

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH AT BISLEY WI VILLAGE HALL**

Present	Mike Bell		Chairman
	Lesley Greene	}	
	Hazel Saunders	}	Bisley Ward
	Dave Partridge	}	
	Mr R Brooks	}	
	Mike Eccott	}	Eastcombe Ward
	Scott Sissons	}	
	Roger Budgeon	}	
	Dennis Robbins	}	Oakridge Ward
	Rod Simcox	}	
	Mrs D Meredith		Clerk

- 6.3 1. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Keith Rippington, Parish Councillors Martin Brown and Jenny Exley.
- 6.3 2. **Declaration of Interests**
Expenses payments for authorisation – Lesley Greene.
- 6.3 3. **Approval of the Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 6th February**
Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 6th February 2019 having been circulated to all councillors were approved unanimously.
- 6.3 4. **Matters arising from the Minutes of Previous Meetings**
No matters arising.
- 6.3 5. **Public Participation** – Members of the public are invited to address the Council.
A member of the public informed the meeting that the brewery is hoping to conclude an arrangement for a new landlord to take over the Butcher’s Arms, Oakridge at the end of March or in April.
- 6.3 6. **Agree Parish Council response to the following Planning Applications**
- a) **S.19/0134/HHOLD** - 2 Hampstead Buildings, Cheltenham Road, Bisley – **Retrospective objection** - The proposed extension has an excessively dominating footprint out of all proportion to the original terrace. It is not in line with the neighbouring cottages on either side and therefore spoils the line of the original terrace. It is out of keeping with this traditional terrace and would appear to intrude too closely potentially creating problems for the rear footpath serving all the terrace properties. We have concerns that the applicant has not carried out an impact assessment of light being blocked by the extension onto the neighbouring properties. We also have concerns that the Planning Office appears not to have been consulted for pre-application advice.
 - b) **S.19/0091/HHOLD** - Springbank House, Tunley, Sapperton – **Clerk to request an extension**

- c) **S.19/0231/HHOLD** – Seaview, The Broadway, Oakridge Lynch – **Comments only** - We have no objection in principle to the application but find the proposed highway facing cladding visually inconsistent with the rest of the building and the surrounding buildings.
- d) **S.19/0346/TCA** - Brattons, Far Wells Road, Bisley – **Comments only** - Please check for nesting birds. Natural England recommends that the bird nesting season is February to August. RSPB guidance is no felling or vegetation work in this period.
- e) **S.19/0376/TCA** - Bisley Blue Coat Church Of England Primary School, School Road – **Comments only** - Please check for nesting birds. Natural England recommends that the bird nesting season is February to August. RSPB guidance is no felling or vegetation work in this period.
- f) **S.19/0334/HHOLD** - Covie, Oakridge Lynch – **Support** - We see no reason not to support this application.

6.3 7. **County Council Matters - Councillor Keith Rippington**

The Council asked the Clerk to arrange a card for Councillor Rippington.

6.3 8. **District Council Matters – (Councillor Tim Williams)**

To receive a report from District Councillor Tim Williams Annex A – the Chairman read this out for the members of the public. Bob Brooks queried the maintenance of the Cotswolds.org website now that the Subscription Rooms have been sold which is currently the location for the Tourist Information in Stroud. Councillor Williams stated that Stroud District Council has an events page but will investigate. Lesley Greene raised the issue regarding Windyridge Play area. Councillor Williams confirmed that Stroud District Council would like a site visit and encouraged Bisley Ward to be present.

6.3 9. **Matters for discussion**

- a) **Ward Meetings - amendments to the Standing Orders – Hazel Saunders** As discussed at the last Parish Council meeting – this item arose because Bisley was the only Ward having formal Ward meetings with a published agenda, open to the public and with minutes produced. The Ward felt this was onerous and lacking flexibility. Due to the variety of ways of communication available and that all decisions are transparent at the full PC meeting the Council unanimously agreed to amend the Standing Orders section 1.92 to read ‘the chairman of the Ward Committee may convene Ward meetings at any time.’
- b) **State of Health update – Rod Simcox** – On 22nd February Rod Simcox explained that he was told his health will worsen for a while at least. Therefore, very much sooner than expected, he resigned his position at this meeting. He does hope to be supportive as an engaged resident in the future. He stated that he is very sad to leave and is fond of the Council. The Chairman thanked Rod for his efforts and the whole Council agreed. The Clerk is to publish a vacancy on the noticeboards and on the website.
- c) **NDP/VDS including climate change – Mike Eccott/Lesley Greene** – Mike Eccott reported on a meeting at Chalford Parish Council he attended with the Clerk on how they started to produce an NDP in 2013, but then came to the conclusion that this was not the right vehicle for their Council. An NDP defines where you want development in your Parish boundaries and as their settlement boundaries showed there was not a lot of suitable space and as an NDP is mandatory, they decided to produce a design statement instead. They kindly gave us samples of the almost completed version which Stroud District Council are impressed with. Mike Eccott stated this is much more in line with our VDS than an NDP would be. Whilst it is not as weighty as an NDP it can be adopted by Stroud District Council. Lesley Greene

