

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH
COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH 2016 AT BISLEY WI
VILLAGE HALL**

Present	Mr Roger Utley	Chairman
	Shelagh Utley	} Bisley Ward
	Jane Walker	
	Mr R K Brooks	} Eastcombe Ward
	Peter Nairn	
	Rachel Wright	
	Roger Budgeon	} Oakridge Ward
	Mike Bell	
	Dennis Robbins	
	Mr P M Morris	Clerk

16.03 1. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence were received from John Mulligan and District Councillor Tim Williams.

16.03 2. **Declaration of Interests**
There were no declarations of interest.

16.03 3. **Public Participation**
Three members of the public were in attendance.

Q. With regard to Planning applications, how does the response Recommend differ from No Observations?

A. Chairman explained various approved responses available to Parish Council.

Q. Item 9c of last month's meeting refers to Internet Banking, please explain.

A. Lloyds Bank's Internet Banking System was not set up with the specific needs of a Parish Council in mind. The Chairman explained the different levels of access required by the Clerk and appointed Councillors to maintain the greatest level of security.

Q. Any further news on mast for improved mobile telephone signal?

A. The Government has withdrawn the funding for the planned mast at Rectory Farm. This project is not going ahead.

16.03 4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 3 February 2016**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 3 February 2016 having been circulated to all councillors were approved unanimously. The Chairman signed the Minute Book.

16.03 5. **Matters arising from the Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The Clerk reported on the progress made regarding online banking.

There was no progress to report on the proposal to update the Parish Website.

16.03 6. **Agree Parish Council response to the following Planning Applications**

a) S.15/2668/FUL

Property Address: The Banks, Eastcombe, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

Description: Replacement dwelling

Decision: 2 **Object**

Reasons / Comments: whilst we have no in principle objection to the new building we object strongly to the proposed access and garage position on the site. Access in the short term whilst the development is being constructed will be very difficult, but there is no proposal in the application to resolve the issue for the future. We suggest Highways are involved and a better proposal to enable easier more secure and safer, access is established.

b) S.16/0190/TCA

Property Address: Brittany, Wells Road, Eastcombe, Stroud

Description: T.1 Crab Apple - Prune to previous pruning points.

G.1 Ash Trees - Thin and reduce height of remaining trees by 2.5m.

Decision: 1 **No observations**

c) S.16/0208/HHOLD

Property Address: Springfield Cottage, Wells Road, Eastcombe, Stroud.

Description: Extensions and alterations to dwelling house and new shed

Decision: 1 **No observations**

d) S.15/2294/OUT

Property Address: Land Adjoining Laurel Cottage, Limekiln Lane, Waterlane, Oakridge

Description: Construction of single storey dwelling for persons over 55

Decision: 3 **Support**

Reasons / Comments: The Parish Council response to the appeal remains the same as its original response.
ie. This proposal is for a small bungalow within the centre of the settlement, as stated before there is a need for small houses within the villages.
We suggest a condition is applied that this house remains a bungalow

16. 03 7. **County Council Matters - (Councillor Jason Bullingham)**
Councillor Bullingham was not present, his report to the meeting is at Annex A to these Minutes.
Councillors expressed their disappointment that Councillor Jason Bullingham was once more unavailable to attend the meeting.

Councillor Bob Brooks had a particular issue to raise regarding the reclassification of a lane in Bismore which has been outstanding since 2014.

16. 03 8. **District Council Matters – (Councillor Tim Williams)**
Councillor Tim Williams apologised for his absence and his report to the meeting is at Annex B to these Minutes.

16. 03 9. **Matters for Discussion**

a) SDC Tree Tendering

Stroud District Council is currently in the process of tendering for suitably qualified contractors to carry out tree works and tree inspection on behalf of the Council. It is their intention to make this contract available to Town and Parish Councils within the district. SDC has been informed of average annual cost to the Parish of tree maintenance and a response is awaited.

b) Bisley & Oakridge Churchyard Grass Cutting

The contract was awarded to Graduate Gardeners who had submitted the most competitive quote.

c) Support for Eastcombe Business Directory

Councillors supported the proposal that a Business Directory should be produced for Eastcombe and hoped that the initiative would be extended to Bisley and Oakridge in due course. It was agreed that up to £300 of initial funding for the project would come from the Eastcombe Ward budget. If the cost exceeded this amount then Eastcombe Ward would submit a proposal to the Council for additional funding from the Admin budget.

d) Annual Insurance

It was agreed to renew the Annual Parish Insurance with AON UK Ltd who had submitted the most competitive quote.

e) Playground & Playing Field Report

Councillors felt that the Playground & Playing Field Reports produced by the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association (GPFA) added little to the formal Annual Safety reports provided to the Parish Council by an independent contractor and that many comments in the reports displayed a lack of understanding of local management practices. It was agreed unanimously that the Chairman was to write to the GPFA and inform them that further reports were not required.

