

**MINUTES OF THE REMOTE MEETING OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 4 AUGUST 2021 AT BISLEY VILLAGE HALL**

Present			
	Chairman	Mike Eccott	ME
	Bisley Ward	Martin Brown	MB
		Hazel Saunders	HS
	Eastcombe Ward	Jenny Exley	JE
		Louie Wilkes	LW
	Oakridge Ward	Roger Budgeon	RB
		Dennis Robbins	DR
		Tony Martin	TM
	Clerk	Mrs D Meredith	
	District Councillor	Martin Brown	MB

1. Apologies for Absence

County Councillor Sue Williams, Parish Councillors Lesley Greene and Dave Partridge.

2. Declaration of Interests

None received. ME has a planning application for review on the agenda.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 7 July 2021

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

4. Matters and actions arising from the Minutes not otherwise covered in this agenda

The BISCAN grant agreed in the June meeting which was deferred due to a lack of bank account has been requested by MB as a bank account has now been set up. This payment is not on the payments list but the cheque is written. Approval given for the cheque to be signed.

RB informed the meeting that Pat Carrick, chairman of this council until 2003, had passed away. She worked hard for the Parish and the public and worked on the first Parish appraisal and plan. The Parish Council wishes to recognise her works and The Chairman suggested a memorial bench which RB agreed and which could be sited at Cherry Piece.

5. Public Participation – 3 members of the public were in attendance.

The Chairman reminded members of the public of the procedure for speaking.

One member of the public asked about the Parish Council's views on cutting verges. The Chairman informed the speaker of the Parish Council policy which is on the website and which they encourage the public to follow, however this is not something that can be enforced. RB stated that County Council also cut verges later now and JE confirmed this is a once a year. Verges are, however, cut for safety reasons where required.

A second member of the public spoke regarding her complaint about a Parish Councillor. It is understood that she has put this in writing to Stroud District Council's Monitoring Officer. It is understood that the complaint has gone to an independent person for assessment. In response the Chairman explained that no further comment can be given whilst awaiting a conclusion from the Monitoring Officer.

The Chairman asked the third member of the public to introduce herself. She is Penny Starr and is assisting the Clerk on a probationary period doing 5 hours administrative work per week for 3 months. She also works for Chalford Parish Council and ChalCAN and thanked the Parish Council for their work in the community.

6. **County Council Matters** – County Councillor Sue Williams produced a report which the Clerk distributed and is in **Annex A** to these minutes.

7. **District Council Matters – distribute a report from District Councillor Martin Brown – see Annex B.** MB hopes people have read his notes circulated before the meeting. Mentioned therein are business grants available from SDC, the holiday and food programme for children on free school meals and the boundary commission proposed changes which SDC largely support. However, they do mention this parish and mildly object to us being removed. He informed the meeting that the council offices are opening gradually, with appointments preferred. The TPO request at St Mary's received a unanimous vote to support the application across all parties. LG gave an articulate defence of the trees for the application. A recent case of the waste burning in Bisley resulting in a fine - SDC encourages people to report such things and also illegal waste storage. He reminded council that the September meeting will be attended by the CEO, Kathy O'Leary starting with a Ward walk at 5pm and he asked for questions. The Chairman asked MB to bring pressure to bear on the situation in Eastcombe regarding a dog bin siting and collection issues around it. The Clerk read out an interim response received prior to the meeting that day stated that it will currently be emptied fortnightly by the rubbish waste team. JE requested a Ward walk around Eastcombe with Kathy O'Leary and would like to meet her.

8. **Agree Parish Council response to the following Planning Applications**

- a) **S.21/1538/TCA – Retrospective support - The Old Mansion, Far Wells Road, Bisley** Sycamore x 2 and Elm x 2 – Fell. Already permitted prior to meeting and replanting taking place.
- b) **S.21/1796/FUL - Unit 1A, 1B And 2, Parlour Farm, Bisley Road, Stancombe -** Change of use & conversion of light industrial units to three dwelling houses with associated curtilages, erection of cycle storage, landscaping & associated works. Comments only regarding insulation issues/renewables/tree planting/lighting/traffic.
- c) **S.21/1655/HHOLD - Extension requested - Field House, Fidges Lane, Eastcombe** - Erection of single storey side extension. Extension applied for but decision made already, but JE would support anyway.

