

MINUTES OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD at 7.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY 5th November 2003 at BISLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL

Mr N S Rogers	Chairman
Mr D W Workman	} Bisley Ward
Mr T G Carter	}
Mr R K Brooks	} Eastcombe Ward
Mrs J W Russell	}
Mrs O M Turner	}
Mr R S Bryant	}
Mr R N Budgeon	} Oakridge Ward
Mr A E Davis	}
Mr P Dawes	}
Mrs T A Howes	Clerk

In attendance: District Cllr D Le Fleming

2 members of the public were present

03.11 1. **Apologies for Absence**

County Cllr C Fellowes (prior meeting), Mr J Perkins (prior engagement), Ms L Greene (prior engagement)

03.11 2. **Maggie Adderley – SDC**

The chairman welcomed Maggie Adderley from SDC who was invited to talk about the current and future state of the recycling schemes at SDC. Questions and answers were invited from the Councillors and members of the public.

Public Participation

A member of the public present asked the Parish Council to investigate the legality of the outdoor lighting at Bathurst House. The clerk was asked to write to SDC about this.

03.11 3. **Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations of interests

03.11 4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 1st October were reworded slightly at 03.10.6 and having been circulated were approved and the chairman signed the minute book.

03.11 5. **Matters Arising**

a) **Rural Grant Applications 2004/5**

The clerk reported that 4 grant applications had been approved by the Parish Council as follows: Eastcombe Pavilion Fund, Oakridge Village Hall Trust, The Oakridge Players and Bisley Ward Allotments and sent to SDC and the chairman reported on one other being Eastcombe Scout Hut.

b) **Playing Fields Inspections**

The clerk reported that GAPTC had recommended that regular checklists were completed, to record visual inspections and that people inspecting were not required to be qualified inspectors. Some information regarding cost of RoSPA inspections through SDC was circulated and the clerk was asked to contact Serviceteam to evaluate the cost of quarterly inspections by them.

Mr Bryant asked that what a visual inspection entailed was not clear and also recommended that a disclaimer be incorporated into any future agreed checklist.

c) **Mobile Speed Signs**

The clerk reported on a positive response from Painswick Parish Council and was waiting for confirmation after their next meeting

03.11 6. **District Council Matters**

Mr Stephen Glanfield was welcomed to the meeting. At his request he read out a statement to the Parish Council outlining the recommendations he would be taking to a cabinet meeting at SDC the following evening concerning the land at Windyridge. The statement is as follows:

Council,

Tomorrow evening I shall be taking to SDC Cabinet the proposal that the remaining land at Windyridge be disposed of for housing. I am here this evening to tell you why I have come to that decision; first though you will know that I have deferred it for a long time whilst seeking alternative solutions fitting your stated aims – in full. None have emerged and, in the light of Central Government decisions made in the meantime, I shall explain to you why I am doing this now. Strange as it may seem this is a win for Bisley and the District.

The land is scheduled for housing. The Council cannot itself build houses and that means a sale of the land at some time. If that transaction takes place after 31st March 2004 none of the proceeds will be retained for the people of the District; if sold earlier though, the Government will not have the right to “pool” those proceeds and use them where they deem fit. It is undeniable that this is likely to mean the inner cities, which doesn’t include Bisley. If SDC keeps the money though, at least 50% will be available to help meet our acknowledged District wide shortfall of 300 affordable houses per annum.

You will know better than I that the land was acquired by the predecessor to SDC and has gradually been developed for Council/social housing culminating in the ten homes recently built by Sovereign Housing with financial assistance from SDC. What I want to achieve is along the lines of "same again" and now I can.

The site could provide up to eighteen mixed homes. I say mixed because the Planning Rules now require developments to include both open market and affordable housing, some forty units of social housing have already been built on the land. The Administration though put through a change to planning rules at our last Council meeting, up until then all the homes would have had to be for the open market. Now six will have to be affordable/social homes. That will require grant aid by the Council of some £40,000 per home, £240,000 in all, and my proposal to cabinet incorporates that. Those homes will now come soon.

If we don't sell the land now those homes are lost to Bisley: no more affordable housing until it is your turn again, and after the recent build by Sovereign that could be five years or more, other Parishes would claim higher priority in having their needs met first.

Central Government Rules. The asset is lost for its desired purpose unless we take advantage of a window of opportunity and I have a responsibility to act in the best interests of the District as a whole. Bisley will be amongst the first to gain from our change to Planning Rules. Six more affordable, subsidised, houses in 2004, or all open market and the cash receipt taken from Stroud. It is my contention that this deal, if we can get it done in time, is the best outcome for the community that is, and wants to be, Bisley.

Stephen G Glanfield

Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services
2003

5th November

The Chairman expressed the disappointment of the Parish Council at this decision. Mr Glanfield left the meeting and the Chairman asked the clerk to circulate the statement in order that a response could be formulated quickly.

Mr Le Fleming indicated that he had made clear to cabinet the views of Bisley

03.11 7 **County Council Matters**
Nothing was raised under this heading.

