

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2022 AT BISLEY VILLAGE HALL**

Present	Chairman	Mike Eccott	ME
	Bisley Ward	Martin Brown	MB
		Lesley Greene	LG
		Dave Partridge	DP
		Hazel Saunders	HS
	Eastcombe Ward	Jenny Exley	JE
	Oakridge Ward	Roger Budgeon	RB
		Tony Martin	TM
		Dennis Robbins	DR
	Clerk	Mrs D Meredith	
	District Councillor	Martin Brown	MB

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Parish Councillor Louie Wilkes, County Councillor Sue Williams.
2. **Declaration of Interests** – DR and ME are on the payments list.
3. **Approval of the Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 12 January 2022** - The minutes of the meeting were approved.
4. **Matters and actions arising from the Minutes not otherwise covered in this agenda** - ME informed the meeting that Penny Starr, our assistant, has decided not to take the position on a permanent basis so will be paid for works pro rata. He then introduced the meeting to our new Clerk Arlene Deane who was in attendance and will take up post on 22nd March 2022.
5. **Public Participation** – 3 other members of the public were in attendance. Two members of the public requested that the PC closely look at the planning application for Highlands, Back Lane, Bisley as they feel it is out of keeping for the area and would affect neighbours severely with regard to extension size, drainage and privacy. It is not on mains sewage and there have been significant problems in the past. They stated that the previous owners removed a lot of green mature planting and the present owner has now removed large mature trees and more greenery effecting local wildlife. ME asked if the members of the public had submitted their own objection - they confirmed they will be. ME stated that the PC input carries no more weight with planning officers than that of the public. LG's recommendation is that the Ward objects on the same criteria as the extension is larger and higher than the adjoining land and will have an over proportionate impact on neighbouring properties, intruding on them. She is particularly concerned about the trees, as a lot of clearing has been already been done leaving one cedar and one copper beech within the land according to a neighbour. She

confirmed that the PC will object with policy references as in the planning portion of the agenda.

Another member of the public was there out of interest in becoming a councillor.

6. **County Council Matters** – distribute a report from County Councillor Sue Williams – None received but any questions to SW may be submitted via email.
7. **District Council Matters** – distribute a report from District Councillor Martin Brown. Annex A to this document.
8. **Agree the Parish Council Response to the following Planning Applications**
 - a) **S.22/0165/TCA - The Old Chapel, High Street, Bisley** - Hawthorn (T1) - Canopy reduction of 2.5m to most elongated lateral branches and height by 1.5m; rebalance remaining canopy. **Support.**
 - b) **S.22/0169/FUL & S.22/0170/LBC - The Old Court House, High Street, Bisley** - Conversion of existing office space into a 3 bedroom residential dwelling - Resubmission of S.21/2475/LBC and S.21/2474/FUL. Object SEE NOTES for FUL and LBC as different responses to each. **Comments to S.22/0169/FUL and Object to S.22/0170/LBC.**
 - c) **S.22/0203/TCA - The Old Coach House, George Street, Bisley** - Reduce the size of the Sycamore (T1). **Support.**
 - d) **S.22/0046/TCA - Bisley Wells area** - T1412 Common Ash - Fell to near ground level. PC Application. Change at Teeds Rise, community meeting requested that the trunk is cut to 4m, ring barked to kill it and then have bat holes carved for new habitat. Mark Hemming agreed. **Support.**
 - e) **S.22/0045/TCA - All Saint's Church Bisley** - T4 Common Lime - Remove epicormic growths. T17 Common Lime - Remove major deadwood, remove epicormic growths. PC application. **Support.**
 - f) **S.22/0021/LBC - The Old Post Office, High Street, Bisley** - Replace two timber windows, rear timber door and two rear rooflights with new – correspondence has been received from SDC. **PC still supports.**
 - g) **S.22/0195/HHOLD – Highlands, Back Lane, Bisley, Stroud** - Erection of two storey rear extension. Object re-earlier conversation. Applicant did not consult, lack of detail on materials, but welcome solar panels. Proposed extension is out of scale for the area and has balcony and windows potentially overlooking and invading privacy of neighbouring dwelling. **Object.**
 - h) **S.21/2778/VAR Extension approved by SDC but requested early submission - actioned - Land Adjacent To St Marys, Eastcombe, Stroud** - Variation to condition 8 (Cellular Confinement System) from the application S.21/1776/FUL. **Ratified.**
 - i) **S.21/2640/TCA - Response 09/02 no extension requested, ratify at meeting Chalfont Cottage, Wells Road, Eastcombe** - T1 Ash tree - Fell (Ash Dieback). **Comments only - Ratified.**
 - j) **S.22/0072/HHOLD & S.22/0073/LBC - Little Cottage, The Broadway, Oakridge Lynch** - Repairs and renovation. **Support.**

