

**BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL**

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**MINUTES OF THE BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY January 10th 2024 AT BISLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**Present**

<b>Chairman</b>	Mike Eccott	ME
<b>Bisley Ward</b>	Martin Brown	MB
	Hazel Saunders	HS
	Lesley Greene	LG
	Graeme Baldwin	GB
<b>Eastcombe Ward</b>	Emma Hammond	EH
	Jenny Exley	JE
<b>Oakridge Ward</b>	Roger Budgeon	RB
	Beth Hughes	BH
	Ian Greves	IG

**Clerk** Heather Finlay



Parish Clerk

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllrs Wilkes and Robbins, County Cllr Williams

**2. Declarations of interest**

None

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council (PC) held December 6<sup>th</sup>**

Approved with one small change

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes**

None

**5. Public Participation – Members of the public are invited to address the Council**

None

**6. County Council Matters – To receive a report from County Councillor Sue Williams.**

No report received

**7. District Council Matters** – To receive a report from District Councillor Martin Brown District Cllr MB circulated his District Council notes for the month, as well as the report on SDC December Committees. The following comments were made:

- LG asked about the extraordinary meeting that has been called relating to the local plan by the Conservative Group on 25<sup>th</sup> January.

**Action: MB will provide details of this meeting after it has taken place**

- Pet Crematorium in Lypiatt – it was agreed that the acknowledgement of guilt and subsequent fine was a positive move
- Following discussion of the enforcement case at the Lillyhorn junction, BH expressed concern about the recent allotment thefts in Oakridge Lynch and the motorbike thefts in Far Oakridge (see Ward Reports section 12)

**Action: The Clerk to arrange a meeting with the 2 PCSOs, BH and the Clerk to discuss these concerns**

## 8. Agree the Parish Council Response to the following Planning Applications:

### Bisley

S.23/2353/TCA	Todsbridge, Far Wells Road, Bisley Support	T1 - Weeping Willow - whole crown pollard to 6 m above ground level
S.23/2366/TCA	The Old Mansion, Far Wells Road, Bisley, Object (with comments)	T1-T3 - Yew. Crown reduce both height and lateral growth by 2 metres. T4-T5 - Sycamore. Crown lift to 4 metres. T6 - Lawson Cypress. Complete removal. T7 - Apple. Complete removal. T8 - Cherry. Complete removal. T9 - Yew. Lateral crown reduction by 3 metres. 10 - T13 - Apple(s) Complete removal. T14 - Hawthorn. Complete removal. T15-T16 - Elder. Complete removal.
S.23/2458/TCA	Land Opposite Jaynes Court Lodge, Bisley Object (with comments)	8 Ash trees - felled.
S.23/1875/HHOLD	The Old Mansion, Far Wells Road, Bisley Comments only; leave to English Heritage who have put in an element of concern	Revised External repairs to main dwelling, conversion of stables to artist studio and insertion of external steps, refurbishment of outbuilding for ancillary accommodation, terrace and landscaping
S.23/2490/HHOLD	Chapel Cottage, Stroud Road, Bisley Support	Replacement single storey extension and erection of new dormer window at rear of the property

### Oakridge

S.23/2503/TCA	Siccaridge Wood, Dane Lane, Daneway Support	Restore coppiced woodland beneath standards which will become veteran trees, replacing those which were felled for Conifer planting.
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## Eastcombe

### None

## 9. Matters for Discussion:

### 9.1 Eastcombe

- 9.1.1 Recreation playground update – ME has filled in the application for the Rural England Prosperity Fund, asking for a grant for £7,500 for playground equipment. Before submission, ME would like to talk this through with Leighton Pace and Louie Wilkes. The submission must be in by 17<sup>th</sup> January. It was agreed that the Clerk will send in the submission when ME has completed his collation of information
- 9.1.2 Tree work update – ME stated that a tree at the far end of the playing field needs to have the dead branches removed as a matter of urgency so agreed that Tree Maintenance should go ahead  
**Action: The Clerk to contact Tree Maintenance to go ahead with this work**
- 9.1.3 Land for sale at Fourways – the cost is £25,000 (guide) which ME believes is too high for the PC and as this now has a TPO it, there is no longer any need for the Council to purchase this piece of land

### 9.2. Bisley

- 9.2.1 Tree work – LG suggested going with the Jack Burrell quote (£2,210.00) instead of Rob Attwood. Approved  
**Action: The Clerk to contact both parties regarding decision**
- 9.2.2 Cricket Nets update – no feedback from Cricket Club re 5-year playing agreement. Parishioner declined to contribute to the costs  
**Action: The Clerk to chase the Cricket Club for a response**

