

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday, 20th January 2010

Present Cllr John Phipps (Chairman)
Cllr David Eversden
Cllr Dave Isbell
Cllr Alan Oates
Cllr Kate Binks
Cathryn Carlisle (Clerk)

2 members of the public

10/317 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Andrew Hull
Cllr Colin Golding

10/318 Minutes of the PC meeting held on Wednesday 16th December 2009 were approved and signed.

10/319 Declarations of interest

There were none

10/320 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

Mr Beckett from Collins and Beckett, The Builders of the affordable housing development suggested that the development be called St Osyth Close. He asked that the Parish Council consider this name and let the developer know its views.

A member of the public raised a number of issues and asked that the PC to look into them.

A tree that was damaged by a car is still on the verge almost opposite the Village Hall. Was this and the broken road sign beyond the being dealt with by ECC Highways?

The grassed area bordering the highway in front of Broome Close Villas urgently needs attention perhaps kerbing to prevent the whole area being eroded further. This gives a very poor impression of the village and should look like the grassed area at the entrance to Clifffield.

There is litter on the verges throughout the village. Could the PC organise a litter pick, before the spring growth starts? BDC can provide all the

equipment free of charge. Lots of people would be willing to help if canvassed and asked directly to give up an hour or two one Saturday morning. Perhaps as an encouragement to enter the village in the Best Kept Village Comp.?

The area around the Shalford Green bus shelter needs cutting back as it is still very overgrown.

It was reported that Water Hall Lane has been used by lorries trying to get to Blackmore End. These vehicles have done some serious damage to the road and ruined the bridge. Could the Parish Council get in touch with ECC Highways to put up more signs stopping large lorries from using this lane?

10/321 Clerk's Report

The Clerk has received a reply from Tim Lucas regarding the points raised by the Parish

Council in the letter to Braintree DC relating to the Section 106 agreement for the 'Affordable Housing' development.

The Clerk had received a letter from ECC Highways with regard to Water Lane. ECC will not be putting a No Access sign at the entrance to Water Lane. This closes the matter and a copy of the letter will be sent to Mr North.

The Clerk had received a letter for Great Saling Parish Council from P3 stating that they will no longer be providing funds for Parish Councils to arrange the cutting of footpaths and that in future these would be cut by ECC Contractors. A letter to Shalford Parish Council regarding this matter had not yet been received. In anticipation of receiving such a letter it was agreed to include an agenda item on footpath cutting for the next meeting. The Clerk and the Chairman are to meet with a P3 representative to show him the Causeway and its special requirements for cutting every two weeks during the growing season.

10/322 To Consider a Grant to Shalford School

By a vote of 3 for and 1 against, with the Chairman not voting, it was agreed to give a grant of £3,000 to Shalford School PTA towards the cost of an all-weather surface for the activities area at Shalford School.

10/323 To Agree the 2010/2011 Budget

After discussion and agreeing to the cost of providing the necessary services, street lighting, grass cutting, paying the Clerk, general office expenses, providing training, purchasing a Speed Indicating Device, paying insurance premiums and subscriptions it was unanimously agreed that this year precept would stay the same as last year. It was assumed that as the PC

would be giving a grant to the Village Hall Management Committee to meet the general running costs of the Village Hall that no charges would be made for the use of the Hall for Parish Council meetings and this was not included in the 2010/2011 Budget.

On the matter of grants to Shalford organizations it was agreed to give grants to:

St Andrews Church £2000 for cutting the Churchyard grass.

Village Hall Management Committee £5000 to meet the general running cost of the Village Hall for the year 2010/2011.

Shalford School PTA £3000 towards the cost of an all-weather surface for the activities area

A sum of £1000 was also budgeted to allow grants to other Shalford organisations.

To meet the cost of these grants and the purchase of a Speed Indicating Device it was agreed to move money from those projects listed in the Restricted Funds that were not now going ahead. It was further agreed that if there was a short fall then this could be made up from the money not spent during the year 2009/2010, which could be ring fenced for a specific project or from the PC reserves.

10/324 Highways and Footpaths

10/324.1 Speedwatch - Monthly update

No update

10/324.2 Speed Indicator Sign

Some possible locations for the device in Shalford and Church End were identified. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact ECC Highways giving these proposed locations and ask for their comments. It was also agreed that the Clerk will obtain confirmation of the cost estimate for a price for a solar powered device.

10/325 Report from the Planning Committee

09/01614/FUL - Acorns, Church End:

The Appln. requests permission to erect a single storey extension amongst the current building complex; this will extend the kitchen and provide a dining area. The omission, from the drawings, of a current chimney in the lounge, does not affect the sense of the Appln., and the extension will hardly be visible from the front or sides of the house.

The Application was unanimously recommended for Approval.

09/01523/FUL - Land next to Sunnyside, Church End.

An amendment has been requested because the owner of the next door house objected to the siting of a window in the end wall of the new house.

The objection window has been removed on the drawings, and repositioned in

the rear wall of the house — there was no window shown here in the November 2009 drawings; this change has necessitated a revision to the siting of the en-suite on the 1st floor.

We understand that this amendment has been accepted by BDC Planning Dept as a 'minor alteration'.

We agree that this is a minor alteration, and unanimously recommend Approval.

09/01628/ELD - Cert. Of Lawfulness, Bothy at Hubbards Farm, Shalford Green

This Appln. (Concerning an Existing Lawful Development) is not concerning any alteration to an existing building, but rather to ask for a confirmation that the use to which an existing building is being put, is lawful in Planning terms.

We understand that, if the building is used as a store, there would be no issue; if the building is used as a dwelling by someone who is paying rent to stay there, then a 'change of use' Application might be required. We believe that verification of the current use is needed to be certified to BDC Planning.

We have no issue with the use of the building, provided that the use is lawful; we believe that further information should be requested by BDC Planning.

10/326 Planning Results.

10/327 Finance

10/327.1	£176.60	Clerks Salary,
10/327.2	£45.00	Phipps Landscapes, Bus shelter maintenance
10/327.3	£13.00	Clerks Expenses Stamps 5 @ .39 = £2.00/Travel 14 miles @ £0.40 = £6.00/Telephone Calls £5.00
10/327.4	£86.00	EALC Training Clerk and Internal Auditor
10/327.5	£190.00	Shalford Parochial Council - Churchyard grass cutting
10/327.6	£102.00	Village Hall Hire
10/327.7	£14.87	E-on Electricity

Payment of these were agreed by all Councillors

10/328 Circle Anglia and the development at Church End of the 'Affordable Houses for rent'

It was agreed that the Parish Council would invite Circle Anglia to the PC Meeting in March to give a progress report. It was further agreed that a list of question to be raised by the PC would be agreed at the February meeting.

10/329 Boxted Wood

The Boxted Wood committee meeting is to be held on Tuesday 26th January 10

10/330 Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda

Name of the affordable housing Development

Response to subjects raised during the Public Participation session.

A request by one of the Councillor for a presentation and a 'question and answer session' at the next meeting from a local farmer, who wishes to apply for planning permission to make changes to his buildings, was not thought appropriate. But there was nothing stopping him making a statement during the Public Participation session.

10/331 Date of next Meeting

17th February 2010

10/332 Meeting Closed at 9.45pm

Signed..... Dated.....