- d) **S.21/1657/HHOLD - Cedarwood House, Eastcombe - Erection of new garage.**
Object.
- e) **S.21/1715/FUL - Extension requested - Land At, Middle Hill, Eastcombe -**
Construction of agricultural building. Support.
- f) **S.21/1737/NEWTPO - Application by PC. Thomas Keble School -** New TPO request on mature trees on the green space to the front of Thomas Keble School. Support.
- g) **S.21/1770/LBC - Brotherstones, Eastcombe - Replacement front door with composite door.** Deferred to last as the application is by the Chair. HS took the chair and asked JE for comments. Support.
- h) **S.21/1805/TCA - Land Opposite Driveway Of Woodview Cottage, Bismore, - T1 Ash - ash dieback, Fell.** JE stated she has stepped down from TCAs as the SDC officer makes his own decisions. The Chairman reminded the council that at the last meeting it was decided that we would still comment on TCAs.
- i) **S.21/1333/DISCON - Land At The Folly, Oakridge Lynch, Stroud, Gloucestershire -** Details approved in compliance with Condition 7. Just discharge of conditions that were applied and have been met.

**PLANNING APPLICATION DISCUSSION ONLY REQUIRED IF COUNCIL MEMBERS
DO NOT AGREE WITH THE DECISION/COMMENTS CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THE
MEETING**

9. Matters for discussion

- a) **Bench funding at Cherry Piece – RB** has received a letter asking for permission and contribution for a bench there as the area is being recovered. Item links back to item 4 on the agenda. An additional bench is required to replace a vandalised one at Oakridge playing fields and also Far Oakridge. ***Clerk to enquire about discounts for 3.*** RB requested that the Clerk sends a response to the letter saying that we would be prepared to purchase a bench, but with a plaque on it commemorating Pat Carrick. JE asked about progress on a memorial bench in Eastcombe village green requested by a family and asked the ***Clerk to suggest the same oak bench to the family.***
- b) **Replacement bench by swings in Oakridge – RB** - ME stated this item was also covered in 9a).
- c) **Code of conduct refresh – Clerk** – The Monitoring Officer has suggested a review of the Code of Conduct, but stressed that this is not a requirement. The Clerk asked for a working party on this. The ***Chair of each Ward to look at this and take forward next month.***
- d) **Update from Parish Office group – HS** - This was prompted by the Court House, Bisley being for sale and it was agreed that a small working party would look at the feasibility of its purchase. The Clerk, LW and HS had a viewing and felt the downstairs would make a nice parish office with little work. The upstairs could possibly be converted into a one bed flat. There is a possibility that we could borrow money over 50 years as a Parish Council and are permitted up to £500k. If this was viable to cover the loan the residential accommodation could be let. It is unlikely that we could move to secure these premises in timescales required. The Clerk TM and HS also met but LW was away and discussed whether it is

desirable or necessary to have a parish office. HS suggests that the working group could keep going and examines other possibilities. The Chairman is keen that this happens as it explores other solutions including doing nothing. Chalford has a good parish office where there is local info, helpful staff and that facility would be a benefit to this parish. A disadvantage of the Court House is the lack of parking. JE and MB like the idea of a community centre and bringing back the building into public ownership. Financial practicalities are that this should only be done if it pays for itself and the precept should not be raised. LW asked about the repayments and HS felt the flat would pay for them. TM shared the sentiments of a facility within the community, but has reservations as the capital sum is high and it needs a fully worked appraisal put to the community for consultation. HS said this is the case before the Secretary of State would consider it. JE asked if about disabled access. HS said it is level.

