

**MINUTES OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL 2006 AT OAKRIDGE VILLAGE HALL**

Mr T G Carter		A/Chairman
Ms L Greene	}	
Mrs L Hemming	}	Bisley Ward
Mr P Thorp	}	
Mr R K Brooks	}	Eastcombe Ward
Mrs J Russell	}	
Mr R N Budgeon	}	Oakridge Ward
Mr P Dawes	}	
Mr N M MacLeod		Clerk

In attendance: District Cllr D Le Fleming
County Cllr J Nash

One member of the public was present.

- 06.04 1. **Apologies for Absence**
Mr R S Bryant and Mr A E Davis (holidays) and Mrs O M Turner
(Recuperation following hospitalisation).
- 06.04 2. **Public Participation**
Mrs Pat Carrick, a candidate for District Councillor, attended the meeting.
- 06.04 3. **Declaration of Interests**
No declaration of interests was recorded.
- 06.04 4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
The draft minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2006 having been
circulated were approved and the chairman signed the minute book.
- 06.04 5. **Matters Arising**

a) **Parish Plan – Progress Report**

Mr P Dawes said that copies of the ‘template’ final document had been distributed to councillors, although the published version would contain some changes and additions of pictures. He emphasised that the ‘Introduction’ to the Plan states clearly that the content is derived primarily from the views of parishioners, with the support of the Parish Council. Following publication, Mr Dawes said that the wish of the Steering Group was for a ‘standing’ agenda item to be used to carry forward and facilitate the recommendations contained in the Parish Plan. This proposal received unanimous agreement and Ms L Greene mentioned that she had already received indications from some parishioners that they would wish to be involved in implementation. Councillors asked for more time to consider the contents of the final Plan and Mr Dawes said that comments and suggestions, if any, should be passed to the Clerk no later than 18th April. He added that if no response by a councillor was received by this date, concurrence would be assumed.

Mr P Thorp proposed a vote of thanks to all members of the Steering Group for their hard work during the past 2 years in producing an evidently well-presented document. The proposal received unanimous approval. Finally, Mr Dawes said that Miserden Parish were arranging a ‘launch’ party for their Plan and it was agreed that Bisley should do likewise, with a date to be set at the PC Meeting on 10th May 2006.

b) **Grant Application for Village Design Statement**

The Clerk advised the meeting that the application by the Parish Council for a Rural Development Grant of £1000.00 towards the costs of a Village Design Statement had been approved. Miserden Parish had also succeeded with their application for a similar grant. It is planned that the Parish councils of Bisley-with-Lypiatt and Miserden will work together to produce Village Design Statements. In response to a question from Mr P Dawes, the Clerk confirmed that expenditure of this money could be spread out over the period August 2006 to August 2008.

c) **Parish Council Elections – 4th May 2006**

The Clerk confirmed that applications had been approved for 3 candidates for Bisley Ward (4seats), 4 candidates for Oakridge Ward (4 seats) and 3 candidates for Eastcombe Ward (4 seats). There would therefore be no contested seats and it was hoped to fill the empty seats in Bisley and Eastcombe by advertising Casual Vacancies immediately after the election.

d) **Stroud District Gun Club**

District Councillor D Le Fleming confirmed that The Stroud District Gun Club had been served with a Noise Abatement Notice. The Club had until 22nd March 2006 to appeal the Notice. The conditions of the Notice authorised the Club to be active on Wednesdays between 16.30 and 20.30 hours and Sundays between 09.30 and 13.30 hours. An additional condition authorised the Club to be active for an additional 4 hours to be taken as 2 separate shoots between 09.30 and 20.30 hours, Mondays to Saturdays. The extra hours were only to be permitted if the Club did not exceed a mean shooting noise level of 60dB outside a radius of 450 metres from the Clubhouse.

e) **Planning Open Day at Stroud District Council**

Mr R K Brooks reported that he had recently attended a Planning Open Day held at Stroud District Council Offices. The format had been a series of presentations by the Planning Department and Mr Brooks said that the opportunity to meet with Mr Philip Skill – new Head of Planning – had been particularly useful. An additional benefit had been the arrangement for a direct link on planning matters between the Parish Council website and the District Council website which would enable councillors and parishioners to keep abreast of progress on planning matters. Mr Brooks asked Wards to include information on the website linkage in the next round of Ward Newsletters.

