

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE 2009 AT BISLEY WI VILLAGE HALL**

Present:	Mr P Thorp	Chairman
	Ms L Greene	}
	Mr P Bradley	}
	Mr S Trinder	}
		Bisley Ward
	Mr R K Brooks	}
	Mrs L Petch	}
	Mrs V Nairn	}
		Eastcombe Ward
	Mr P Dawes	}
	Mr R N Budgeon	}
		Oakridge Ward
	Mr N M MacLeod	Clerk

One member of the public was present.

09.6 1. **Parish Plan Database**

Prior to commencement of the main agenda, the Parish Council received a briefing from Angela Burlow - Stroud Rural Adviser at GRCC – on the benefits of including the progression of actions on the Bisley-with-Lypiatt Parish Plan on the GRCC database. Other parishes in the Stroud District that had completed Parish Plans were also contributing to this database.

The primary benefits of the database were identification of issues on an individual and collective parish basis and where possible to source funds or initiate actions to address these issues. Whilst the database would be District-based, it would also be possible to provide linkage to similar County, Regional and National databases.

In response to questions, it was emphasised that this database was not a system for ‘monitoring’ the progress of parishes in discharging the actions in their Parish Plans, would not be prejudicial to the community should a Parish Plan have not included key issues – for example loss of biodiversity due to climate change - nor should it place unwelcome additional work on Parish Councils. The database was set out on an Excel spreadsheet and incorporated a ‘traffic-light’ system which illustrated the progress made on individual actions. It was envisaged that an hour spent with the Clerk would be sufficient to input the parish data and thereafter, quarterly or half-yearly inputs would be sufficient to update on progress. Councillors were advised that the success of this initiative could lead to further

databases on Village Design Statements, Housing Needs Surveys and Emergency Resilience Plans, for example.

The Chairman thanked Angela Burlow for her presentation and undertook to provide her with a response from the Parish Council to her request for inclusion of our Parish Plan on the GRCC Database.

09.6 2. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr A E Davis and Mr D Hunt. District Councillor Mrs P Carrick was not present at the Meeting.

09.6 3. **Public Participation**

There was no public participation at the Meeting.

09.6 4. **Declaration of Interests**

No declarations of interest were received.

09.6 5. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 May 2009 having been circulated to all councillors were approved and the Chairman signed the Minute Book.

09.6 6. **Matters Arising**

(a) **The John Taylor Foundation** – The Chair of Bisley Ward announced that Councillor S Trinder had volunteered to fill the vacant Parish Councillor position on the Board of the John Taylor Foundation. The Chairman thanked him for his offer of participation and the appointment of Councillor Trinder was endorsed unanimously by the Meeting. The Clerk would write to the Chair of the Foundation to confirm this appointment.

09.6 7. **District Council Matters**

In the absence of District Councillor Mrs P Carrick, no District matters were discussed.

09.6 8. **County Council Matters**

County Councillor Mrs J Nash reported to the Meeting on the following matters:

Supporting Gloucestershire through the Recession – Businesses and residents who are experiencing problems relating to the Recession can obtain information and guidance from a County Council Website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/recession or through freephone number 0800 068 8918. These points of contact will direct people to the appropriate sources of help and advice.

Armed Forces Day – 27 June 2009 – The Ministry of Defence announced plans to hold an ‘Armed Forces Day’ on 27th June 2009. The County Council will raise a specially commissioned Armed Forces Flag and all Councils in the UK have been invited to participate to honour Armed Forces past, present and future. The Freedom of the County will be bestowed on the First Battalion the Rifles who will be returning from service in Afghanistan. The Clerk was asked to obtain information concerning the participation of the Parish in this event in relation to flying the appropriate flags on Parish Flagpoles. The Clerk said he would also speak with the Royal British Legion on this matter.

Music in Gloucestershire Libraries – Background music is played in County Libraries in Cirencester, Dursley, Longlevens and Bishops Cleeve. Whilst many users were supportive, a complaint about this initiative had been received and it had been agreed to turn-off the music during the time of use of a Library by any complainant. Little support for this initiative was expressed by Parish Councillors and County Councillor Mrs J Nash was asked to investigate whether or not there were any plans to introduce background music to Stroud Library.

‘Caring with Confidence’ Course – Gloucestershire County Council is one of only twenty-four organizations to receive full Government funding to hold ‘Caring with Confidence’ courses. The courses are free to Carers over the age of 18 and the programme will offer support through meetings with other Carers or at home using workbooks and the Internet. Carers can receive transport costs and respite care whilst participating in the courses. Information on the courses is available on www.caringwithconfidence.net. Councillors agreed that this information should be published in Village Magazines.

09.6 9. **Matters for Discussion**

a) **Allocation of Capital Project Funds to Oakridge Pavilion**

The Chair of Oakridge Ward provided Councillors with a written report of the work required to complete the refurbishment of the away team changing rooms at Oakridge Pavilion. The work included tiling of the floor, some wall re-plastering, ceiling coving and enclosure of low-level pipes. Insufficient funds remained in the Ward precept to complete the work in the current financial year and the sum of £750.00 was requested from monies allocated to capital projects.