- e) **Lock-up repairs – MB** – The building needs re-pointing between the coping stones to stop internal damp. Two quotes have been received, Nick Miles £832, Jake Etherton £520 (or less without scaffolding). A third quote couldn't be obtained. Proposal is to ask Jake Etherton to take the job. ***MB is to obtain timescales for the job.*** The Clerk reminded MB that there is an Ear Marked Reserve for maintaining the Lock Up.
- f) **Tree Planting to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – ME** - Eastcombe WI have asked if the Parish Council have any intentions to celebrate this milestone by planting trees. They have stated that they would like to contribute to anything we are planning to do. The Chairman asked if the other Wards had thought about this and where they could be sited. Eastcombe has very little public space to take a large tree but JE would love an atlas cedar somewhere. Following a suggestion from the Chairman about the space where one blew down on the green a few years ago JE stated that the general view of residents prefers the current open space and trees need to be planted in the winter. HS suggested an oak on the perimeter of the playing field in Bisley. Council is to allocate a budget to this.
- g) **Electric charging points in villages – MB** - Prompted by GCC passing a motion for funds for the creation of a charging network of 2 dedicated charging spots in parishes for residents unable to charge vehicles at home. Physical sites in Bisley could be the car park at KGV which the Parish Council owns and The Bear Inn car park which is privately owned. He asked if sites could be identified around Eastcombe and Oakridge. This is to be administered by Rachel Brain at SDC. GCC is putting up the money to supply the points. Also there is revenue for hosting with SDC and electric supplier costs too. Painswick has points in a District owned car park. TM stated if you want fast charge points then the grid will want a sum for it. RB informed the meeting that the supply would have to be upgraded at the pavilion with costs associated. JE said we haven't got any public car parks in Eastcombe, only The Lamb Inn which is a busy, tenanted pub. Suggestion is feed back to SDC that Bisley is provisionally interested and tentatively proposes the car park and find out the next stage. The Chairman stated that a lot more information is required, but in agrees in principle.
- h) **NDP update – TM** - Please see Annex C. TM Reports that we should be at the stage of getting more public meetings and working groups to promote work on

the NDP, however at the NDP Steering Group meeting a few weeks ago and following consultation with non-attending members of the group, he asks for a hold on further development. JE didn't attend but feels momentum is there and it should continue. The Chairman feels the suggestion is to not progress her landscape appraisal as a formal document until we know what the government decides there planning policy will be and suggests Eastcombe has a ward meeting to tackle the issue. This agenda item is to approve stopping work on the NDP. TM stated some monies could be available from a grant application for this year but is unsure whether it has to be consecutively applied for from Locality - ***Clerk to investigate.*** LW queried the timeframes required with regard to the White Paper as there is a legal requirement to consult widely, MB felt would not be during this parliamentary session. ***The Chairman asked TM to produce a list of tasks to be done and allocate to the Steering Group.*** A hold until the next meeting was agreed.

- i) **Allotments public liability insurance and allotment initiative reserve- Clerk/LG** – a suggestion to set up an allotment initiative reserve has been made – this was agreed. The Clerk informed the meeting that we are about to renew allotment tenancies across the parish and be consulting for the public liability insurance costs to be passed on. TM suggested we just pass on to insurance renewal costs of approximately £2.50 which was agreed. ***Clerk to set up a new EMR.***
- j) **Replacement of 'Wobbly Bridge' in Vanderbreen St Play Area – HS** – 2 quotes have been received and whilst awaiting the 3rd the item will be deferred.
- k) **Replacement of Bisley noticeboard – Clerk** – has obtained a quote from an approved supplier but ***is to obtain 2 more.***

10. Finance –

- a) Approve monthly payments of account (*details to be circulated*) – carried.