06.04 6. **District Council Matters**

District Councillor Daniel Le Fleming reported on the following issues:

1. Steps were being taken on the co-ordination of the Renewable Energy Action Plan and Planning and Building Controls to bring planning and building in the District into line with the Action Plan. However, he envisaged that the process could be lengthy.
2. Following the points raised at the last PC Meeting concerning litter 'escaping' from refuse and recycling vehicles, SDC had agreed to take further action to prevent this problem, for example netting to be placed over the contents already collected by vehicles.
3. District Councillor Le Fleming said he was pleased to note that the planning application for development work at Hillcroft, Oakridge Lynch had been refused.
4. He gave confirmation that only one of the two bungalows yet to be built by Persimmon at Windy Ridge would be designed 'affordable housing'.

06.04 7. **County Council Matters**

County Councillor Joan Nash reported on the following issues:

1. The new Highways Contract had been signed with W S Atkins and would be worth £30M per year for a five-year period, with the possibility of extending for a further five years. This would bring together some 500 staff working under a single identity. A single phone number – 0800-514514 – was available for all calls regarding road maintenance, street lighting, traffic signals and all highway enquiries.
2. The first 12 extra Police Officers, funded by the Council, begin duties this month. These are the first of 63 additional officers to be funded over the next 4 years.
3. The consultation meetings in the areas affected by the Primary Schools' Review are being held at the end of April 2006; so far ten meetings have been held across the County with four meetings to follow.
4. The Board of the Strategic Health Authority met on 5th April 2006 and agreed on 3 Primary Care Trusts for the whole of Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Avon. This leaves Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust to work within the County Boundary.
5. Bogus calls have been received by local businesses purporting to be from the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service. The caller tries to sell advertising space in a Fire/Safety/Drink Drive Campaign Leaflet and thus obtain money by deception.

06.04 8. **Matters for Discussion**

a) **Tree-felling on Road Verges**

Following a question raised at the last PC Meeting, County Councillor J Nash reported that County Highways did not accept any responsibility for the re-instatement of damaged dry stone walls exposed by the tree-felling. The Chairman said that, despite undertakings by County Highways to remove and/or spread loose chippings from the verges, the problem remained and was now inhibiting both grass-growth and mowing. The Clerk was to write to the Highways Department to ask that the chippings be dealt with as a matter of priority.

b) **Highways Maintenance**

The Clerk had circulated details of the Highways Maintenance Forum to be held at Dursley on Wednesday 19th April 2006. The Chairman said that Mr R S Bryant and the Clerk would attend and any other Councillors wishing to attend should notify the Clerk in advance of the Forum. The Chairman added that roads in the Parish had deteriorated significantly and it was opportune to seize the moment upon change of maintenance contractor to highlight the problems to be addressed. Mr P Thorp asked if the new contractors – W S Atkins – would be set performance targets for maintenance work. County Councillor J Nash said she would investigate and report on this at the next meeting

- c) **Future of Village Post Offices**
Mr A E Davis had passed information for the Clerk to circulate on the future survivability of village Post Offices, following the withdrawal by the Government by 2010 of services hitherto provided by these offices. The Chairman said he felt sure the Parish Council would wish to add every support to all efforts aimed at retaining village shops and post offices. He also expressed pleasure that the Postmaster from Eastcombe Ward – Mr Mervyn Hughes – was a candidate for election to the Parish Council at the Elections on 4th May. It was suggested that the subject was given consideration by each Ward, with ideas and suggestions as to how best the Parish Council could assist brought to the next PC Meeting.
- d) **County Cycling Strategy**
A letter had been circulated to Councillors from the Stroud Valleys Cycling Campaign which attached a questionnaire for Parishes to complete. It was planned in due course to produce a Cycling Strategy for Stroud District. The Clerk was asked to write to the Campaign Organisers to give the general support of the Parish for the promotion of Cycling Strategy in the District.
- e) **Bisley Village Hall**
The Clerk announced the revised access procedures for the Village Hall whereby the Clerk's Office now holds a key to set-up the Hall for future meetings.
- f) **Section 106 – Bus Shelters**
The Chairman advised the meeting that a letter had been received from the Environment Directorate at Gloucestershire County Council concerning the procedures for the provision and maintenance of Bus Shelters in local Parishes. Councillors were informed that the cost of Bus Shelters may be met by contributions from Developers on occasions, but before such contributions are accepted it was necessary for Parishes to accept ownership for shelters together with the future responsibility for their repair and maintenance. This procedure would also apply where shelters were provided by the County Council on the site of an existing bus stop. The Chairman asked that Councillors bear this in mind should there be a requirement for further bus shelters in the Parish.

