

**MINUTES OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
ON WEDNESDAY 10 JANUARY 2007 at BISLEY WI VILLAGE HALL**

Mr R S Bryant		Chairman
Ms L Greene	}	
Mrs L Hemming	}	Bisley Ward
Mr P Thorp	}	
Mr S Trinder	}	
Mrs J Russell	}	Eastcombe Ward
Mr C James	}	
	}	
Mr A E Davis	}	
Mr R N Budgeon	}	Oakridge Ward
Mr P Dawes	}	
Mr N M MacLeod		Clerk

No members of the public were present

07.01 1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Mr R K Brooks (Business commitment); County Councillor J Nash (Attendance at Shire Hall Meeting) and District Councillor P Carrick (Illness).

07.01 2. **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

07.01 3. **Declaration of Interests**

Ms L Greene – Frith Youth Club/Bisley Community Composting Scheme and Mr R N Budgeon – Paper on Sustainability in the Parish.

07.01 4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2006 having been circulated were approved and the chairman signed the minute book.

07.01 5. **Councillor Resignation**

The Chairman advised that a letter had been received from Mrs R C Roberts tendering her resignation from the Parish Council for work and personal reasons. All Councillors expressed their regret at Mrs Roberts' departure and the Chairman said he would convey appreciation to Mrs Roberts for her much-valued contribution to the Council and Eastcombe Ward during 2006.

07.01 6. **Co-option of New Parish Councillor**

Following statutory advertisement of a Casual Vacancy in the Parish Council (Eastcombe Ward) and notification by Electoral Services at SDC of no applications, Mr C James was co-opted by the Council as Councillor for the Eastcombe Ward. Mr James was warmly welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman and fellow Councillors.

07.01 7. **Matters Arising**

a) **Parish Plan**

Mr P Dawes circulated updated details of progress on implementation of Parish Plan short-term actions. Following discussion it was agreed that:

1. There was no need to publicise Health Services on notice boards because this information was available on the Parish Website.
2. Laminated strips advertising the Website would be added to Parish Notice Boards – Clerk to investigate.
3. Mr P Thorp would hasten information from the Fire Service and seek information on the maps of the Parish used by the Police and Ambulance Services to determine if they were up to date.
4. Actions on Housing would be held over to the Village Design Statement.
5. Details of Grant Support available to Organisations would be included on the Parish Website.

Finally, it was agreed that outstanding short-term actions should be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.

b) **Village Design Statement (VDS)**

The meeting was advised that the apparent confusion concerning the timescale for completion of the VDS had been clarified with SDC. Guidance from SDC on initiation of the project would be sought and an initial meeting of the Steering Group would be arranged to take place before the next PC Meeting.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would take the lead role in progressing the VDS and that the Chairman would head the VDS initiative. It was also suggested that September would be an ideal month for Public Consultation/Meetings and that some door-to-door consultation by Wards could be carried out during the summer months. It was agreed that there may be a need for 'expert' involvement in some areas of the VDS and that funds may need to be earmarked for this contingency. Finally, the Clerk was to investigate the availability of the SDC Advisor and to determine a date when all members of the Steering Group would be able to meet.

c) **Footpaths Survey**

The Clerk would advise Councillors when a date/dates for the GCC survey of Parish footpaths would commence, believed to be sometime in February. The meeting was advised that generally the footpaths seemed to be in good order, although some improvement to stiles could be made.

d) **Cotswold Canals Update**

There was little further to report on this issue and a response from District Council on the safeguards to be implemented for protection of the bat colony in Sapperton Tunnel was still awaited. More information on the Canals Development Project would be obtained from Parish Council attendance at the Western Canals Consultative Group Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

e) **Mandatory Code of Conduct Meeting – SDC on 16 January 2007**

Attendance at the Mandatory Code of Conduct Meeting by Mrs L Hemming and the Clerk was confirmed.

f) **Quality Parish Status**

The Clerk advised the meeting of his attendance at a Training Partnership Seminar detailing the requirements necessary to obtain a Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) – a pre-requisite to any submission by the Parish Council for recognition as a ‘Quality Parish’. It was clear that the Portfolio to be submitted by the Clerk in due course would require the examination – and if necessary updating of all Council procedures and documentation to ensure compliance. The Council confirmed agreement to the Clerk undertaking CiLCA training, which could be achieved in 6 months from commencement.

