

**MINUTES OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 5th October 2005 at BISLEY WI VILLAGE HALL**

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

In attendance: County Councillor – Mrs J Nash
District Councillor – Mr D Le Fleming

One member of the public was present

05.10 1. **Apologies for Absence**

Mrs O Turner (Holiday)

05.10 2. **Public Participation**

Ms S Painter of the Citizen Newspaper wished to gain information on the use of part of Evans Field as a Children's Area.

05.10 3. **Declaration of Interests**

Ms L Greene as Member of Frith Centre concerning Agenda Item in support of Youth Organisations.

05.10 4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2005 were amended as follows: Item 5b add "**and use of approved fitters**". These were then approved and the Chairman signed the Minute Book.

05.10 5. **Matters Arising**

a) **Van Der Breen Street**

Ms L Greene said that a meeting had been held on 27th September 2005 between Mr C Taper and Bisley Ward Councillors. Mr Taper said that he did not support re-instatement of the original vehicle turning area without receiving financial compensation for the loss of use of the portion of land owned by him. Before considering this, Bisley Ward Councillors considered it would be appropriate to explore any other option which might be available, including a small area of farmland immediately beyond the previous turning area. The Parish Council would write to GCC Highways Department for guidance before contacting the owner of this land to make initial enquiries. County Councillor J Nash asked to be kept informed of developments. Mr Taper asked that a letter be sent by the Parish Council to the residents of Van Der Breen Street to inform them that negotiations on the turning circle were ongoing and that options were being explored which would hopefully produce a resolution of the problem. This was agreed.

b) **Proposed Cashless Pay Phone at Eastcombe**

Mr R K Brooks advised the meeting that a letter had been received from BT confirming that the planned introduction of the Cashless Payphone at Eastcombe was yet to be decided. In the meantime, maintenance faults with this telephone and complaints from residents had demonstrated that loss of the normal Payphone facility would be seriously detrimental and this had been exacerbated by a difficulty in reporting faults and obtaining swift rectification. The Clerk was asked to write again to BT to reiterate the concerns of the Parish Council and also to determine a 'fast track' means by which faults to the system can be reported for immediate action.

c) **Private Members Bill – Climate Change/Management of Energy**

The Chairman confirmed that Wards had now had opportunity to consider the Private Members Bill and asked for a vote from Councillors as to whether or not the Bill should be endorsed by the Parish Council Body. District Councillor D le Fleming said that the DC was currently proceeding with its own plan for the management of energy along similar lines but would not be supporting the Bill per se. County Councillor J Nash said she was not aware of any specific CC involvement in support of the Bill.

Mr R Budgeon said that he strongly supported the Bill and proposed that the Parish Council do likewise. Ms L Greene seconded this proposal. The Chairman then called for a vote by Councillors which fell 6 votes to 4 votes against the proposal.

d) **Progress on the Parish Plan**

Mr R Budgeon said that steady progress was being achieved and that a further meeting of the Parish Plan Group would be held on 11th October 2005. Concern was raised that insufficient recognition was being attached to Parish Plans when considering broader planning issues at District level, for example. Mr Budgeon said that similar views were being expressed by other Parishes. Mr Budgeon added that these concerns were being followed-up and that the Countryside Agency was being kept informed.

e) **Windyridge Development**

Ms L Greene said that the first properties at the Westbury Homes Development in Windyridge were now occupied. District Councillor D Le Fleming confirmed that the payment of £10,000.00 due to the Parish Council upon occupation of the properties had been processed. Ms Greene said that some damage was being caused to the allotment area by residents accessing the area from Windyridge. She suggested that some of the funds from Westbury be used to secure entry to the allotments. Ms Greene also mentioned a continuing speeding problem in Windyridge and that a further letter had been sent to GCC asking that 'Home Zone' restrictions be implemented.

f) **Dedicated Parish Office**

The Chairman reminded Councillors that the establishment of a dedicated Parish Office was a longer-term aim and that the current round of discussions was simply a means of determining the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal, mindful that the Parish comprised three geographically separated Wards. Councillors identified ease of access to parishioners, storage of parish documents, initial and on-going costs and manning and management of a dedicated office as important issues to be addressed. Ms L Greene suggested that a visit to the Parish Office at Minchinhampton might prove a worthwhile exercise in helping to find answers to some of these and other issues.