- k) **S.21/2614/HHOLD -Puck Mill Farm, Frampton Mansell GL6 8JQ** - New single storey infill extension with terrace above. **Support as no major change to mass of building.**
- l) **S.22/0128/HHOLD - Whitespring, The Broadway, Oakridge Lynch** - Erection of extension and construction of replacement garage. **Large extension but no reason to object with policy so support.**
- m) **S.21/3053/HHOLD - Tunley Barn House, Tunley, Sapperton** - Alterations to the existing stone barn and side extension, to include demolition and rebuild of existing outbuilding. (Resubmission of S.20/2409/HHOLD). **Support.**
- n) **S.22/0210/FUL - Sewage Treatment Works , The Crescent, Oakridge Lynch** – Following detailed discussion, report submitted 11/02 to **object.**

9. Matters for Discussion:

- a) **Approve appointment of GAPTC as internal auditor – Clerk – Carried.**
- b) **Condition of the yard and permissive path opposite the gun club Oakridge – RB**
 RB stated that a member of the public has reported that according to the Environment Agency she is the registered keeper of this yard which is not the case. TM reported that there is a permissive path and he has reported trees interfering with the footpath. MB reminded him that PROW are responsible for footpaths not Highways and ME will pass contact information to him. TM has walked it with the member of public and stated that it appears to be a builder's yard. RB updated the meeting about the history of complaints about burning plastic and rubbish blowing away from the site. Use has not stopped but continued, rubbish on the path too. The Chairman gave the member of the public permission to speak. She informed the meeting that the company, NJ Landscapes from Chalford, originally dumped green waste, but clearly it has morphed into something else. The company is now dissolved and the license is now in a different name as a sole trader but using her address and not the owners Chalford address. They are operating with a lower tier licence therefore construction waste and other waste should not be happening. The spread on site has increased and no permissions on the SDC website are shown for waste disposal on that site. The Environment Agency has set in motion a change to address details and also contacted the landowner who was cooperative and are now applying for an upper tier licence. The member of the public asks whether the PC is happy with that response, as no planning has ever been given for that site for any waste. LG mentioned that GCC is responsible for waste and planning permission should be obtained. This has been active for 4 years. Environmental Health has ordered it to be tidied. The landowner has stated that they do not burn any waste other than green waste which they now chip. MB said he can try to take up with SDC enforcement but because of staffing issues he does not know what will be taken up. The member of the public asked if county could be involved. RB stated that this is an illegal use of that land due to the type of waste on site and no change of use application has been received. ***RB and public are to send MB an account for him to take forward.***
- c) **Feedback from Fair Homes meeting – TM – report issued and Annex B to these minutes.**
- d) **KGV Playing Field fencing quotation – HS** - Obtained quotations last May but has been unable to get a 3rd quotation. She asked the Clerk to ask Rob Attwood who

gave the lower of the two quotations for a revised quote which now has a slight increase. The fence will mitigate the risk of people driving onto playing field which could be a real problem. DP said it was unlikely but it could happen. HS asks for approval of the quote - carried. ***Clerk to inform contractor.***