07.01 8. **District Council Matters**

No District Council matters were raised at the meeting owing to the absence through illness of District Councillor Carrick.

However, following-on from the previous PC Meeting, the Chairman reported that he and Ms L Greene had attended a meeting in Oakridge to discuss a ‘Cardboard Bank’ Various options for recycling and methods employed were discussed with Carlos Novoth from Stroud District Council, including a food-composting system and the aim of the Parish to work towards a ‘zero waste’ policy. Councillors agreed that an integrated rather than piecemeal policy was needed for recycling of waste in the Parish and Ms L Greene agreed to produce proposals for such a policy for consideration at the February PC Meeting.

07.01 9. **County Council Matters**

Notwithstanding her absence, County Councillor Nash had presented the following written brief for the Council’s attention and information:

**County Council Budget 2007/08** – The Cabinet would be recommending to the full Council a rise in Council Tax below the current rate of inflation. Further details will be available for the February PC Meeting.

**Highways Depot- Stroudwater** – The future of the Highways Depot at Stroudwater now seemed secure, which would help to ensure a better service for rural areas than a centralised depot in Gloucester.

**Gloucestershire Waste Strategy** – The ‘Great Gloucestershire Debate on Waste Strategy’ was taking place through the local Press. Views of residents were being sought, not only to focus on general issues of waste disposal but also to raise the awareness in the Public of personal responsibility for waste management and recycling.

07.01 10.

**Matters for Discussion**

a) **Village Post Offices**

The Chairman advised the meeting that GRCC had offered to conduct County-wide consultation on the future of Village Post Offices. This would involve a general meeting to be held at Maisemore on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2007. Thereafter, towns and parishes would have the opportunity to submit views to GRCC for a combined response to Government. The alternative was for the Parish to continue to hold consultations based on the immediate Cotswold area and to submit a response which focused more specifically on the needs of villages in Bisley-with-Lypiatt and surrounding parishes. The Chairman said that a letter had been sent by the Clerk to neighbouring parishes to determine their preferred method of consultation.

Councillors agreed that they favoured localised consultation and hoped that this view was shared by neighbouring parishes.

However, it was also agreed that representation at the GRCC meeting would be a useful addition to Parish consultation.

b) **Parish Office**

The Chairman outlined initial thoughts about obtaining premises to be used as a 'Bisley-with-Lypiatt Parish Office'. The difficulty in finding any location which would serve the immediate needs of all 3 Wards within the Parish were evident but the Chairman said he believed that the overall advantages considerably outweighed disadvantages. It was agreed that an initial meeting of a Steering Group would take place on 17<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the issues involved in such a project and report findings to the next PC Meeting.

c) **Carbon Neutrality – Bisley-with-Lypiatt Parish**

As a result of the on-going public debate on Climate Change and its effects, Mr R N Budgeon had prepared a 'Concept Paper' in which various alternative energy sources for the Parish had been examined. The aim the proposals contained in the Paper would be longer-term self-sustainability and carbon-neutrality. The meeting agreed that Climate Change was a worrying issue and that some of the issues raised in the Paper provided important 'food for thought'. Copies of the Paper had been circulated to Councillors and it was agreed that the issue would be included on an Agenda for further discussion and that the views of Councillors as to how this topic should be carried forward would be welcome.

d) **Report from the SDC Meeting with Town and Parish Councillors held at Ebley Mill on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

Ms L Greene and Mr R N Budgeon had attended this meeting and reported very favourably on the general tone of the presentations which had focused mainly on the SDC Environment Green Paper and the Local Government Paper. The welcome emphasis of the discussions had been to create greater 'inclusiveness' with Parishes in carrying-forward environmental matters and enhanced transparency when dealing with some of the more difficult issues. This could involve invitations to Parishes to sit down with SDC to discuss proposals and to examine means of implementation, which could include funding sources.

Discussions on the Local Government Paper had highlighted the opportunity for Counties to move towards Unitary Status, with greater powers being devolved to Parishes. However, the position of Gloucestershire County Council was to maintain the status quo for the time being.

07.01 11.

