

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY 5 JULY 2017 AT BISLEY WI VILLAGE HALL**

Present

Mike Bell		Chairman
Hazel Saunders	}	
Lesley Greene	}	Bisley Ward
Michael Garratt	}	
Hannah Hurst	}	
Bob Brooks	}	Eastcombe Ward
Jacqui Ayres	}	
Mike Eccott	}	
Peter Nairn	}	
Dennis Robbins	}	Oakridge Ward
Roger Budgeon	}	
Mr P M Morris		Clerk

In attendance	Keith Rippington	County Councillor
	Tim Williams	District Councillor

The meeting was opened by Vice Chairman Bob Brooks.
Mike Bell apologised for arriving late and took the Chair following item 3 on the Agenda.

17. 07 1. **Apologies for Absence**
There were no apologies for absence.
17. 07 2. **Declaration of Interests**
There were no declarations of interest.
17. 07 3. **Neighbourhood Warden**
Peter Tiley introduced himself as the Neighbourhood Warden and explained what his duties and responsibilities are. He was accompanied by a colleague, Rachel Pratt.
17. 07 4. **Public Participation**
Six members of the public were in attendance.
17. 07 5. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 6 June 2017**
The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 6 June 2017 having been circulated to all councillors were approved unanimously.

17. 07 6. **Matters arising from the Minutes of Previous Meetings**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

17. 07 7. **Agree Parish Council response to the following Planning Applications**

a) **S.17/1209/FUL**

Property Address: Land at the rear of Brockley, Eastcombe

Description: New dwelling

Decision: 2 **Object**

Reasons / Comments: The proposal would result in a very cramped form of development, with the dwelling occupying a large proportion of the plot, leaving minimal private amenity space. The parking spaces are shoehorned into the remaining space at the front of the dwelling, such that cars would be parked tight against the walls of the dwelling, blocking access to the front door. The development would have an unacceptable impact on the amenities of the adjacent dwelling 'Jullundun'-the west - facing elevation has three first floor windows overlooking the garden of Jullundun from a distance of 5 metres, which is well below the distance usually deemed acceptable by the Local Authority. The two gabled elevations, being effectively two - storey with a steeply-pitched roof form, would overshadow and have an overbearing impact on both Jullundun and the retained amenity space of the "host" dwelling Brockley. It is suggested that the plot is insufficiently large to accommodate anything other than a modest single-storey dwelling with a smaller footprint than that proposed, allowing adequate private amenities and parking space within the curtilage of the site.

b) **S.17/1205/T5DAY**

Property Address: Mullions, Dr Crouchs Rd., Eastcombe

Description: Sorbus T1 Fell

Decision: 1 **No observations**

c) **S.17/1297/HHOLD**

Property Address: Stonecrop Cottage, Oakridge Lynch, Stroud

Application withdrawn

d) **S.17/1284/FUL**

Property Address: Kirklands Calfway Lane Bisley GL67AT

Description: single storey dwelling

Decision: 4 **Comments only**

Reasons / Comments: tree & hedge survey desirable

e) **S.17/1161/HHOLD**

Property Address: 1 The Lindens, Eastcombe

Description: Garage conversion, addition of bedroom & veranda

Decision: 3 **Support**

17. 07 8. **County Council Matters - (Councillor Keith Rippington)**
Councillor Rippingtons report is at Annex A to these Minutes.

17. 07 9. **District Council Matters – (Councillor Tim Williams)**
Councillor Tim Williams report is at Annex B to these Minutes.

17. 07 10. **Matters for Discussion**

a) SDC Planning Meeting

The Chairman presented a report of the meeting with SDC planning officers and this is included at Annex C to these Minutes.

b) Parish Plan and Design Statement

It was agreed that each of the three Wards would appoint a working party to update the Village Design Statement.

c) Land at Lillyhorn Crossroads

Stroud District Council Planning Department had requested the Parish Council to comment on an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness regarding land at Lillyhorn crossroads. The following observations were agreed for submission.

Older residents of the parish remember this site as a market garden, many of us will remember the derelict greenhouse and sheds, however over recent years there has been little activity on the site and over the years the site has become a wildlife haven. There has been sporadic dumping on the site, and outside the entrance, Very recently there has been more activity and rebuilding of the sheds on the site.

d) Fly Tipping by Landlords

Several residents of Oakridge Lynch have raised concerns regarding the amount of rubbish being accumulated at a site adjacent to Lillyhorn Crossroads and the owner has been requested on several occasions to tidy up the area. There is an accumulation of building debris and cars and the Clerk was instructed to write to the owner and copy Stroud District Planning.

e) Bisley Pavilion

The Clerk was informed by the Cleaner that she had found the Pavilion to be left in an unsatisfactory state.