- e) **Burial ground search – JE** - ME is not convinced that this is a PC problem. However there is nowhere for Eastcombe residents to be buried other than Frith Wood Cemetery in Chalford Parish, which is almost full. Chalford Parish Council is also looking for a new cemetery site – following a meeting with them the Chair of Chalford appears very positive as possible land opportunities exist and they are investigating and approaching landowners. Chalford is bigger than Eastcombe so possibly proportionate contributions could be made. ME said that this is a parish problem but Eastcombe residents are impacted the most. JE informed the meeting that Chalford PC has a lump sum set aside in reserves and may fund via a government loan. ***JE has issued a document and asks the PC to respond to queries in italics therein.***
- f) **Dark skies policy – RB** – Following discussions it was decided that this policy needs reinstated and approved at the next PC meeting. ***ME to ask our assistant to search website documents for it.***
- g) **Tree update – Clerk/LG/JE/RB**
- **Update on Jubilee Oak planting and confirmation of plaque source and wordings, tree and hedgerow planting - *Confirm wording when issued by Clerk.*** LG has hedgerow plants for Teeds Rise from the Woodland Trust and suggests a hedgerow is also planted along the inside of Eastcombe Recreation Ground and Thomas Keble fence to improve the wildlife corridor. ***LG asks if Wards can identify areas for hedgerow planting please.*** LG stated that there are very few TPOS in the parish and the SDC map showing TPOs is difficult to use. She suggests a community campaign for trees. ME suggested newsletter input. ***LG to draft.*** She also asked if we can map clearly ourselves. ***Clerk to investigate***
 - **Current contractor works and TPO applications** – the Clerk confirmed there is no news on Brockley Acres copper beech and confirmed that Tree Maintenance will not commence Parish wide works before March.
 - **Oakridge tree planting decision on future responsibility and indemnity and response to resident's email** - villagers wish to plant 14 trees with 3 or 4 in memoriam along the Oakridge crossroads to Waterlane. GCC Highways did not agree. The definitive information on verges is that Highways maintain 1m of verge from the highway, after that it is measured boundary to boundary - some Oakridge verges are 3-4 m wide. RB informed the meeting that it is not suitable on the first part of the burial ground verge but would be fine where it increases to 3m wide. Opposite side of the road is consistently 2m+ when away from the junction. LG/JE inspected the site and feel it is inappropriate as some verges are narrow and also agrees with the email letter from a local resident, as it is an open aspect and a line of trees feels out of character. The AONB sets that area as a plateau which is different to the valleys. LG suggested planting at Cherry Piece or on the Allotments in Waterlane. RB suggested along the Far Oakridge road where verges are wide. ME asked

that Oakridge Ward contact the villagers as PC doesn't agree to take responsibility and incur maintenance costs. ***RB to contact villagers.***