Finance
Receipts March 2006

Bank Interest	£61.58
Total Receipts	£61.58

Payments – April 2006	£	VAT	Total
Progressive Systems	418.00	73.15	491.15
Bisley Computency	40.00		40.00
Rain Harvesting Systems (B)	417.36	73.04	490.40
William Restall (B)	320.00		320.00
Ascott Mower Services (E)	67.80		67.80
Electronic Imaging - Photocopier	17.91	3.13	21.04
Colors Maintenance (B)	68.50		68.50
Proludic (B & O)	600.00	105.00	705.00
Chalford PC (E)	25.00		25.00
JNC Fire Protection (B)	20.50	3.59	24.09
N Power (B)	10.04	0.50	10.54
NALC Subscription	14.00		14.00
GAPTC Subscription	362.99		362.99
N MacLeod – Refund Flowers	29.95		29.95
N MacLeod – Salary March	497.40		497.40
Inland Revenue – Tax/NI	214.01		214.01
Robert Cole – Wall (E)	450.00	78.75	528.75
Allianz Cornhill Insurance	1935.16		1935.16
ARJ Brewer (B)	280.00	49.00	329.00
Totals	£5788.62	£386.16	£6174.78

Petty Cash Payments – March 2006	£33.26
Cash Balance as at 31 March 2006	£26,550.18
Bisley Gift Balance as at 31 March 2006	£2,427.49
Bisley Lock-up Balance as at 31 March 2006	£1,991.61
Westbury Gift Balance as at 31 March 2006	£10,000.00

06.04 10 **Planning**

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

S.06/0604/FUL – The Venture, Oakridge Lynch – Erection of Carport – **Support/Comment** – We have only had a sketch plan of the proposed Carport, with no proper site plan or location, but taking where we think this is sited (from the wall position) we feel that this proposal is acceptable.

S.06/0170/FUL – Thomas Keble School, Eastcombe – Revised Plans for part retrospective application for the erection of a security fence.

S.06/0687/FUL – 8 Windyridge, Bisley – 2-storey extension to front of property and a conservatory – **Support**.

S.06/0656/COU – Lypiatt Park, Bisley Road, Stroud – Change of use of buildings from agricultural use to mixed use – **Object** - The quality/detail of the application is weak and misleading. We also have concerns over traffic effect on Bisley.

S.06/0700/FUL – Jaynes Court, School Road, Bisley – Extensions and alterations to main house including associated external works – **Support**.

S.06/0706/LBC – Listed Building consent for application number S.06/0700/FUL – **Support**.

S.06/0777/FUL – High Lea, Cheltenham Road, Bisley - First-floor single-storey extension together with single-storey rear extension to ground floor – **Support**.

S.06/0792/FUL – Beechcroft, Eastcombe – Two-story extension.

S.06/0821/FUL – Cattletrough, Lower Nashend – Remove existing barns and replace with secure/usable barn for feed/tools/machinery in line with small-holding usage.

S.06/0832/OHL – Low Voltage Overhead Line, Oakridge Lynch – Erection of replacement line pole – **Support**.

S.06/0742/FUL – Yew Tree Cottage, Wells Road, Eastcombe – Erection of garden shed.

S.06/0856/COU – Osborne Cottage, Far Oakridge – Retrospective application for change of use of domestic kitchen to cookery school for 21 days each year.

All planning decisions where indicated were ratified by the whole meeting.

06.04 11 **Correspondence**
The following correspondence has been received during the last month and was on the table for inspection:

Stroud District Council	Affordable Housing News – Issue 1, April 2006
Gloucestershire Rural Community Council	Gloucestershire Village of The Year 2006-04-12
Gloucestershire Rural community Council	Newsletter – March 2006
Campaign to Protect Rural England	Best Kept Village in Gloucestershire Competition
Cotswold Conservation Board	Minutes of Board Meeting March 2006
Society of Local Council Clerks	Journal – March 2006
National Allotment Gardens Trust	Newsletter – Spring 2006
Stroud District Council	Action Plan – Cotswold Canals

06.04 12 **Ward Matters**

a) **Bisley**

Ms L Greene advised the meeting that approval had been gained for realignment of the entrance to the Bisley Allotments from Stroud Road to improve lines of sight and the safety of users. Work would be underway within the next 2 weeks.

b) **Eastcombe**

The Chairman asked the Clerk to inspect the damage to a wall at the entrance to the Recreation Ground and to obtain a quotation for its repair.

Mr R K Brooks said that the Parish Council had, in the past, paid a contribution to the Frith Youth Club towards insurance costs. This was believed to be a Section 137 payment of £500.00 and Mr Brooks proposed that this annual payment be continued for this worthy cause. The proposal was seconded by Mrs L Hemming and carried unanimously.

c) **Oakridge**

The Oakridge Ward had no matters to raise that were not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

06.04 13 **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th May 2006 at 7.30pm at Bisley WI Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.30 hours.