The Chairman brought the discussion to a close by asking that representatives from each of the three Wards meet to carry forward the general study into the proposal. It was agreed that Mr P Thorp, Mr R Budgeon and Mr R K Brooks would form this study committee and report their findings and recommendations to the Parish Council.

05.10 6. **District Council Matters**

District Councillor D Le Fleming informed the meeting that for the time being Stroud District Council would retain its existing housing stock in accordance with the wishes of tenants – properties would not be passed to a Housing Association. He also said that following the decisions to notify Planning Decisions by email Parish Councils would continue to receive ‘hard copies’ of the decisions.

District Councillor D Le Fleming announced that the new Merrywalks development was nearing completion with the opening of the Multiplex Cinema and Bowling Alley due in early November

05.10 7. **County Council Matters**

Following from the Report of the Bisley Blue Coat School Governor at the last meeting, County Councillor Joan Nash confirmed that funding for further development of buildings remained on hold pending the completion of Area Review Panel assessments. She added that an early decision was important because SDC would not wish to process further applications for use of temporary accommodation.

County Councillor Nash said she was still awaiting a response from GCC on their policy for the clearance of vegetation from the edges rural roads and that she would press for the completion of the kerb at Eastcombe Primary School which had been delineated in outline on the roadside. Finally, County Councillor Nash undertook to investigate the reasoning behind the introduction of a 40mph speed limit on the Vatch Lane to Toadsmoor Road in view of the Parish Council’s recommendation that central double white lines would be a much more effective means of controlling drivers on this stretch of road.

05.10 8 **Matters for Discussion**

a) **Play Area in Evans Field**

Ms L Greene said she was delighted to inform the meeting that following on-going negotiations with the Feofees, the owners of Evans Field in Bisley, agreement had been reached in principle for a section of the field to be used as a Children’s Play Area. This would be of enormous benefit to the village and particularly to residents of the expanded Windyridge Development.

Ms Greene said that a letter of thanks had been sent by Bisley Ward Councillors to the Feofees. It now remained to confirm the boundaries of the Play Area and it was proposed that the costs involved in setting-up the facility, including legal fees and fencing should be met from the grant of £10,000.00 to be received from Westbury Homes. It was hoped that ratification of the agreement would be passed at the meeting of the Feofees in November.

Members of the Parish Council echoed Ms Greene’s delight at this significant addition to the facilities for children in Bisley.

- b) **Retention/Disposal of Parish Council Records**
The Chairman confirmed that Ward Councillors had been able to review the guidance provided by GCC on the retention and/or disposal of Parish Council documents. These recommendations were supported by the meeting with the caveat proposed by Mr R Bryant that for Planning Documents disposal should be “at the Clerk’s discretion **and a member of the Planning Committee**”.
- c) **Parish-wide ‘Welcome Pack’**
The Chairman reminded the meeting that whilst the Parish comprised three distinct Wards, it also had an important ‘corporate’ identity to advertise. Although the individual Ward publications provided valuable information for residents, publicity on the Parish as a whole was mainly confined to the Parish Website. District Councillor D Le Fleming produced a copy of the Information Pack distributed by SDC to new arrivals identified through Council Tax registration. He added that SDC would be willing to add an input from Bisley-with-Lypiatt Parish Council to this Pack. Mr R K Brooks asked each Ward to review its input to the Website Directory and the Chairman asked for a volunteer to collate information from each Ward in order to produce a 2-sheet Parish Information Pack. Mr P Thorp said that he would be happy to organise production of this Pack.
- d) **Campaign for a Railway Station at Chalford**
Councillors expressed interest in supporting the campaign initiated by Chalford Parish Council for the provision of a new main-line railway station to be situated on the site of the original Chalford Station opposite the King and Castle Hotel between Brimscombe and Chalford. However, concerns were also expressed about the additional traffic this would generate on narrow roads and lanes in the immediate area.
The Clerk was asked to obtain more information about this campaign, including details of any meetings to be held.