- h) **Surplus office furniture – Clerk – *it was agreed that the Clerk advertise in local newsletters first, otherwise the ask the Furniture Bank.***
 - i) **Update on Eastcombe speed sign – ME –** Eastcombe's order was finally delivered to the Clerk unexpectedly before Christmas however, it did not work. Following numerous emails and conversations, Mike fixed it himself with spare parts and it is working temporarily in Eastcombe monitoring traffic. We are in discussion with GCC Highways for permanent posts and siting. Thanks to ME for his hard work on getting this sign actioned. MB asked for the Bisley speed sign order update please – ***Clerk to investigate.***
 - j) **NDP update –TM –** during the Steering Group meeting it was decided it would revisit the project and apply for a new Locality grant for under £10k, this being particularly for planning consultants and to arrange events to promote the plan and consult residents. The grant with Locality is currently unavailable but he will raise again in March or April for grant application approval.
10. **Finance - Approve monthly payments of account (details to be circulated) – carried.**
11. **Correspondence – Clerk to report** – A letter, previously mentioned in item 9g) – Clerk to respond. An email of thanks to DR on fixing the gate post promptly at the burial ground. An email of thanks from the parishioners of St Bartholomew's Church, Oakridge to the Parish Council for the works to walls by Adrian Montague.
12. **Ward Reports** – Ward Chairmen to report on Ward matters
- Bisley** – HS – planted the Oak on the edge of the playing field. Last Saturday a meeting for residents about the churchyard and Teeds Rise nature reserve which was well attended. Volunteers put up 3 bird boxes. Refurbishment is now complete on KGV Pavilion inside and tables and chairs are in situ. ME suggested holding council meetings there if possible. A group of volunteers have offered to paint the outside of the pavilion. For Queens Jubilee the playing field should be available for a bring your own picnic on Sunday 5th June - if weather was bad it could be cancelled. The Cotswold Marathon is booked to use the KGV Pavilion as a checkpoint this week on Saturday night, HS kindly offered to inform residents.
- Eastcombe** – JE asked the Clerk to chase Gardiners re-maintenance on lime trees. No response to date to the Clerk. ME and JE had 3 meetings with companies to upgrade the Eastcombe play area which has tired equipment and not enough for younger children. She mentioned an issue to do with Chalford/Eastcombe parish boundary as the landscape appraisal is wrong now the boundary has changed. The author got in touch with SDC who gave him the actual boundary with no cost. A resident commented on the "marvellous work" by the footpath group in Eastcombe. The landscape appraisal has been cut into segments and is being edited currently. JE would like it to go on the website with the conservation statement. Village group is planning activities for June 5th and is potentially looking for funding – ME has asked the organiser for a cost breakdown. Money left over from the old Eastcombe newsletter could be put to use.
- Oakridge** – would like to co-opt Helen Jones onto the PC as councillor for Oakridge Ward, representing Waterlane. Seconded by TM. ***Clerk to follow procedure for***

appointment next meeting. Received letter from SDC, Geraldine LeCointe re-listed building issues who has acknowledged revised building regulations, but not the English Heritage revised guidance which is ongoing. ***Clerk to invite her to a meeting to suit her schedule and place on the agenda.***

LG stated NAS theme is bugs bees and broccoli – wants all sites to photograph and survey for contribution of these wildlife corridors.

13. Date/location/format of Next Meeting – Chair – 7:30pm on 2nd March 2022 at Bisley Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 9:20pm.

Annex A.

District Council Notes February 2022

Council Budget and Tax 2022-23: The Strategy and Resources Committee has approved a draft budget to go to the full council on Feb. 17th. Notable items include:

- Council tax to be increased by £5 to £222.52 for band D (and proportionally for other bands).
- Social and affordable rents (council housing) to increase 4.1% (CPI in Sept. 21 +1%), in line with national guidance.
- The tax base (i.e. total houses in district with adjustments) has increased 1.9%.
- Long-term unoccupied housing has decreased 34%.
- Two new posts to be funded: A biodiversity officer, to work with local communities and partners 'to protect and enhance the district's green infrastructure and biodiversity'; and a tourism officer, to work with town councils and other partners to promote (obviously) tourism in the district.
- Extension of additional temporary CN 2030 post.
- Funding for three additional electric vehicles to replace diesel in Ubico fleet (waste/recycling).
- Funding for development of 'levelling up' bid.
- £9 million for council house retrofit to get all housing to EPC rating C by 2030 (largely borrowing).

All subject to vote of full council on Feb. 17th.

Planning Enforcement: Proceeding on two local cases – a fence in Bearsfield in Bisley, and the unofficial builder's yard outside Oakridge Lynch, at the crossroads to Lilyhorn/Bournes Green. In both cases, owners are being asked to submit (retrospective) planning applications – the normal procedure for enforcement. These actions, despite chronic difficulties in planning, especially enforcement (mainly because it's nearly impossible to recruit officers), may have been hastened by my repeated questions to the planning department,

New PCSO: County Councillor Sue Williams and I met with the new PCSO for our area, together with a senior PCSO from Stroud, on Thursday. Issues raised included: Speeding traffic; car parking in Bisley High Street; teenagers' den on GV Playing Field; 'green lane' motorbikes and vehicles; dogs worrying sheep.

Martin Brown, District Councillor