16.03 10 Finance

Payments for March 2016

The following payments were approved by the Parish Council

Cost code	<u>Details</u>	£	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
4325	Eastcombe Pavilion – Cleaning	400.00		400.00
4030	CIX Online Ltd – Web Domain Registration	29.00	5.80	34.80
4020	B T - Telephone	112.84	22.57	135.41
4000	P Morris - Clerk's Salary	837.64		837.64
4000	HMRC – Tax & NI	244.90		244.90
4050	R H Attwood – Grass cutting	359.17		
4221	Playing Fields	30.00		
4250	Bisley Allotments	54.17		
4405	Teeds Rise	128.75		
4421	Oakridge Footpaths & Waterlane	60.00		
4400	Oakridge Allotments	62.50	138.92	833.51
4400	Oakridge Burial Ground			
4008	R Utley – Mileage	36.00		
4008	Printer Paper	12.50		48.50
4400	Chalford Building Supplies Ltd – Walling Stone	347.16	69.43	416.59
4261	Playground Services Ltd – Replace safety surface Van der Breen Street Slide	1,900.00	380.00	2,280.00
4201	K Harris – Bisley Pavilion cleaning	99.00		99.00
4200	Severn Trent Water – Bisley Pavilion	33.63		33.63
4025	AON UK Ltd. –Parish Insurance	1,366.61		1,366.61
4200	Npower – Bisley Pavilion	109.07	5.45	114.52
4222	Sam Kelly Tree Surgery Ltd – Bisley Allotments & Windyridge	460.00		460.00
	Totals	6,682.94	622.17	7,305.11

16. 03 11 **Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence had been received since the last meeting:

SDC Local Plan
Gloucestershire Chest Fund
Longfield Hospice Raffle Tickets
GAPTC AGM
Tower Mint
Clerks & Councils Direct

16. 03 12 **Ward Matters**

There were no Ward matters to report that were not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

15. 03 13 **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Bisley WI Village Hall on Wednesday **6 April 2016** commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

ANNEX A TO PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES MARCH 2016

County Councillor's Monthly Report - February 2016

Gloucestershire's Budget Set

Gloucestershire County Council has set its budget for 2016/17 including more money for roads, extra support for vulnerable children and investment into cycling schemes. The full council met on 17th February 2016 to agree the spending priorities for the next year.

Originally, the cabinet was proposing a budget of £417.98 million and a council tax increase of 3.99%, including a two per cent National Adult Social Levy. The levy is ring-fenced and will raise £4.7million to spend on adult social care services, things like residential or domiciliary care, carers support or support to keep people living in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. However the government announced an additional £2.4million for Gloucestershire and today members decided how that would be spent. Several amendments were put forward by the Conservative, Liberal Democrat and UKIP groups.

At the meeting it was agreed that:

- £2.075million extra would be spent on roads, including increasing Highways Local to £30k per member and £7,500 per member for additional road maintenance in their area
- £150k to invest in new cycling schemes from the Barriers to Cycling report
- £100k investment to pay for a designated Traffic Regulation Order officer to speed up the processes
- £50k to be match-funded with the district councils to look into air quality and pollution
- £50k to continue the free visits for all five year olds at Skillzone
- £25k investment into mental health support for children and young people
- £20k into support to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- £5k to provide free residents parking for all Band A electric vehicles for the first permit only

The council also agreed the previous proposals, which include £2million to recruit new social workers, investments into better broadband and continued focus on healthy and active communities. For an average Band D household the increase will be £43.51 per year or £3.63 per month.

The confirmed budget is £420 million for 2016/17:

- Adult services - £139million (inc help for people with learning disabilities, older people, vulnerable adults)
- National Adult Social Care Levy - £4.7million (ring fenced and can only be spent on adult social care inc residential and domiciliary care)
- Public Health - £26 million (ring-fenced grant, can't be used for other areas)
- Children & Families – £92 million (inc schools, youth support, children's centres, early years)
- Communities & Infrastructure - £81 million (inc highways, trading standards, libraries, fire service and waste)

Gloucestershire County Council has prioritised adult social care since it started its efficiency drive in 2010, which has so far delivered over £140m in savings.