asked if Chalford used a consultant which Mike Eccott confirmed they did initially. The Clerk confirmed enquiring at Horsley Parish Council as to their procedure and that as a result she had received an offer of consultancy which council agreed to politely decline. Lesley Greene suggested that within any planning document that we proceed with, eg VDS, planning statements, climate change and Stroud District Council's position needs to be considered within it and we could be unique in leading from that perspective. We have already flagged the rural nature of our parish which is different from the urban approach to development elsewhere in the district. Roger Budgeon supports this and stated that this should extend to the processes where we spend and operate as a Parish Council eg production of local food, energy loss reduction, traffic slowing. We can do more and integrate this solidly within the policies we pursue. Things such as wildlife corridors make up to the contribution in partnership with Stroud District Council as requested by them.

- d) **Oakridge – Hanging slider – Clerk to update** – a decision was made to take away the bar and hanging slider and leave platforms at the moment to make the slider safe for now. A consultation about its replacement is to follow.
- e) **Bussage and Eastcombe Ward boundaries – Bob Brooks** – went through the proposed boundary changes. There were 3 anomalies – the boundary passing through Aberlink, the inclusion of part of Stonecote Ridge and cutting through Thomas Keble playing field. Bob Brooks stated that Aberlink should stay in Eastcombe, as should the Vatch. The older dwellings on the Ridge are to stay in Eastcombe as should Manor Farm but move the boundary more towards Chalford including non-developed land belonging to the farm. Stonecote Ridge was not part of original plans as it was previously part of Thomas Keble playing fields. Eastcombe Ward don't object to Stonecote Ridge being included in Chalford Parish Council, however some residents have expressed concern at this. Bob Brooks advised them to submit feedback to Stroud District Council. The end of Thomas Keble field should be totally in Eastcombe. On Middle Hill currently most houses are in Chalford parish and the Ward feels should be included in Eastcombe not Chalford. Eastcombe is a separate community and has a long history and is part of Bisley-with-Lypiatt Parish. Bob Brooks proposed this feedback is issued to Stroud District Council SDC via a letter. This was carried. Hazel Saunders queried the issue of street lighting which starts at Middle Hill. Bob Brooks said the few lights at Vatch and the Ridge were to remain. Lesley Greene queried the loss of precept for this area said loss of precept for 30 houses, but Bob Brooks said the newer development at Woodland Close has increased it, but he suggested a house count.
- f) **Request to provide a replacement hardwood memorial bench, Oakridge – Clerk** - The Clerk explained that she had received an email request for the Parish Council to replace a memorial bench to an ex councillor in Far Oakridge. The Chairman said the difficulty is that more councillors might warrant a memorial seat and he doesn't feel the Council should set a precedent on this. Roger Budgeon thinks we were asked for permission for a bench to be placed in situ and agreed, but didn't purchase said bench. The Chairman asked how many years the councillor had served and how the bench was paid for and Hazel Saunders asked the Clerk if there were records. She is to check.

6.3 10. **Finance:**

Approve payments of account – Council approved accounts but asked the Clerk to confirm who is responsible for cutting the grass at Stonecote Ridge.

March Payments 2019					
The following payments were approved by the Parish Council					
Cost code	Details	Pymt Method	£	VAT	Total
4070	Stroud District Council – Garage Rent	D/D	53.95	10.79	64.74
4000	D Meredith – Clerk's salary for February	S/O	1065.06		1065.06
	Clerk's expenses for February				
4002	Clerk's mileage/expenses		7.20		
4004	Office rent December	003931	20.00		27.20
4000	HMRC – Tax & NI for February (Deborah Meredith)	003932	173.24		173.24
4001	Clerk's Pension for February - LGPS	D/D	378.29		378.29
4040	GAPTC Annual Subscription	003917	615.36		615.36
	R H Attwood – Grass cutting				
4050	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		
4403	Strim Oakridge Play Area Soft Surface	003918	17.50	144.92	869.51
4220	Waterplus - Bisley Chestergate allotments	D/D	13.05		13.05
	CR Signs - Play area signage (Feb payment cheque cancelled)				
4261	Play area - Van Der Breen Street		20.00		
4263	Play area - Windyridge		20.00		
4310	Play area - Eastcombe		20.00		
4446	Play area - Oakridge	003919	20.00	16.00	96.00
4020	BT Business	D/D	249.26	49.85	299.11
4401	Adrian Montague - Oakridge walling	003920	1673.69		1673.69
4320	Chalford Parish Council - Strimming at Fourways	003921	45.00		45.00
4030	CIX Online Services - Domain registration	003922	29.00	5.80	34.80
4325	Eastcombe Pavilion Committee - cleaning	003923	500.00		500.00
	GAPTC training on Pear Technology				
4009	Councillor training		20.00		
4005	Clerk training	003924	10.00		30.00
4008	Lesley Greene - expenses (reissued, cheque cancelled)	003925	21.25		21.25
4201	Homefree - Bisley Pavilion cleaning	003926	31.00		31.00
4315	Waterplus - Eastcombe allotments 7000884201	003927	501.24		501.24
4315	Waterplus - Eastcombe allotments 7000884176	D/D	20.68		20.68
4410	Waterplus - Oakridge Village Allotments 7001000952	D/D	28.31		28.31
4410	Waterplus - Far Oakridge Allotments 7001000929	D/D	32.97		32.97
4010	Petty Cash	003928	50.00		50.00
9023	Oakleigh Joinery - Pavilion windows	003929	6553.39	1310.68	7864.07
4120	Tennis Court key code tags	003930	17.00	2.80	19.80
Totals			12913.53	1540.84	14454.37