**Finance**

**Receipts December 2006**

Bank Interest £97.07

**Total Receipts £97.07**

**Payments – January 2007**

	<u>£</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
N Power – Bisley Pavilion	62.82	3.14	65.96
EIS Toshiba – Copier Charges	20.80	3.64	24.44
Pipex Communications	67.44	11.80	79.24
JNC Fire Protection - Oakridge	41.00	7.18	48.18
Royal British Legion – Poppies	50.00		50.00
ST Water	50.81		50.81
ST Water	113.00		113.00
N MacLeod – Salary – Dec 06	675.40		675.40
Revenue & Customs – Tax & NI	334.15		334.15
Bisley Amateur Theatrical Society	600.00		600.00
N MacLeod – Refund Stationery	29.37	5.14	34.51
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£2,044.79</b>	<b>£30.90</b>	<b>£2,075.69</b>

**Petty Cash Payments – December 2006 £32.80**

**Cash Balance as at 31 December 2006 £31,063.74**

**Bisley Gift Balance as at 31 December 2006 £2,427.49**

**Bisley Lock-up Balance as at 31 December 2006 £2,023.92**

**Westbury Gift Balance as at 31 December 2006 £10,000.00**

## **Planning**

The following applications have been received during the past month and the Council's responses are recorded where applicable:

**S.06/2684/FUL** – Tythe End, Hayhedge Lane, Bisley – Insertion of window to second floor and rooflights to rear roof slope

**Support/Comment** – Provided that work conforms to Conservation Area guidelines.

**S.06/2634/LBC** – Jaynes Court, School Road, Bisley – Internal and external alterations – **Support/Comment** – We commend the very detailed and sympathetic plans.

**S.06/2748/FUL** – Windmill Bungalow, Fidges Lane, Eastcombe – Erection of new chalet bungalow to replace existing one – **Comment Only** – We are aware of a number of concerns expressed by immediate neighbours of this property - specifically, the height of the proposed new building, which is essentially a two-storey house, and the resulting loss of light to adjoining properties. There is also an overlooking issue with the bedroom windows in the North and South elevations. We note that the site plan does not show the correct outline of the proposed new building – specifically, it does not show the front porch.

**S.06/2725/LBC** – Church House, Church Hill, Bisley – Installation of two conservation rooflights and solar panels to rear roofs, removal of partitions to front bedroom and bathroom and renewal of hall floor – **Support/Comment** – Proposal looks acceptable with sensitive positioning of solar panels.

**S.06/2908/FUL** – 3 Rose Hill, Bisley – Erection of garden terrace and solar panels on bank at rear of house – **Support/Comment** – Sensitive positioning and use of solar panels is to be congratulated.

**S.06/2874/FUL** – The Milestone, George Street, Bisley - Erection of an extension to form a garden room and installation of 'Velux' windows to existing roof – **Support/Comment** – Bisley map submitted was rather out-of-date which could be misleading.

**S.06/2937/LBC** – Lion House, Holloway Road, Bisley – Internal alterations – **Support**.

**S.06/3000/FUL** – Fairview, Oakridge Lynch – Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of new garden room –

**Support/Comment** – This garden room cannot be seen from anywhere except the footpath in the field below – it will not affect any neighbour. It appears to be in the same style as the cottage.

All planning decisions were ratified by the meeting.

The meeting also discussed a planning proposal submitted to Chalford Parish Council for extension to the Tesco Convenience Store and adjacent Pharmacy located in Bussage, but close to the Parish Boundary and Eastcombe Ward. The Clerk had obtained a copy of the application and it was agreed that Bisley-with-Lypiatt PC would add objections to those already submitted by Chalford PC on the grounds of parking, traffic movement and competition with local trade.

06 11 **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence of particular importance to view.

06 12 **Ward Matters**

a) **Bisley**

Mr P Thorp reported that work had commenced on the replacement of Mains Gas Pipework in Bisley. Scheduled phasing for the work had been discussed with the Site Manager and communicated to residents. The use of larger-size equipment may result in an acceleration of the works programme and there would be on-going communication with residents to minimise the inevitable inconvenience to residents and road users.

Mr Thorp also briefed on the outcome of a meeting held with GCC following the Bisley Ward submission of proposals for improved road safety in the village. The outcome had not been as positive as hoped for and the proposal for a pavement leading from Windyridge to the village centre was in considerable doubt. However the feasibility of an alternative proposal to provide improved pedestrian access from the Stroud Road side of Windyridge to the centre would be considered. The Chairman expressed disappointment at the outcome of the meeting and said that our concerns should be drawn to the specific attention of County Councillor Nash.

b) **Eastcombe**

No points to raise that were not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

c) **Oakridge**

No points to raise that were not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

06 13 **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2007 at Bisley WI Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2200 Hours.