“Dirty cups left here and there, a large cake tin with cake remains left on the work top, there is still cake stuck in the carpet”.

The last official booking for the Pavilion had been for Bisley Cricket Club who denied being responsible when contacted by the Clerk.

Hazel Saunders reported that she had been informed that a lady living in Van der Breen Street had provided a key to two teenagers that wished to fill Balloons with water.

Since this event the cleaner has resigned and Bisley Ward are going to propose a way forward to ensure that unofficial access cannot be repeated.

f) Highways Customer Satisfaction Survey

It was agreed that the survey would be completed by individuals.

g) Cotswold Tree Wardens AGM

Lesley Greene presented a report from the Cotswold Tree Wardens AGM and a copy is included as Annex C to these Minutes.

h) SDC Dog Orders

It was agreed to accept the content of the SDC Dog Control Orders.

17. 07 11 **Finance**

Payments for July 2017

The following payments were approved by the Parish Council

Cost code	<u>Details</u>	£	VAT	Total
4070	Stroud District Council – Garage Rent - Direct Debit	65.47		65.47
4009	L Greene – attendance fee Cotswold Tree Wardens AGM	15.00		
4008	Mileage expenses	4.50		19.50
4320	I Trueman – Grass cutting Eastcombe	138.00		138.00
4000	P Morris - Clerk's Salary	873.35		873.35
4000	HMRC – Tax & NI	230.90		230.90
4050	R H Attwood – Grass cutting Playing Fields	359.17		
4221	Bisley Allotments	30.00		
4250	Teeds Rise	37.50		
4405	Oakridge Footpaths & Waterlane	128.75		
4421	Oakridge & Far Oakridge Allotments	60.00		
4400	Oakridge Burial Ground	62.50		
4405	Oakridge Fountain Piece	29.17		
4050	Strim Oakridge Play Area Soft Surface	52.50	151.92	911.51
4201	K Harris – Bisley Pavilion cleaning	72.00		72.00
4020	BT Broadband – Direct Debit	46.20	9.24	55.44
	Totals	2,205.01	161.16	2,366.17

17. 07 12 **Correspondence**

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

Clerks and Councils Direct

17. 07 13 **Ward Matters**

Eastcombe

Request for grant to replace goal posts from Eastcombe FC has been recommended for approval utilizing Ward Contingency Fund.

Oakridge

Little Sherwood - opinion requested on proposed planning application. Informed to submit planning application to Stroud District Council.

Bisley

Resident of Windyridge has approached Stroud District Council to donate land adjoining the Play Area for purpose of inclusion of further equipment.

17. 07 14 **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Bisley WI Village Hall on Wednesday **2 August 2017** commencing at 7.30pm.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

ANNEX A TO PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES July 2017

County Councillors Monthly Report – July 2017

Report delayed due to systems failure at GCC

ANNEX B TO PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES JULY 2017

District Councillor's Monthly Report – July 2017

New waste contract

We had a meeting with officers to discuss the new waste contract and how well it has been received over the last 10+ months. Some of the facts are:

1. The new system has been well received and the results are the best in the County.
2. The new system is over budget.
3. Communication with Ubico is difficult.

This is the one area of the Council's operation that impacts every resident and every resident has an opinion. There is a PowerPoint that I will be able to send around when I get it, to highlight our current progress.

The MSC costs the residents £2 per household per week, but of course that is the cost of the contract and I assume does not include officer's time.

It also makes us aware that Councils really cannot offer too many optional services any more. I think they need to work closer with Parish Councils. Where we get a better service at a lower cost than SDC pay. It would be better value for money.

Oakridge Park bin

I was approached by a resident who empties the litter bin in Oakridge Park but is now concerned that the bin is so rusted, it is in no longer fit for purpose.

I spoke with the council to understand if this is a district bin that we aren't emptying – something we should change -or whether it sits with yourselves, as the parish.

I was told there may be some spare bins at SDC so it would be good to see if we could have one of these FOC. I have followed up with Mark Graham and am waiting for him to confirm what bins are available and if we can have one.

Environmental committee- P.T.N

Recycling

The recycling bank service is currently provided within the council's new Multi Service Contract performed by Ubico Ltd. Service costs for the whole contract, exceeded the council's allocated budget by £275k in 2016/17 and is forecast to exceed the 2017/18 budget by £450k unless cost saving measures are implemented.

Prior to 1995, the recycling bank service was the only means of recycling within the district. As the kerbside recycling service has expanded, the bank service has reduced from 76 sites to 2 (Cainscross and Cam) and now represents only 1% of the council's recycling rate; the annual cost of maintaining the current service is £68,142.

These two sites for recycling points are now going to be removed too, saving the council

£17,000 Y1 and £56,000 for the subsequent years.

