

**BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT 7.00 pm ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL 2019 AT BISLEY WI VILLAGE HALL**

Present: 4 members of the public were present, as were all members of the Parish Council except Lesley Greene.

The Chairman Mr M Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**03.04. 1 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Following a proposal by the Chairman the Minutes of the previous meeting held at Bisley WI Village Hall on 4 April 2018 were approved by those present and signed by the Chairman.

**03.04. 2 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**03.04. 3 Ward Chairman's Statements**

**Bisley Ward Annual Report 2019**

We were pleased to welcome Martin Brown. Bisley Ward is now up to full strength.

We have made progress with the refurbishment of the Sports Pavilion. The showers and water tank have been replaced. The windows have been replaced by timber framed double glazing units which we hope will improve the insulation of the building. It was necessary to replace 2 of the existing wall heaters which were not working and the ceiling in one of the shower rooms has been repaired. The refurbishment is an ongoing project with redecoration and replacement flooring planned. It is being paid for out of an existing budget.

Green mould on the rubber matting at Windyridge Play Area caused a problem when a small child slipped. The mould was promptly cleaned and a large tree which was shading the play area has been felled to prevent a recurrence of the problem. We are in negotiations with SDC about taking over the adjacent area of grass and hope to be able to enlarge the play area and provide some new play equipment in the future.

The 'Friends of Teed's Rise Group' has been revived by a small group of residents. 2 dead trees have been removed and we plan to have some others removed in the future.

We have a policy of replacing any trees which are removed. 2 fruit trees have been planted at the Community Orchard to replace those removed from Teed's Rise and we intend to replace the tree which was removed from the Windyridge Play Area with an more appropriate tree if we are able to expand the play area.

Our allotments continue to thrive with several allotment holders keeping chickens, one keeping geese and one planning to keep bees. We have issued a new tenancy agreement to cover the welfare of the animals which are permitted on the allotment site.

We look forward to GCC carrying out the planned improvements to Calf Way between Bisley and Birdlip. Speeding through the village and parking in the High Street remain intractable problems.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their hard work. Lesley for her work on planning and as Allotment Warden, Dave for his work as Snow Warden, Martin for his work on finance and supporting Lesley with planning and both Lesley and Martin for their contributions to the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

Hazel Saunders  
Bisley Ward Chairman

## **Eastcombe Ward Chairmans Report**

The flag pole on the village green was unfortunately brought down by the snow just after Christmas 2017 and the replacement flagpole was installed in January this year, so Eastcombe can once again fly the flag.

Jacqui Ayers stood down as a Councillor in May last year and we would like to thank her for all the hard work and excellent service that she had provided over several years. We now have two new councillors who were co-opted to fill the vacant positions in Eastcombe Ward and we would like to welcome Jenny Exley, who is now responsible for planning issues, and Scott Sissons who has taken on the role of Recreation Ground warden. We would also like to thank the following:

- Ian Trueman for all his hard work cutting the village green, strimming our lanes and verges, and dealing with fallen trees and other issues.
- Rex Clack for all his hard work as our Allotment Warden for more than 30 years. Our new Allotment Warden is Robert Bryant and his contact details are on our website.

Bob Brooks

## **Oakridge Ward Annual Report**

The Chairman reported that the wall rebuilding scheme around playing fields continues with 30m a year if finances permit. Problem in Oakridge that the hanging slider has broken but is currently rendered safe. Dennis Robbins added that the mechanism has been removed and has determined the part requiring replacement. The Clerk will attempt to get prices for the part in an ongoing effort to fix the equipment.

## **Oakridge Ward Report**

There have been no large issues this year other than concerns over Planning applications.

We complained to the District Council about them not following their own set down procedure for considering a Planning Application, they acknowledged our complaint, but no apology or reconsideration, however we do notice that they are following their procedure now.

As a general consideration the Parish Council feels that Planning applications are considered against Policy that is written with urban areas in mind and very much based on a national view of economic growth, this is not appropriate for rural communities. These should be considered against the natural world, local sustainability and security, sustainability of the community – basically considered as part of the surrounding environment and the community. Neither the Policy or the local Planning Department consider rural community sustainability at all, but from a rural perspective it is prime yardstick again which anything should be judged.

We thank Rod Simcox for his service and are sorry to see him resign. This means we now have a vacancy for a Councillor to represent Oakridge Ward, the notice was posted last month.

As a Parish Council many of us feel we should have positive and clear policies in place to mitigate and deal with Climate Change – our main big challenge for the future, so this coming year we will do this.

We are continuing with our revision of our VDS/NP this year with Mike Eccott leading, we need to do this so we will have a stronger influence on Planning decisions in our Parish. We will keep you informed.

## **Financial Report**

The Parish ends the Financial Year 2018/2019 with a reduction in its Bank Balances from £123,779 last financial year to £100,809 this financial year.

There was an over spend on projected budgets by £11,175.

Precept of £60,440

Receipts of £4,975.18

Donations (Grants) of £2,884.37

In overall terms, the expenditure of precept set by the Parish was kept within budget with additional spend largely on unexpected maintenance of property and tree management within the Parish. Any unexpended precept in each Ward has been identified and this will be carried forward and applied in each case to the funding of future projects within that Ward.

### **03.04. 4 Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

One member of public commented on a course attended on the defibrillator last Saturday delivered by an experienced nurse and paramedic. To use the equipment you have to dial 999 and get the code to open the box and with no mobile reception in that area it presents difficulties. This links to another problem in the village regarding the need for a mast for mobile reception which could be a matter of life and death. Mike Eccott said the defibrillator case in Eastcombe doesn't have a code so we don't have that issue. Hazel Saunders said the person needs to call 999 to get the code for Bisley and then leave for the defibrillator.

Another member of the public said she did not agree with the mast due to increased cancer risks. She offered her telephone number on the casing for a short term solution. The Chairman asked if the Village Hall is to connect to fibre optics and attach a phone.

Another member of the public commented on the hanging slider stating it was the most popular equipment in the play area. He was sorry to see the Ward report said it will be removed but encouraged that the minutes stated different with consultation and possible fix. He commented that the equipment was paid for by grants and donations and fund raising, not the Parish Council. Should replacement costs be high it could go to an appeal. The Chairman said its design makes it difficult for small children to access the launch platforms and large children are using it a lot. It was installed in the millennium.

### **03.04. 5 Chairman's Closing Comments.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.25pm.