03.11 8. **Finance****Receipts October 2003**

Bank Interest	£	27.23
Eastcombe Allotment rent		122.50
		<u>149.73</u>

Payments – November 2003**£****VAT****Total**

Playforce (Bisley gift)		5125
		896.88
		6021.88
S Banyard(Bisley Pav Cleaning)	40.00	
		40.00
N Eldridge (PCC Oakridge – trees)		100.00
		100.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal		27.00
		27.00
Bisley WI Hall		250.00
		250.00
T Butt & Son (OAK Village Hall)		996.28
		174.35
		1170.63
Electronic Imaging (photocopies)		12.55
		2.20
		14.75
Wicksteed Leisure (Bisley Swings)		57.50
		10.06
		67.56
T Howes (salary Oct)		459.65

03.11 9. **Matters for Discussion**

a) **Precept 2004/5**

Following discussions at Ward meetings expenditure for the next financial year was estimated as follows:

Bisley	£4,300
Eastcombe	£4,000
Oakridge	£7,535
Admin	£18,745

It was agreed to precept the sum of £34,580 on Stroud District Council for the financial year 2004/5. This motion was proposed by Mr Budgeon and seconded by Mr Carter.

b) **SNAP – report by Mrs O Turner**

Mrs Turner reported that the Rural Bus Challenge bid was now going ahead and if successful would be funded for three years initially. It would take the form of a “demand responsive” service with links to Stroud, Gloucester and Cheltenham.

Mrs Turner indicated that it would be useful for another member of the Parish Council to participate in the SNAP meetings which amount to 3 or 4 per year.

c) **Employment of Handyman**

Each ward had estimated costs for the employment of a handyman on a regular basis. These costs had been included in the expenditure figures for next year, either as an additional cost or by re-arrangement of resources. Then details of how this scheme would work to be finalised later.

d) **Local Transport Plan Annual Progress Report**

Each Ward had been provided with copies to be commented on by 12th December 2003.

e) **Oakridge Cemetery**

The clerk reported that she had written to Mr Gardiner to ask if he was willing to continue record keeping, with a copy of documentation being kept by the clerk. A response was pending.

03.11 10.

Planning

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

SO3/1738 The Butchers Arms, Oakridge – erection of new dwelling & garage-Support-we are pleased to see main entrance on the top road, the road to the shop is too narrow and busy at certain times. It would have n=been better to see a smaller house in the much needed more affordable price range, although in principle we support the application.

SO3/1843 The Roadside Barn, The Vatch –alterations and extensions to existing barn-Support

SO3/1876 Hillstones, Vatch Lane, Eastcombe-demolition of existing garage and reconstruction of new one at different location-No observations

SO3/1908 Lyday Close, Oakridge –part demolition & rebuild of utility room- Support –we see no reason to refuse this application, it will be a visual improvement

SO3/1960 2 Hampstead Buildings, Bisley – retrospective application for installation of uPVC windows and door- OBJECT – this row of cottages has been identified by SDC as being important non-listed buildings within the Bisley Conservation Area. These windows and doors are totally out of character and sympathy with the property. Consent would set a dangerous precedent for all other properties within recognised conservation areas. The repercussions would be disastrous. We are totally opposed to this application.

It was agreed that Mr Budgeon would draft a letter to the clerk indicating the Parish Council's concern at the way SDC were dealing with planning applications.

03.11 11.

Correspondence

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

Local Council Review		
Glos Crime Reduction Programme Report		Junior Citizenship
Glos Police		Open evening 19 th Nov Frampton Mansell Bus Steering Group next
D Drew meeting		
GAPTC		24 th November
GCC		Update newsletter Glos Waste Plan –
	Proposed modifications-deadline	12 th December
SDC		Meeting agenda 6 th Nov
SDC		Industrial Heritage
Conservation		
SDC		Area – any comments? Proposal on transfer Of Council housing Newsletter
CPRE		Countryside Focus
Countryside Agency		Meetings list Nov-Dec
SDC		Countryside Voice
CPRE		Report
Action for Affordable Warmth		Info on Bus Station
SDC		
Stroud		
Cotswold Lion		Magazine

03.11 12. **Ward Matters**

- a) **Bisley**
The clerk was asked to contact SDC regarding progress on planning at Newcombe House.
- The clerk was also asked to contact Mr J Bridges on the progress of transfer of the play area at Windyridge.
- b) **Eastcombe**
Mr Brooks asked the meeting to agree to a letter being sent to D Drew MP concerning the sewage problem in Eastcombe which had still not been resolved despite the Council writing to Severn Trent Water recently. This was agreed.

c) **Oakridge**

Mr P Dawes was welcomed as the new Ward councillor for Oakridge.

Mr Bryant gave a brief report on the Highways meeting last month. The clerk asked that as a result of the Parish Council inclusion on the pilot scheme of a Parish partnership being run by the Highways Department, that Wards should consider how best to employ a dedicated gang for 2-3 days in the Parish this winter.

It was agreed by the meeting to support the application to re-register a footpath in Tunley. The clerk was in possession of the documentary evidence and the forms for proceeding.

Mr Davis asked if the meeting would support a donation of £150 to start the Lunch Club at Oakridge Village Hall. This was agreed.

Mr Budgeon said he was willing to comment on the replacement of planning guidelines PPG7 with PSS7 with other planning committee members. This was agreed.

03.11 13. **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 3rd December at Bisley WI Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.40