

**MINUTES OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1st February 2006 at BISLEY WI VILLAGE HALL**

Mr R S Bryant		Chairman
Ms L Greene	}	Bisley Ward
Mr T G Carter	}	Eastcombe Ward
Mr R K Brooks	}	
Mrs O M Turner	}	
Mrs J Russell	}	
Mr R N Budgeon	}	Oakridge Ward
Mr A E Davis	}	
Mr P Dawes	}	
Mr N M MacLeod		Clerk

In attendance: District Cllr D Le Flemming

No members of the public were present.

- 06.02 1. **Apologies for Absence**
Mrs L Hemming (owing to children's illness), Mr P Thorp (ill) and County Councillor J Nash attending meeting in Painswick Parish.
- 06.02 2. **Public Participation**
There was no participation by members of the public at the meeting.
- 06.02 3. **Declaration of Interests**
Mr R N Budgeon in respect of Planning Application to Bisley Ward.
- 06.02 4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
The draft minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2006 having been circulated were approved and the Chairman signed the minute book.

06.02 5. **Matters Arising**

a) **Parish Plan**

Mr P Dawes summarised the discussions of the latest Parish Plan Steering Committee and detailed the Programme of Action up to publication and distribution of the Plan to residents. He emphasised that the Plan would essentially be a 'List of Issues' supported by parishioners to be turned into subsequent 'Actions'. Mr Dawes added that the Steering Group would be seeking further funding of up to £1000.00 from Stroud District Council (SDC) to carry forward the Parish Plan with the production of a 'Village Design Statement'. It was planned that the Design Statement would again be completed in concert with Miserden Parish.

Mr A E Davis said that the final production schedule was tight and it was important that Councillors have sufficient time to comment on the draft document before it was submitted for publication. Mr R N Budgeon recommended that the final document should make reference to the proposal to produce a Village Design Statement. Mr Budgeon expressed surprise that Planning Policy did not form part of Parish Plans. Ms L Greene said that the Town and parish Forum held last December had indicated that planning matters were given greater status by SDC if they were included in a Village Design Statement which was a more detailed document.

Ms Greene said that completion of these projects was important to the Parish gaining 'Quality Parish Status' and the Clerk was asked to check on the up-to-date criteria for application for such status.

b) **Parish Snow Clearance Operations**

The Chairman said that a further letter had been sent to Gloucestershire County Council Highways Department to clarify the procedures for implementing Parish Snow Clearance Operations. The Parish had asked for greater flexibility in deciding when snow ploughs could be used. A reply was awaited.

It was also considered important that the forthcoming change of Road Maintenance Contractors for the County needed a smooth transfer of responsibilities. There was concern that the new contractors would lack detailed knowledge of Parish requirements, for example, the location, maintenance and filling of grit-bins. The Clerk was asked to speak with County Highways to determine how this transfer was to be handled.

c) **Street Cleaning**

The Chairman thanked Councillors for their contributions to the letter sent to SDC concerning the Street Cleaning requirements in the Parish. Mr Budgeon said it was important that the litter collection should be carried out early in the year before foliage growth and suggested that this be organised on a ward basis. The Clerk was asked to determine if any funding was available from SDC for locally-organised litter collections. Ms Greene said that the Bisley ward handyman would be asked to carry out litter sweeps in areas in which he was working and would be provided with the necessary equipment for this additional work. Mrs O M Turner said that a yearly litter pick was carried out in Eastcombe Ward by local organisations such as Scouts, Guides and Brownies.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to find if SDC intended to reply to Parishes which had submitted inputs and what action was likely to follow, for example in following-up retail sources of litter. The Parish could then decide if work was to be carried out by SDC or individual Wards.

d) **Stroud District Gun Club**

The Chairman advised the meeting that following noise complaints, SDC had carried out a series of monitoring tests on noise emanating from the Gun Club. These had shown that the Club were in breach of Noise Abatement Regulations and an Abatement Notice would be issued by SDC. District Councillor D Le Flemming said that a meeting was to be arranged between the Gun Club and SDC to determine how the Club intended to conform to the terms of the Abatement Notice. The Parish Council would be kept informed of developments.

06.02 6. **District Council Matters**

District Councillor D Le Flemming informed the meeting that the increase in Council Tax for the SDC area would be 2.5% for the 2006/07 Fiscal Year. He advised that the recent one-day strike by Unison members had a minimal impact on provision of Council Services and it was hoped that discussions between both sides would resolve the dispute. However, he said that further strike action was planned.