### 9.3. Oakridge

- 9.3.1 Tennis court update – Cllr Hughes has received 3 quotes BH has spoken to Chris Jeynes about how to move forward; BH to provide next steps for Feb meeting, to include:
- The changing of the code
  - Chasing of members who have not yet paid
  - Future online payment and booking system
- Action: BH to provide next steps for Feb meeting**  
**Action: The Clerk and BH to work together to collate the quotes**
- 9.3.2 Tree work – no quotes for work received to date; 6-month forecast provided in July 23  
**Action: The Clerk to check with Arlene Deane on quote history and to obtain quotes from Rob Attwood, Jack Burrell and Tree Maintenance**
- 9.3.3 Telephone box update – RB has asked around but has not found anyone who had an interest in saving the telephone box at the time. This can be removed as an agenda item  
**Comment: If anyone would like to pursue it, we can look at this again**

**9.4. Community Land Trust update – feedback from posted notice** – Cllr Brown has received 3 expressions of interest so far; notification in local newsletters and social media is still outstanding

**9.5. Neighbourhood Planning – Cllr Eccott** – another meeting has been set up with Place Studios on 29<sup>th</sup> January

**Action: ME to provide an update in the Feb meeting**

**9.6. Biodiversity Local Nature Action Plans and Statutory Duty** – MB stated that this is an important thing to do and we should have a sub-group to work on this, perhaps including others from outside the Council. A Biodiversity policy is also part of item 9.7

**Action: MB and LG will lead this and publicise in the local newsletters**

**9.7 Policies and Procedures schedule – approval for scope and initial timelines** The Clerk explained the scope of the list; JE asked when the Tree Replacement Policy and Stonewalling and Boundary Treatment policies would be reviewed. The Clerk explained that as these policies have been updated in the last few years, they will be some of the last to be reviewed. The following Councillors offered to review the following 1<sup>st</sup> drafts:

- Biodiversity Policy – Lesley Greene
- Disciplinary Policy – Hazel Saunders
- Financial Regulations – Ian Greves
- Grievance Policy – Emma Hammond

**Action: The Clerk to send a 1<sup>st</sup> draft to the above Councillors by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**10. Finance:**

- a) **Draft budget 24/25 and Precept – Approval of the budget and precept recommended by the Finance Group** – Approved

**Action: IG to draft a short paragraph to explain the 8% increase for any publications and questions from parishioners**

- b) **Approve payments of account – circulated in advance** – Approved

- c) **Approval of Grounds Contract for 2024 (Rob Attwood)** – The contract had not been received in advance of the meeting so could not be discussed. It was agreed that a meeting should be set up to discuss the scope of work and any concerns (eg use of a tractor vs sit-on mower in Eastcombe and the cutting of the Trim Trail in Oakridge)

**Action: The Clerk to set up a meeting with Rob Attwood, to include ME, HS and DR**

- d) **Website replacement**

- **Approval of replacing existing website with a new website and email system.**
- **Approval of provider - 2 quotes received and circulated**

It was agreed that the email system replacement is of primary consideration for this year; the website can be reviewed in the next financial year (2025-2026)

**Action: The Clerk to look for quotes for a new email system; IG has offered to assist**

- e) **Approval to continue membership of the following:**

Royal Forestry Society – approval to set up a Direct Debit for this (£202.34) – Not approved. It was agreed to let this lapse at the present time

**11. Correspondence** – The Clerk to report:

- a) 2 parishioners will be litter-picking in Bisley for a Duke of Edinburgh award during January to March. LG stated that if others ask in future, the Bisley Community Composting Scheme (BCCS) could support DofE students as they have in the past with good results
- b) The neon sign at Parlour Farm is being investigated by Stroud District Council
- c) Flood water on the byway below Far Wells Road, caused by a blocked culvert, has been correctly reported to the Highways Authority and the Highways Liaison Manager

**12. Ward Reports**

- a) **Bisley** – none
- b) **Oakridge** – RB
  - i. Thefts from the Oakridge allotments and 2 motorbikes from Far Oakridge mentioned (see section 7). These were clearly targeted

- ii. The Lillyhorn crossroads habitation – this has been raised and the senior planning officer has the case and is meeting with the owners (named Hunt)

**Action: MB to chase this with the planning officer**

- iii. Far Oakridge footpath – this has been obstructed by recent development work and has been reported on the County Council website.

**Action: BH will contact Frank Dorrington Ward at GCC and the Ramblers Association to raise awareness**

**c) Eastcombe**

- i. JE stated a meeting to get site visits for the NDP will be held between 18<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- ii. EH expressed concern regarding the date of the April Council meeting, which is in the school holidays

**Action: EH to look at dates of Council meetings in school holidays**

**13. Date of Next Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024**