August Payments 2021		Payment	£	VAT	Total	Paid?
The following payments were approved by the Parish Council						
Cost code	Details					
4070	Stroud District Council – Garage Rent	D/D	57.59	11.52	69.11	y
4000	D Meredith – Clerk's salary for July (new tax code)	S/O	1144.54		1144.54	y
	Clerk's expenses for July					
4002	Clerk's mileage/expenses		8.05			
4004	Office rent	004317	26.00		34.05	n
4000	HMRC – Tax & NI for July - (new tax code)	004318	178.91		178.91	n
4001	LGPS - Clerk's Pension for July	D/D	372.13		372.13	y
4000	Penny Starr - Assistant administration	4319	100.00		100.00	n
	R H Attwood – Grass cutting invoice 5026					
4050	Playing Fields		455.00			
4250	Teeds Rise		37.50			
4221	Bisley Allotments		32.50			
4215	George Street Bisley		10.00			
4265	Bisley play areas box mow		73.33			
4400	Oakridge Burial Ground		80.00			
4405	Oakridge Footpaths and greens		105.00			
4421	Oakridge & Far Oakridge Allotments		32.50			
4406	Oakridge Fountain Piece		23.33			
4407	Strim Oakridge Play Area Soft Surface	004320	20.00	173.83	1042.99	n
4326	Marsh Commercial - Eastcombe pavilion insurance	Card	802.92		802.92	y
4015	Graduate Gardeners - Bisley Church yard	004321	640.00	128.00	768.00	n
4016	Graduate Gardeners - Oakridge Church yard	004322	420.00	84.00	504.00	n
4075	Town and Parish Council Websites - additional access	004323	40.00		40.00	n
4116	Arbvision - Bisley copse maintenance	004324	90.00		90.00	n
4075	Zoom - software	D/D	11.99	2.40	14.39	y
4315	Waterplus INV05114882 - Eastcombe allotments	D/D	7.95		7.95	y
4315	Waterplus INV04982263 - billing correction, taken 17th June	D/D	8.16		8.16	y
4315	Waterplus INV05153781 Eastcombe allotments	D/D	58.44		58.44	y
4220	Waterplus INV05151206 Bisley allotments	D/D	49.12		49.12	y
4410	Waterplus INV05153155 - Oakridge allotments	D/D	58.45		58.45	y
4460	Waterplus INV04975523 - billing correction, taken 17th June	D/D	25.86		25.86	y
4200	E-on - KGV pavilion electricity	D/D	111.21	5.56	116.77	y
4040	CPRE membership	004325	36.00		36.00	n
4010	Eastcombe stores - card	Card	2.00		2.00	y
4038	Post office - postage	Card	1.83		1.83	y
4038	Post office - stamps	Card	15.84		15.84	y
4038	Post office - postage	Card	1.83		1.83	y
Totals			5137.98	405.31	5543.29	

11. Correspondence – Clerk to report – magazines distributed.

12. Ward reports –

Bisley – storage shed siting close to the car park. The Ward met with residents in their gardens and as it would interrupt their view of the field, they are not happy. Other possible sites were discussed and it was agreed against the wall of the pavilion which wouldn't affect anyone. Also possible use of the store part of the pavilion which is currently used by the football club for storage but causes difficulties when reading the electricity meters. The Chairman asked the Ward to resolve this. The

flooring in the pavilion had asbestos in it, which was removed and the uplift of remaining flooring and bathroom goods were uplifted this evening.

BisCAN are attending events at the flower shows in the villages.

Eastcombe – ME requested that DR meets him to discuss shed siting. Agreed.

There is a gathering at 3pm on Saturday 13th August at Bisley Allotments.

Oakridge – DR asked about locks for the sheds – Clerk to purchase a combination lock on a strap.

13. Date/location/format of Next Meeting – Chair.

Next full Parish Council meeting is at 7:30pm on 1st September at Bisley Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 9pm.

Annex A to the minutes.

It has been a really busy month for County Councillors as we return to holding meetings in a socially distanced council chamber although I understand “Full Council” (which can also be viewed on-line) continue to be held in the large tennis centre in Gloucester.