e) **Wind Turbines in the Cotswolds – Presentation by the ‘Future Wind Group’**

Ms L Greene informed the meeting that she had attended the presentation given by Future Wind Ltd in Miserden Parish Hall on 26th September 2005.. She said that the event had been well attended and was advertised as a ‘consultation process’. The Group outlined its plans for small-scale development of Wind Turbine Sites and said it was advertising for suitable sites and corresponding with interested parties.

Mr R Bryant said that Future Wind Ltd was a relatively new company and he expressed concern that the company had indicated in an email that it intended to file for planning on sites within a few weeks. He said that the turbine masts were 142 feet tall (excluding the blades) and that such structures would have a very detrimental visual impact in an area of outstanding natural beauty (AONB).

County Councillor Joan Nash said that whilst GCC policy supports initiatives to source alternative energy provision, restrictions applied to development in AONBs. She added that Miserden Parish Council would convene a public meeting following the submission of any planning application by Future Wind Ltd.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to liaise with Miserden PC and to keep Bisley-with-Lypiatt PC advised of any developments.

f) **Registration of Common Land**

The Clerk told the meeting that he had attended a Seminar at the University of Gloucestershire which covered the registration and administration of Common Land in towns and parishes. He said that the information obtained would prove useful when taking action to register areas of Common Land within the Parish. The Clerk said he was now in discussions with an organisation called ‘The Open Spaces Society’ who provide advice and guidance through registration procedures. The Clerk also said that he had contacted the Records Office at GCC and had obtained some evidence of records under the 1832 Enclosures Act which might assist in determining ownership of areas of Commons within the Parish.

g) **Support of Youth Organisations**

The Chairman advised the meeting that the PC received regular bids from Youth Organisations throughout the year. In the past, the bids deemed most worthy had been considered for S137 Grants on an annual basis. The Chairman said that he now considered the Parish should adopt a more pro-active policy towards the support of Youth Organisations. Ms L Greene supported this view and said that provision of facilities was a priority consideration in the current draft Parish Plan. Mrs J W Russell also supported this initiative and recommended that support should be for specific projects rather than just a general donation. Mrs Russell also recommended that following donation the PC should receive feedback as to how precisely the money was spent.

Having identified that the policy was fully supported by Councillors, the Chairman asked that each Ward consider support for Youth Organisations when planning its Precept bid. It was the view of the meeting that a sum of up to £1000.00 parish-wide could be allocated to such organisations under S137 Grants.

h) **Governor – Bisley Blue Coat School**

The Chairman announced that a letter had been received from Mrs Barbara Brown announcing her wish to resign her position as the Representative for the Parish Council on the Board of Governors of Bisley Blue Coat School. Mrs Brown wished her resignation to take effect from mid-term in October 2005.

Mrs Brown has provided seven years of valued service to both the Parish Council and the School and Members attending the meeting were unanimous in wishing to express their sincere thanks for all her work in this important role.

The Chairman said he would write to Mrs Brown to accept her resignation and to convey the gratitude of the Parish Council.

