a donation towards the cost of a stairlift in their club house. As the club house is used from time to time for public meetings and the meeting room is on the first floor it was deemed that this was an acceptable use of public funds in accordance with S3 of the LG (Misc Provisions) Act 1976. **JG**

e) Banked INCOME since last meeting

Lloyds TSB BIA a/c	Interest for August	£0.46
Lloyds TSB	6 week investment interest	£7.48
Byfield Scout Group	Water used Feb-Aug	£9.64
Brightwell Rec. Ground	Water used Feb-Aug	£77.08
Daventry DC	Balance of precept	£20,883.00
A Weller	Repayment of SLCC course fee	£10.00 (cancelled)
John White Funerals	Burial fee - Mrs E Wlasiuk	£196.00

f) Report by external auditor for year 2011-12 (BDO) There were no matters to be brought to the attention of the Council. A copy of the report had been given to each councillor. It was agreed to accept the report.

g) Initial thoughts on the budget for 2013-14 It was agreed to aim to keep the budget the same as for the current year with the £2000 for Jubilee events being replaced with a facility to give small grants to village organisations. Some thought would be given to how parking in Jubilee Close could be improved. The Chairman and Clerk would draw up a draft budget for the November meeting. **JG/CIK**

h) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cllr Marsh proposed that the following accounts be paid; seconded by Cllr Cannell and agreed by all.

Cheque No		£	VAT	Authority
3097	Warks & Northants Air Ambulance	200.00	nil	s137 LGA 72
3098	Citizens Advice Daventry	50.00	nil	ditto
3099	Aylesbury Mains	68.56	11.43	s301 HighA80
3100	Tony Bignold	360.75	nil	s1 PC Act 57
3101	RD Landscapes Ltd	686.64	114.44	s19LG(MP)A76 s214 LGA 72
3102	Northantas CALC	29.00	nil	s111 LGA 72
3103	Byfield village hall	11.70	nil	s111 LGA 72
3104	Mrs R Jeacock	25.00	nil	s4 LG(MP)A 53
3105	Ian Tompkins	104.00	nil	s19LG(MP)A76
3106	Mrs C White	69.30	nil	ditto
3107	Mrs A Weller	59.63	5.82	ditto s111 LGA 72
3108	HMRC	70.40	nil	s112 LGA 72
3109	Mrs A Weller	399.37	nil	s112 LGA 72
3110	Aylesbury Mains	152.42	25.40	s301 High A 80
3111	Mrs A Weller	15.32	2.56	s111 LGA 72
3112	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	30.00	nil	s137 LGA 72
3113	Canon UK	36.76	6.13	s111 LGA 72

7. PLANNING

a) APPLICATIONS

- i) 2012/706 - Hill Farm, Priors Marston Road for cattle yard. It was agreed to offer 'No Observations' as a comment.
- ii) 2012/735 - 53 Church Street for work on trees with Preservation Orders. It was agreed to offer 'No Observations' as a comment.

b) APPROVAL(S)

- i) 2012/636 - 1 Banbury Lane for single storey garden room.

c) REFUSAL(S) None received

- d) Any urgent planning matters to be brought to the attention of the Council, arising after publication of the agenda. None.

8. LIGHTING, UTILITIES

- a) Malfunctioning lights All reported lights had been mended.

- b) Decommissioning PL79 (Fiveways) It was agreed to ask E.ON to remove the fuse from this light and to advise the billing department so that the annual charge could be reduced. **CIk**

9. PLAYGROUND

- a) Playground inspections Councillors had continued to carry out regular inspections.