£9.5 MILLION Special School to be built in Brockworth

Work to build a new special school has got underway

The new school in Mill Lane is due to open in 2022 and will provide 75 places for children aged 11-16

Build Back Better Councillor Scheme

The Build Back Better - Councillor Scheme is a grant fund open to community groups across Gloucestershire. Over £2.2 million is available to be spent on projects to support the county’s recovery from the Coivd-19 pandemic and to build back better and stronger

Each County Councillor has £40,000 to spend in their community over the next four years. The scheme is open to a wide range of groups and projects including in areas such as:

- nature and the environment • physical and mental wellbeing
- digital inclusion • building connections and improving neighbourhoods.

The scheme is not limited to these themes though, and all applications supported by the local Councillor will be funded. We will accept applications from community and voluntary organisations, charities, community interest companies, town and parish councils, sports groups and other not for profit groups. This is a rolling grants fund which will run from 30th July 2021 until January 2025. All applications must be supported by a local County Councillor.

More information on the fund can be found at:

<https://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/build-back-better-councillor-scheme/> Alternatively, you can email Buildbackbetter@goucestershire.gov.uk

Council Funding additional Wellbeing for School Staff

The county council is giving all schools, academies, MAT's and independents in the county, free access to specialist support to look after their staff wellbeing over the next twelve months.

We recognise what a challenging time this is for schools and for all staff across each school community, who have continued to support the county's children throughout an unprecedented, ever-changing and demanding period. With effect from 1 May 2021 and for the coming year, all staff in schools across Gloucestershire will be able to access support from a 24-hour Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) provided by Health Assured, one of the UK's leading providers of Employee Assistance. Working with the county council since 2016, their counselling service is the only one accredited by the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy.

Cabinet doubles holiday hunger fund to more than £2.7m

At its meeting on Wednesday 23 June, the county council's Cabinet approved a £2.7m fund to support vulnerable children during the school summer holidays. The cabinet agreed to allocate £1.39m of funding from the Department for Education to deliver the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) which will be available throughout Gloucestershire during August and at Christmas.

Recycling Metal Really Matters

In a county wide social media campaign.residents are being encouraged to recycle their metal packaging to make every can count !Metal can be recycled endlessly so the county and all six district councils have teamed up with Metal Matters to highlight the benefits of recycling our metal packaging to inspire everyone to get involved and do their bit.With more than 12 billion items of aluminium packaging alone sold every year in the UK, householders are being encouraged to recycle their cans, foil, empty aerosols, trays, tubes and metal screw tops.

Every district in the county provides a frequent and convenient door-to-door recycling service so it's never been easier to recycle our metal packaging; and once recycled, it takes around 60 days for a drinks can to return to the supermarket shelf.

Regular rapid testing remains vital to slowing the spread of COVID-19

Around 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms at all. Rapid tests help to detect the virus in people who might not know they have it, so that they can self-isolate quickly to prevent passing Covid on to their family, friends and work colleagues.

Since the Government first announced that rapid testing was available to everyone in England, the way you can get your free test kit in the county has changed to make it even easier to access.

Here is how you can get yours:

Pharmacy Collect. There are more than 100 pharmacies county-wide that have rapid testing kits in-store for people to collect and use at home

On-site pharmacy testing. Some local pharmacies have come on board to offer on-site testing for people who haven't yet used a rapid flow test, or residents who would like some support and guidance to take the test. For a full list of which pharmacies, you can collect your kit from or where you can get support to take your test on-site visit: NHS Site Finder Map.

Community Collect. You can pick up your rapid test kit from Hempsted Meadows, Cheltenham, High Street Car Park and Stratford Park Leisure Centre testing centres. Collection is available Monday-Sunday at Gloucester and Cheltenham between 2.30 pm to 8pm and Monday-Sunday between 1.30pm and 7pm in Stroud. You can check online if the location is open or busy before you go.

Do please contact if you wish to discuss the grant available .