Council Meeting Webcasts

The Council Meetings are now available for viewing via web casts. The link is :

<http://www.gloucestershire.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcasts>

Cllr. Jason Bullingham - **Phone** 01452 812037
Email: jason.bullingham@gloucestershire.gov.uk

ANNEX B TO PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES MARCH 2016

District Councillor's Monthly Report - March 2016

Parish Council Meeting March 2016

Notification from last month's actions:

- I have followed up with the council about the administrative errors SDC were causing. They have updated the records and didn't hold certain contact details on file so believe this could be the source of the problem. They have amended this matter so please tell me if the issue still persists.
- The planning issue No.S.15/2668/FUL - I understand the clerk highlighted the situation that additional time was allocated for members to submit their opinions.

Sarah's response is below:

"We received revised plans for this application and carried out revised consultations allowing a further ten days for responses in accordance with our normal procedures. I was then contacted by the Parish Council clerk as there had been insufficient time for them to add the revised plans to their agenda for the next meeting. As a result I contacted the agent and they have agreed to delay determination of the application until after the next Parish Council meeting. This will therefore allow ample time for any further representations."

Planning review panel

I have been contacted by a number of residents who are not happy with how the planning office conducts certain processes.

Specifically:

- Officers part time work hours mean that residents struggle to get the relevant answers in an amiable time
- How members discuss certain confidential information in the public spaces of SDC building – IE lobby.
- Revision of staff knowing when DCC meetings are.
- Officers being able to advise from a central database, the updates of the case. Otherwise the planning process is reliant on one member.
- public correspondence for planning matters must declare what interest they have which runs in conjunction with SDC chief exec David Hagg's need for the council to be transparent to all members of the Stroud District.

I am attending the planning review meeting to highlight my concerns, present my case and push for a change.

My question is whether any parish councillors have had any issues with planning they would like raised. I stress this is NOT the decisions they make, but rather the flaws in the process they follow.

Green waste Scheme

I have been contacted by Lesley Green about an alternative scheme – The Bisley Composting Scheme and asked her if she would maybe like to come along to this parish meeting and

meet to discuss it further.

I think it create a community spirit and just wanted to understand whether Oakridge or Eastcombe have something like that or do you share this service?

Additional business- only for members that are interested:

I do not know whether this is of interest to members of the parish Council and members of the public, but after the council meeting on the 25.2.16 I feel compelled to write to the chief executive on certain matters within the council.

My first point is the new council voting system. We no longer raise our hands to vote, but rather press buttons. The screen informs you how many council members have voted and which way they are voting as you cast your vote. I believe that we live in a culture of subconscious influences and strong power of persuasion. We see these things ever day in marketing and shops. This is a small point that I think should be amended in the interest of democracy and fairness.

However, my supplementary point on this system is when the vote is cast. The following colours depict which way each councillor voted.

YES- Green

NO- Red

ABSTAIN- Yellow

Whilst I am not easily led by these external factors I think that other people could view these colours in a conditioned way.

My second point was of far more importance- The relevance of the TTIP discussion that took place for over an hour. Members did raise the point that we are having a theoretical debate at the cost of the tax payer. Yes, issues like this should be discussed but NOT in the district council chamber when it was not what we were elected to do.

The first question to the proposer, Martin Whiteside, was- please help me understand 2 or 3 clear examples about how it will affect the district so we can all be informed of the relevance.

After some consideration, he provided one example in Argentina that had no relevance to the Stroud District. Which then saw a series of other councillors mention Quebec, Argentina (again), and other far away nations.

In my opinion it made a complete mockery of the council chamber and should not have been allowed to be debated any further than an acknowledgment at this time. If the proposer couldn't provide examples, then what was the purpose of him disrespectfully wasting all councillors, officers and admin staff's time with the motion?

Words like: If, maybe, could, perhaps, possibly, were being thrown. Cllr. Young asked- have you spoken to TTIP to which a casual rude remark was made about it being a process not a body. Cllr. Young then informed the proposer that she had contacted the board and proceeded to read out that consultation WOULD take place.

As such this rendered the mockery of a motion a fruitless exercise in throwing away tax payers money and achieved nothing other than getting a quote in the paper for the election.

- As you can probably tell, I left the council chamber absolutely appalled that someone would offer a motion so poorly prepared and ill thought out. I am raising this point as a resident as well as a Councillor and will be expressing this is my opinions and not the publicly consulted opinion of the ward. I know a vast amount of Councillors will be putting

the same thoughts forward in the next few weeks. SDC entertained the motion and as a result I want from them, specific details as to the relevance.

Included is some questions & answers that members may feel of interest. One of the questions is about the removal of the website builder - I would like to hear from parish Councillors as to if/ how this affects you?

Also, I am hoping to attend, but I am away with business and it will depend how quickly I can get back.

Timothy E R Williams

District Councillor of the Bisley Ward