- b) Rubber surface under junior swings It was agreed to ask Mrs White to give this a good brush with a diluted bleach solution to clear any algae. **CIk**

- c) Junior basketball post On-going **CIk**

- d) Information sign On going with Cllr Cannell and the Clerk, based on RoSPA guidelines. **JC**

10. HIGHWAYS

- a) Reports to Street Doctor Cllr Bailey will report various potholes in Boddington Road to MGWSP. **AB**

- b) Request for mirror opposite The Green onto A361 A verbal request had been made to the Clerk as the sightline from south side of The Green onto the A361 is not good, especially towards Banbury. It was agreed to ask Nick Gore at NCC for advice. **CIk**

- c) Redundant rail bridge on The Twistle Cllr Buckley proposed that the Council write to British Rail Residual seeking an explanation for the need for the major repair works now being undertaken and also a report on the condition of the similar bridge under the A361 (Banbury Road) and also to ask Cllr Ogden for a report on these bridges from a Northants CC perspective. Agreed. **CIk**

11. CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- a) Planned tree work The Clerk advised that Stanford Tree Care had been in touch about the poplar on the recreation ground - not forgotten.

- b) Work on tree to the south of the tennis courts Cllr Cannell reported he had discussed with the tennis club their request for work on the oak tree. He had advised that it was acceptable for them to trim very small branches around their adjacent floodlight.

- c) Verge mowing 2013 and onwards It was agreed to keep the number of cuts to 14 in a season and to add the bank and verge on the east side of Banbury Lane between Bell Lane and Banbury Road. The Chairman proposed that a price be requested from RD Landscapes (the current contractor) for a further 12 months, with full tendering being undertaken in autumn 2013 for 2014-2017. Agreed by all. **CIk**

12. COUNCIL PROPERTY

- a) Treatment of grass at war memorial garden It was agreed to ask RD Landscapes for a price to scarify. **CIk**

- b) Maintenance of two redundant flower beds at the war memorial Cllr Gillic to contact the two parishioners who had made a verbal offer to maintain these. **JG**

- c) Mowing of Council land 2013 and onwards It was agreed to continue with 14 cuts maximum and to add the paths in the New Wood/Pocket Park. The Chairman proposed that prices be sought from RD Landscapes (the present contractor) for a further 12 months, with full tendering being undertaken in autumn 2013 for 2014-17. Agreed by all.

- d) Work on stone shelter at Fiveways It was agreed to accept the estimate from Tony Bignold for work on the metal work of the shelter. The Clerk would arrange to purchase the necessary paint. **CIk**

13. BURIAL GROUND, ALLOTMENTS, NEW WOOD, POCKET PARK

a) Water meter readings Cllr Marsh reported the main meter at 3039 and the sub-meter at 2714 (read 6/10)

b) Burial Ground -

i) Any improvements to be considered No improvement work considered necessary at present. Hedges need cutting. Clerk to contact RD Landscapes

Clk
Clk

Gate stays need checking.

c) Allotments

i) Letting of plots for 2012-13. 3 plot holders had given up their gardens and one wished to reduce his plot to half the size. The two on the waiting list are being contacted to see which plots they would like. Any un-let plots would be advertised in the village news pages of the local papers and on the Council noticeboard.

ii) Fardon road gate. Cllr Marsh reported that a new post is needed and it was agreed to fix the gate hinges in such a way as to get the maximum width available between the posts.

Clk

- Cllr Shepherd had to leave the meeting at this point.

d) New Wood and Pocket Park Cllr Marsh reported that the volunteer group will start work again soon.

14. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

a) Village Hall Cllr Buckley had not been able to attend the last meeting.

b) Charities As neither of the Council appointed trustees are councillors Cllr Cannell offered to ask his wife (Council appointed trustee) to produce a report for the next meeting and for future meetings.

JC

c) Brightwell Recreation Ground Association Cllr Cannell reported that 3 of the clubs using the BRG had put forward reasons for receiving grants from the Association. With regard to the proposed revised management structure he would find out if the letter had yet been sent to the Charity Commission.

JC

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.20 pm.

Date of next meeting(s) –

Wednesday 24th October for planning, if needed.

Regular meeting – Thursday 8th November.

Items for the November agenda

- 1st draft of budget for 2013-14
- Set date for Annual Parish Meeting 2013

Chairman

November 2012

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