6.3 11. Correspondence – Clerk to report

Magazines distributed. The Clerk reported a quote for replacement yew trees at The Bisley Community Tennis Court. The Clerk made available documents from The Pear Technology course attended. Chairman asked the Clerk to investigate the licence situation.

6.3 13. Ward Reports – Ward Chairmen to report on Ward matters

Oakridge Ward – nothing to report.

Eastcombe Ward – nothing to report.

Bisley Ward – Hazel Saunders informed the meeting that the Pavilion windows are currently being installed. She informed the meeting that Highways are responsible for a very poor pruning on a sycamore outside the telephone exchange and that she will raise it at the Highways meeting. Lesley Greene has asked for a letter to go to the contractor. Dave Partridge said the workers contradicted themselves on the progress of the job when half the tree was cut. Lesley Greene reminded the meeting that it International Compost Week is 5-11 May.

6.3 **14. Date of Next Meeting –**

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Bisley WI Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 commencing at 7.30pm following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:20pm.

Good evening Parish Councillors,

Council Tax

The Localism Act 2011 requires the billing authority to calculate a Council Tax requirement for the year. The figures have been compiled on the basis of a model resolution drafted by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), as amended by the Localism Act 2011.

It should be noted, as below, SDC only takes a small proportion of the council tax.

Precepting Body	2018/19 Band D (£)	2019/20 Band D (£)	% increase
Gloucestershire County Council	1,232.21	1,293.70	4.99%
Gloucestershire Police & Crime Commissioner	226.49	250.49	10.60%
Stroud District Council	201.50	207.52	2.99%
Average parish / town council	83.52	88.47	5.93%
Total average tax at Band D	1,743.72	1,840.18	5.53%

I did not support this motion. I think the council tax increases are not being seen in the wards.

Recycling collections

I received a letter from a resident who was being asked to fund their own replacement bins even though they knew that the damage was caused by UBICO. Working with Rita Coltman, new to SDC but already being supportive of local issues, we delivered new bins FOC.

Further to that, Rita went out and shadowed the bin collections to ensure they were doing the job correctly and to show that the quality of service expected can't be relaxed because they think no one is observing their behaviour.

They provided this feedback to myself and Rita:

"Today, after the collection round, our street was the cleanest it's ever been. Also, you will be pleased to note that it was the quietest round we've experienced - for a very long time. Perhaps because the boxes were not thrown about.

We hope that the collectors are receiving good support and that they will be notified our gratitude for their effort in this regard. We do not 'hate' the collectors and we know they have a tough job.

But, all this positive change has come about due to your proactive actions. Your politeness and professionalism has not gone un-noticed"

If residents of the Bisley ward do have an issue with Bin collection – whatever it relates to, they can let myself or Rita know who will come out to observe the behaviour first hand.

Vandalism cost SDC over £2,500

You may have seen that environmental activists have vandalised SDC offices and some of the council owned buildings around Stroud.

I am not sure what they hoped to achieve from this, but this criminal activity cost us, Stroud District residents, £2,500. This money could have been put towards the very cause they were protesting about or alternatively, many of the other causes that our ever-increasing council tax is having to supplement.

Further demonstrations took place in the County Council offices where protestors went to pull the Chairman out of his seat and were removed by police-disgusting behaviour.

To lower yourself to criminal acts for attention is such a short-sighted, pointless, endeavour. It is rather poetic when you consider the environmental impact of several police cars from Gloucester and Stroud, additional use of water/power to clean graffiti off the walls and the use of council vans traveling around Stroud cleaning up after these vandals.

All the best.

Tim