05.10 9 **Finance**

Receipts September 2005

Bank Interest	£65.03
Half-year Precept	£17,290.00

Total **£17,355.03**

Payments – October 2005

	<u>£</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
D Holbrow – Maintenance	151.30	6.34	157.64
ST Water – Bisley Allotments	10.01		10.01
ST Water – Oakridge Village Hall	18.30		18.30
ST Water – Oakridge Allotments	6.44		6.44
P H Hayward Berry – Grass Oakridge	40.00		40.00
EIS – Photocopier charges	13.83	2.42	16.25
Gloucs University – Course	75.00		75.00
Glasdon UK Ltd – Bin for Oakridge	42.01	7.35	49.36
N Power – Electricity KGV Pavilion	20.99	1.05	22.04
Bisley Fencing – Windyridge Play G	1,600.00	280.00	1,880.00
Society of Council Clerks	93.00		93.00
N MacLeod – Monthly Salary	377.07		377.07
Inland Revenue – Tax/NI	129.37		129.37
N MacLeod – Ref'd Gift/Toner	59.57	10.42	69.99
Bisley Bluecoat School PTA – S137	400.00		400.00
Bisley Community Composting Scheme	600.00		600.00
Petty Cash Float	50.00		50.00
Totals	3,686.89	307.58	3,994.47

Petty Cash Payments – September 2005 £65.99

Cash Balance as at 30th September 2005 £45,452.61

Bisley Gift Balance – 30th September 2005 £4,057.49

Bisley Lock Up Balance – 30th September 2005 £1,971.97

05.10 10 **Planning**

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

Planning Applications – September 2005

S.05/1698/FUL – The Frith, Far Oakridge – Demolition of existing agricultural outbuilding and erection of new outbuilding.

S.05/1676/LBC – Jaynes Court, School Lane, Bisley - Repairs and alterations to main house and dovecote/cockpit including external works and realignment of drive. **No observations.**

S.05/1798/FUL – Parlour Farm House, Bisley Road, Bisley – Erection of a single storey extension. **Support.**

S.05/1796/REM – Hillcroft, Oakridge Lynch – Approval of reserved matters S.04/1275/OUT for the erection of one dwelling. **Object** – The scale of the application is totally out of keeping and proportion to the surrounding dwellings. The proposal stands a full four storeys plus a garage when viewed from the south and it will dominate the surrounding properties. Most of the surrounding dwellings are 'cottages'.

S.05/1811/OHL – The Pigeon House, Oakridge Lynch – Erection of 11000 Volt Overhead Line. **Comment** – Whilst we support the removal of overhead wires we are concerned about the increasing number of poles. We think that any application of this type should be approved only if it reduces the number of poles.

S.05/1880/FUL – Eastcombe Scouts and Guides Building – Erection of pre-fabricated Storage Building.

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

05.10 11 **Correspondence**

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

Correspondence – List for October 2005 Meeting

GAPTC Statements 2005	Annual Report & Financial Details of AGM on 15 th October
GCC	Provisional Gloucestershire Local Transport Plan 2006-2011
SDC Draft Involvement	Local Development Framework – Statement of Community
University of Gloucestershire Research Garden Heritage	Countryside & Community Unit Newsletter Landscape Management & Design Community Development, Management and Local Policy Environmental Stewardship
Community Transport Gloucestershire	Sunday Flyer Services
South West Regional Assembly	Details of Consultation Events
Gloucestershire Partnership NHS Trust Document	Application for NHS Foundation Status – Public Consultation
Stroud District Disability Action Group	Details of Consultation Event
GAPTC	Monthly Newsletter

05.10 12 **Ward Matters**

a) **Bisley**

Mrs L Hemming advised that a Handyman for the Bisley Ward had been found and it was agreed that he would provide 5 hours per month of general maintenance work at an hourly rate of £12.00 per hour.

b) **Eastcombe**

Eastcombe Ward had no issues to discuss at the meeting.

c) **Oakridge**

Mr A Davis said that three independent quotations had now been received for the provision of a hedge at the Burial Ground at Oakridge. He produced a schedule of the scope of work of the 3 quotations for comparison and the Meeting agreed that the quotation tendered by Cotswold Estate Services Limited in the sum of £1263.30 should be accepted. The Clerk was asked to write to this contractor to accept the quotation and initiate the work. Mr P Dawes advised that at a Ward Meeting it had been decided to rescind the concession which permitted cars to park on the Oakridge Recreation Ground on an occasional basis. This had been necessary because of the larger than expected demand for this concession which had only been intended to cater for exceptional circumstances.

05 13 **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 2nd October 2005 at Bisley WI Village Hall.

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