In response to a question raised at the last PC Meeting, District Councillor Le Flemming confirmed that all monies received by the Planning Department for meeting performance targets would be spent on increased staffing and enhanced computerisation.

He informed the meeting the parishes would shortly receive the modified proposals for the Planning Scheme of Delegation. Sufficient time would be given to Parish Councils to consider the revisions and make comment before the Scheme is put to Cabinet in March. Mr Budgeon recommended that the PC write to David Drew MP to reinforce the Parish input to the handling of planning matters. It was agreed that Mr Budgeon would draft a submission to Mr Drew.

06.02 7. **County Council Matters**

In the absence of County Councillor J Nash District Councillor Le Flemming said she had asked him to inform the meeting that she had spoken with Mr J Lindsay of County Highways Department concerning funding for a pavement on Cheltenham Road, Bisley. Mr Lindsay had advised her that budgetary decisions for the coming Financial Year had yet to be made.

06.02 8 **Matters for Discussion**

a) **Extract from Hansard – David Drew MP**

Councillors expressed appreciation to David Drew MP for passing a copy extract of the Hansard Record of the debate in the House of Commons on 18th January 2006 dealing with Parish Councils and Planning. Given the changes to the Planning Process proposed by Stroud District Council, it was considered encouraging to have sight of the opinions of the House on the Planning System in general and the professed aim to 'increase the involvement of local people in the planning decisions that affect their lives', in particular. Mr R N Budgeon said he would draft a letter of appreciation to David Drew MP on behalf of the Parish and also to seek his support for implementing changes to the 'Scheme of Delegation' proposed by Stroud District Council for dealing with Planning Decisions.

b) **Stroud District Cluster Group**

Mr T G Carter advised the meeting that he was the representative from the Parish for the Stroud District Cluster Group. He said that initially the Cluster Group was born out of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and dealt primarily with Police matters. Issues had tended to focus on Police matters within Stroud itself and immediate urban communities. However, the Group was now more concerned with Community Safety Organisations and this had led to increased attendance, particularly from the more rural local parishes. Mr Carter said he would be attending the next Cluster Group Meeting on 19th April 2006.

c) **Registration of Parish Land**

The Chairman said that the Clerk had managed to establish an important line of communication with the Land Registry concerning the registration of 'pockets' of land within the Parish. Initial searches had shown that 19 areas of land in Oakridge Ward were unregistered. The Land Registry had agreed to provide advice on the legal procedures necessary to register this land at a 'special' fee of £30.00 per land portion.

It was surmised that similar areas of land in Bisley and Eastcombe Wards would also be unregistered and Wards were asked to provide the Clerk with details of such areas so that confirmatory searches could be carried out at the land Registry.

06.02 9 **Finance**

Receipts January 2006

Bank Interest	£79.64
Wayleave Payments	40.76
Burial Ground – Oakridge	100.00
Total Receipts	£220.40

<u>Payments – February 2006</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
P Lorenzen – Maintenance (O) Gloucestershire Playing Fields Sub	135.00	23.63	158.63
N MacLeod – January Salary	50.00		50.00
Inland Revenue	497.40		497.40
N MacLeod – Gift Refund	214.01		214.01
T Banyard – Pavilion Cleaning (B)	61.40		61.40
	170.00		170.00
Totals	£1127.81	£23.63	£1151.44

Petty Cash Payments – January 2006 **£38.00**

Cash Balance as at 31 January 2006 **£28,744.92**

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

Bisley Lock-up Balance as at 31 January 2006 **£1985.19**

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

06.02 10 **Planning Applications – January 2006**

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

05/0115/STREG3/CAPS – Thomas Keble School, Eastcombe – Erection of Sports Hall and associated works – **Support/Comment** – We are concerned that no extra provision is being made for car parking, given that it is estimated that between 60 and 80 people per day will use the facility out of school hours.

S.05/2527/FUL – The Green Shop, Holbrook Garage, Nr Bisley – Erection of 2 new temporary buildings for office use – **Support.**

S.05/2251/FUL – Farleys Close, Eastcombe – Revision to previous application for erection of 2 cottages with double garages – **Comment** – There is a local concern that the proposed arrangement for the foul sewers for these 2 new properties is not adequate and will cause problems for the existing sewers. There is also concern about the height of the new bungalows being inappropriate when compared with surrounding properties.