Sue

Cllr Sue Williams

Bisley with Lypiatt/Painswick Division

If you are contacting me as a local constituent please be aware I may need to share your personal information when contacting County Council Officers or other agencies relevant to your query

For information on how I and the County Council use your personal date visit

Www.Gloucestershire.gov.uk/privacynotices

Annex B

District Council Notes

Business Grants: £500,000 remaining in the business funding pot was distributed to businesses by the end of June deadline. This means SDC is eligible for an extra £1m to distribute to businesses. The Council has also distributed £3.6 m via the flexible Additional Restrictions Grant. I have contacted local pubs to let them know about the grants for which they may be eligible.

Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF): The Council's Health & Wellbeing Team is working in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council & the Department of Education to offer four weeks of activities and events for children eligible for free school meals. More information here:

<https://strouddistrictcouncil.sharepoint.com/sites/MembersHub/SitePages/Holiday-Activity-%26-Food-Programme---Summer-2021.aspx>

Boundary Commission Proposed Changes to Parliamentary Constituencies: SDC has submitted a response, which while 'largely in support' of the proposals, expresses 'concern that the proposal to transfer the wards of Hardwicke, Painswick and Upton, Bisley and Chalford to The Cotswolds constituency does not reflect local ties or geographical factors such as shape and accessibility.'

<https://strouddistrictcouncil.sharepoint.com/sites/MembersHub/SitePages/Boundary-Commission-Boundary-Review---Response-Submitted.aspx>

Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP): The County Council is developing 'LCWIP's for areas of the County including Stroud, and gave a presentation on this to the Environment Committee in June. These plans will be the basis for applying for funding for such projects as new cycling routes. At present, the plan includes routes between main population centres - Stroud and Stonehouse, Chalford, Nailsworth, etc. - and needs additional branches and twigs to such places as Bisley, Eastcombe and Oakridge. Anyone interested in joining an advisory group for this should contact me.

Ebley Mill Council Offices: SDC is still asking residents to make appointments to visit the council offices, though I understand visitors without appointments are being helped. Staff and Council Members are still wearing masks when moving around the offices, and desks and council chamber seats are still distanced. To contact the council on any matter call 01453 766 321 (or outside office hours for emergencies 01453 222104).

Tree Preservation Order: A TPO on five trees at St Marys, Eastcombe, opposite Thomas Keble School, was confirmed by the Development Control Committee, over the objection of the landowner. It is unusual, if not unprecedented, for a TPO application to be called in to the DCC. A number of trees on the site had already been felled, to the dismay of local residents. The TPO will protect the remaining mature pines, beeches and a sycamore. The vote of the Committee was unanimous. I was pleased to be one of these votes.

Illegal Waste Storage and Burning: SDC successfully prosecuted a Bisley landowner for illegal storage and burning of waste, at a site near the Green Shop. Wilfred Hunt admitted four offences and was fined £3426.85 by Cheltenham Magistrates on June 30th. Black smoke should be reported to the Council, and the Environmental Protection Team will respond - and prosecute if necessary: <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report/report-pollution-eg-bonfire-or-smoke-nuisance>

Martin Brown, Bisley Ward Member of SDC
July 28th, 2021

Annex C

NDP – UPDATE

We held a meeting of the NDP working group and it was proposed that we put any further development of the NDP on hold for the following reasons

1. The Govt White Paper on Planning seems to be mired in discussion, alteration and delay. Given that the possibility that NDPs would be effectively demoted to a “Design Guide” status, our current efforts to move towards a more comprehensive local planning document would be undermined and there is a potential for much time and effort (of the NDP Working Group and residents) would go to waste.
2. COVID – our next stage of progression of the NDP is to analyse the various reports and surveys we have undertaken and, with due consideration of the residents responses, begin to formulate draft policy areas. These would be communicated and presented to residents via digital communication and, perhaps more importantly, through physical meetings in village halls etc in order to invite further comment and debate of the issues. At present it was felt that we could not do this with confidence that everyone would be happy to congregate to participate in this debate due to the continuing COVID presence. We will probably continue with some analysis of reports and surveys and possibly meet to discuss some areas of policy but would not actively promote any further public engagement in the near future until the situation has changed.

We look to the Parish Council to ratify this policy decision with a vote for this proposal at the next Parish Council Meeting