Councillors agreed that it would be preferable to complete the work now and Councillor L Greene proposed the immediate allocation of £750.00 from capital project funds. The proposal was seconded by Councillor P Bradley and carried unanimously.

b) County Highways Policy on Signage for Local Events

Councillors had studied the new guidelines issued by County Highways governing advertising signs for events. The primary issues were obtaining prior permission for placement of signs and restricted time limits for the placement and removal of signs. Whilst it was agreed that some publicity signs were placed too early and that others advertised events which were either outside of the Parish or not parish-related, signs for the main events were sensibly placed in positions that had been used for many years. It was agreed that Wards would advise the organisers of main annual events in Parish of the new County Highways Guidelines and that a copy of the Guidelines would be placed on the Parish website for the benefit of other organisations.

c) 'Wiggly Worm' Summer Project

The Parish had received further information from the CEO of 'The Wiggly Worm Ltd' concerning a proposed summer holiday cooking project for youngsters in the Parish. Councillors were advised that there had been some difficulty in arranging publicity for the event in Village Magazines and that it was already clear there would be less 'uptake' than originally envisaged. The likelihood was now for a 'pilot' 2-day event in Oakridge Village Hall this summer, with further events in school holiday periods leading to a full-week event in summer 2010.

To run the project there was a requirement to purchase cooking equipment and ingredients and there would be other costs for marketing and possibly video production. Whilst the Parish Council had previously given 'in principle' agreement to providing some support for the project, Councillors remained concerned about the arrangements and now limited size of the event. It was agreed that further information should be obtained before the Parish Council could quantify the financial support it was prepared to give to this excellent initiative. The Clerk was asked to obtain further details so that a decision could be reached at the Parish Council Meeting on 1 July.

d) Meeting with Representatives from the Neighbourhood Warden Scheme

The Clerk advised the Meeting that he had arranged for senior representatives from the Stroud District Council Neighbourhood Warden Scheme to come to the Parish Office on Tuesday 9 June at 2.00 pm to discuss providing a Warden Service in the Parish. It was agreed that 3 Councillors from the Parish would also attend this meeting.

e) Inclusion of the Bisley-with-Lypiatt Parish Plan on the GRCC Database

Following-on from the presentation given before the meeting by the Stroud Rural Adviser to GRCC, Councillors considered the merits of including the progression of actions on the Parish Plan on the GRCC Database. It was

agreed that a persuasive case had been made and that the concerns previously expressed by Councillors had been allayed. When put to the vote there was unanimous agreement that the Parish would contribute to the Database and that the Clerk would arrange to meet with GRCC to initiate this action.

09.6 10. **Finance**

Receipts May 2009

Bank Interest	£2.13
Allotment Rent	£105.00
Tennis Court Subscriptions	£150.00

Total Receipts **£257.13**

The following payments were approved by the Parish Council

	£	VAT	Total
ST Water Ltd –Oakridge Allotments	46.62		46.62
ST Water Ltd – Eastcombe Allotments	24.06		24.06
ST Water Ltd – Bisley Allotments	53.62		53.62
BT – Office Telephone	122.99	17.77	140.76
Oakridge Village Hall Hire – Tennis Court	20.40		20.40
D Richards – Maintenance Bisley	120.00		120.00
H M Prison Service – NOMS Team	500.00		500.00
Mole’s Services – Maintenance Oakridge	65.00		65.00
PCW Engraving – Tennis Court Plaque	50.00	7.50	57.50
D Holbrow – Maintenance Eastcombe	65.00		65.00
Clerk Salary – May 2009	736.18		736.18
HMRC – Tax/NI	320.77		320.77
Oakridge Village Hall Hire – AGM	16.30		16.30
OVHT – Water at Oakridge Pavilion	29.72		29.72
W Pankhurst Blacksmith – Maintenance at Oakridge	98.25		98.25
Totals	£2,268.91	£25.27	£2,294.18

Petty Cash Payments – May 2009 **£48.85**

Cash Balance as at 31 May 2009 **£27,854.97**

Bisley Lock-up Balance as at 31 May 2009	£2,137.25
Westbury Gift Balance as at 31 May 2009	£10,000.00
Parish Office Reserve as at 31 May 2009	£17,500.00
Bisley Pavilion Reserve as at 31 May 2009	£5,000.00

The Clerk highlighted the dramatic fall in the monthly interest received from deposits lodged with Lloyds TSB. This prompted a request from Councillors that the Clerk now investigate an alternative, secure deposit account which generated a better rate of return and that this should be with an 'ethical' provider.

09.6 11. **Planning**

The following Planning Applications have been received during the past month and the Planning Sub-Committees' responses are recorded.

Oakridge Ward

S.09/0833/HHOLD – View House, Oakridge Lynch – Alterations and extensions to existing building including new vehicular access - **Support/Comment** – We support the renovation of this cottage but we would like to see the existing reconstituted stone and the new extension lime rendered in a Cotswold colour. We support particularly the upgrading of the cottage to a more sustainable performance. We have no objection to the development of an entrance to provide on-site parking.

S.09/0681/HHOLD – Cherry Blossom Cottage, Oakridge Lynch – Enclosure of existing garden room – **Support/Comment** – We support the application. We would like to see the lime render on the east elevation infill panel in a Cotswold colour.

09.6 12. **Correspondence**

The following correspondence received during the past month was available for inspection by Councillors:

National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners	Initial Membership Pack, Information and Quarterly Magazine
Alzheimer's Society	Newsletter Summer 2009
Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association	Spring 2009 Newsletter
CPRE	'Fieldwork' Magazine June 2009

09.6 13. **Ward Matters**

α) Bisley Ward

Bisley Ward had no matters to raise that were not covered elsewhere in the Meeting.

b) Eastcombe Ward

The Clerk was asked to obtain detail and cost of a replacement salt/grit bin for the Ward. It was believed that appropriate bins were available from 'The Consortium' Company.

c) Oakridge Ward

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

09.6 14. **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Bisley WI Village Hall on Wednesday 1 July 2009 commencing at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2115hours.