S.05/2540/FUL – 1 Berwick House, Dr Crouchs Road, Eastcombe – Replacement Porch – **No Observations.**

S.06/0024/FUL & S.06/0023/LBC – Frampton Place, Frampton Mansell – Removal of 2 skylights and provision of 2 dormer windows to east roof slope of west wing – **Support/Comment** – The provision of dormers will make the inside space much more usable and suitable for modern living. The dormers are the same as on many other buildings in the area and therefore consistent with the local vernacular.

S.06/0029/CPL – Tunley Cottage, Sapperton – Continued use of land as part of residential curtilage.

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

06.02 11 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence has been received during the last month and was on the table for inspection.

Correspondence – List for February 2006 Meeting

National Association of Local Councils	Local Council Review January 2006
Newsletter of the Allotments Regenerative Issue	Winter Edition
Gloucestershire Rural Community Council	Gloucestershire Housing News Jan- Mar 2006
Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association	Winter Newsletter
Plantscape	Perfect Plants in Public Places

06.02 12 **Ward Matters**

a) **Bisley**

Ms L Greene said that urgent repairs were required to the ladies toilets at Bisley Pavilion. It was not expected that the cost of this work would exceed £500.00 and the Council agreed that work could proceed as soon as possible within this sum.

Ms Greene said that Bisley Ward wished to carry out restoration of the War Memorial during the first half of the 2006/07 FY. Grants for this work were available from English Heritage. The Clerk was asked to obtain up-to-date quotations for restoration work and to contact English Heritage concerning the submission of an application for financial support.

Ms Greene said that complaints had been received about the entrance gate to the Allotments on Stroud Road as it was unsafe and she would be writing to the Trustees of the Ancient Parish of Bisley to seek agreement to 'pull-back' the hedgeline and gate, thus affording safer access and improving the line of sight for drivers. The County had no objections and could provide detailed advice if required.

Ms Greene highlighted the problems resulting from the attempt by Severn Trent Water to bring an extremely large digger through the narrow streets of Bisley. Damage had been inflicted on walls and to road signs. In telephone discussion Severn Trent had agreed to undertake a structural survey of homes in the vicinity and had promised to compensate for any structural damage. Ms Greene believed that the Parish had registered with the Haulage Association in order to prevent access to the Village by vehicles of abnormal size. The Clerk was asked to contact County Council Roads Department to determine the current process for notification to hauliers/contractors.

b)

Eastcombe

Mr T G Carter said that a quotation in sum of £450.00 had been received for repair work to a portion of dry stone wall at Eastcombe Recreation Ground. The Council agreed that this work should proceed forthwith and asked the Clerk to instruct the contractor accordingly.

Mr Carter asked the Clerk to hasten 'Tree Maintenance' to produce a costing for the pruning of low-hanging branches at Eastcombe Recreation Ground.

Finally Mr Carter announced that since he was now approaching his 80th birthday, he would not be seeking re-election as a Councillor at the Elections in May 2006.

Mrs J W Russell said that the next meeting of the Trustees of the Ancient Parish of Bisley would consider providing assistance to any parishioners experiencing genuine hardship and asked fellow Councillors to let her know of any cases of which they were aware which met this criterion.

Mr R K Brooks advised that the Primary School at Eastcombe had written to County Highways calling for a 20mph speed limit in Dr Crouch's Road. He added that a village-wide speed limit of 20mph had strong support from parishioners and that this view was shared by Eastcombe Ward Councillors.

Mr Brooks said that the Red Telephone Kiosk in Eastcombe had been vandalised with broken eggs. The Matter had been reported to BT who had provided a 'fast-track' email address for dealing quickly with problems affecting public phones.

c)

Oakridge

Mr A E Davis reported that AONB had inspected the restoration of the dry stone wall at Oakridge Recreation Ground and were most impressed with the workmanship. Payment of the Grant of some £1580.00 by AONB would thus be received imminently. He added that a further Grant would be available for work in 2007 and that an application would be submitted in the Autumn of this year.

Mr Davis said that revised plans for the Annex to Oakridge Village Hall were being submitted because of a change in design to accommodate the funding available. The revised application would be made through the Parish Council, as previously, in order to benefit from cost savings.

Finally, Mr Davis asked that the Clerk contact County Highways to inspect the verge on the narrow slip-road at Hillcroft which has been damaged by traffic.

06.02 13 **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 1st March 2006 at Bisley WI Village Hall.

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