Appointment of members to groups

The Task and Finish Group recommended changes to the existing list of outside bodies and representatives after analysing the questionnaires. We have agreed to remove both the *Tyndale monument* and *Wessex water* from the outside body appointments that councillors will sit on. This doesn't mean they cannot be members of these groups, reports are just not submitted to the council under any official "Appointment".

Ebley hydro

The Ebley hydro project has been suspended. The turbines will be too small and slow to produce enough power to warrant further investigation. If SDC didn't have to rent the land around it things may be different but the commercials just don't add up.

Walking and cycling Plan

The Council has allocated a sum of £300,000 to a Stroud District cycling and walking plan. The profiling of the spending is geared to reflect the need to develop a plan/strategy prior to commissioning any capital works. Clearly £300,000 is not going to deliver the entirety of the routes identified but is already being promoted as match funding against a number of other funding opportunities (RDPE growth fund and GCC highway spend). The intention is that the plan is used to direct, prioritise and bid for funding over a number of years rather than solely being the conduit to spend the £300,000 currently in the budget.

Self-build Plan

We also gave approval to introduce the local connection and financial capability criteria for entry onto the Council's Self Build and Custom Housebuilding Register. A fee was introduced for new applicants to join as well as introduce an annual retention fee for the renewal of applications.

Local plan

The Stroud District Local Plan was 'highly commended' in the 2017 Royal Town Planning Institute South West Awards for Planning Excellence which took place last night in Bath. It comes just a week before the national awards in which the plan also features as a finalist.

Stroud services

Parking for using local financial services in Stroud is regulated by the County Council not District. In light of this, I am pursuing it with them and waiting for an answer. I followed up with CDC yesterday and am yet to hear anything so perhaps we can get Keith involved with this.

ANNEX C TO PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES JULY 2017

Cotswold Tree Warden Group AGM Saturday 17 June held at Miserden

REPORT

1. **Presentation on “Common Sense Risk Management of Trees” by David Lewis of the Royal Agricultural University addressed key issues including**
 - signs of failing trees, disease, cracking of ground etc.
 - failure caused by disease, poor pruning, root damage (laying cables etc.) , shallow soils, unexpected events (unusual wind)
 - look out for suspect trees by **regular** (3-5 years) inspections Informal inspections (tree Wardens) are important
 - Private Landowners are usually liable. Concerns should be flagged to them. Re roads every County Council is different re ownership and liability. A County can have what is called a ‘right of passage’ and can cut a dangerous tree down without permission then charge the owner
 - Legal case studies show that if regular inspections are undertaken then even if there is serious injury or death the owner is not likely to be liable for compensation.
 - National Tree Safety Group has a publication called ‘Common Sense Risk Management’
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2. **Discussion re Ash Dieback <https://www.forestry.gov.uk/ashdieback>**
 - It is a fungus. Gloucestershire is now badly affected – **it is here**. Gloucestershire, Yorkshire and Cumbria are ash dominated so dieback will have a major landscape impact. A FC report estimates that 30,000 new trees will need to be planted each year in each area to replace affected hedgerows alone.
 - The causes are mixed - import of infected trees from foreign nurseries, human travel (from infected sites to woodlands here), wind. Infection is also spread via leaf litter. (If leaves are composted aerobically that should kill off the virus – but the professionals still don’t really know!)
 - The ash is one of our most ecologically rich trees supporting 1058 species including 45 types of lichen some rare.
 - Symptoms – ‘cronos fingers’ (dead end branches), & unusually large leaves as the tree tries to combat cell death. Most people don’t notice until there is 70% leaf loss.
 - It will be a MAJOR problem as trees die, lose branches, and eventually have to be felled. It will have a serious knock on effect on other trees as the ash will succumb to other infectious diseases, infecting other tree species, before it finally dies
 - Uses for the diseased wood were discussed. Miserden Estate now has a biomass set up.
 - Replacement guidance is still very sketchy – alder, rowan, sycamore. There is some evidence that some trees could be genetically immune
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3. **Parks and gardens: Listing by Heritage England, presentation by Anna Jones Chair of the GGLT**

- Listing happens because parks and gardens are especially fragile.
- A listed site is a Planning consideration.
- The listing is a 'celebratory' protection, it is not statutory
- In Gloucestershire The Gardens and Landscape Trust researches gardens and parks and recommends listing if they are threatened
- Local listings automatically go on the Archaeology Register at County Records office
- There are 200 Gloucestershire listings of importance monitored by the Gloucestershire Gardens and Landscape Trust
- Quality of **Design** is the most important criteria for a listing
- Misarden Park Gardens is Grade II*
- Stancombe Park near Dursley is Stroud District's only Grade I listed park

A guided walk around the Misarden Estate to further explain the issues followed both presentations and the discussion.

It was a fascinating and informative day.

Lesley Greene