

Bovingdon Parish Council

Meeting of the Outdoors Committee
held in The Memorial Hall, High Street, Bovingdon
on
17 June 2019 starting at 7.15 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Graham Barrett
Councillor Alison Gunn
Councillor Ben Richardson
Councillor Hugh Schneiders
Councillor Dave Stent (Chairman)
Councillor Julie Steer
Councillor Adrian Watney
Councillor Philip Walker
Councillor Pauline Wright

Also present:

Matt Felix, Site Coordinator - Northchurch, Sunnyside Rural Trust (Item 6)
Mike Kember, Parish Clerk

Residents:

One

1.	Appointment of Chairman of the Outdoors Committee to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	
	Councillor Dave Stent was nominated and appointed Chairman of the Outdoors Committee until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.	
	Councillor Phil Walker was appointed on to the Committee	
2.	Apologies for absence	
	There were apologies for absence received from Councillor Julia Marshall.	
3.	Declaration of Interests linked to any of the items	
	There were no Declarations of Interest.	
4.	Minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2019	
	It was agreed by those present at the meeting, that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2019 were a true representation of the meeting and were signed by Councillor Dave Stent.	
5.	Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2019 – not on the agenda	
5.1	Vehicle damage to grass verge on Bovingdon Green	
	In the absence of a reply from the Borough Council, agreed to ask Sunnyside Rural Trust to provide a 'No parking' sign on the gate leading to the Green by the memorial plaque.	Parish Clerk
5.2	Bovingdon Green bollards around Cricket Club car park	
	Councillor Barrett confirmed that this work had been completed.	
6.	Report from Sunnyside Rural Trust (SRT) on Village Warden contract	
	Matt Felix Site Coordinator - Northchurch was welcomed to the meeting and gave a brief report. It has been a busy month and the villagers have been	Parish Clerk

	very friendly towards the clients. The Parish Clerk was asked to circulate the regular reports received from SRT.	
	Matt Felix undertook to arrange for the Hornbeam tree on Bovingdon Green to be watered more frequently as it is showing severe signs of stress, despite them laying a bed of bark around it. SRT also to provide bark beds around the young oak trees on the Green; the flowering cherry trees outside of Archway flats and the new trees in Hyde Meadows and Old Dean.	Matt Felix
	Agreed that SRT will carry out additional grass cutting along the High Street in between those carried out by the Borough Council. These are booked in every three weeks and will include the strimming around post and signs. This is an additional cost to the contract of £100 plus VAT per visit. Visits are currently booked in on 14 June, 5 July, 26 July, 16 August, 6 September and 27 September. Agreed that this would extend into the first part of Old Dean off the High Street. It was suggested that additional grass cutting needs to be carried out on other areas around the village and Councillor Dave Stent is to walk around the village with Matt Felix to look at footpaths and where there are grassed areas particularly around bus stops, passage ways, etc. Also proposed to set up a Working Group to look into this.	Matt Felix Councillor Stent / Matt Felix
	Agreed an expenditure of £290 + VAT to plant up the six troughs outside the Memorial Hall and underplant the Millennium Sign.	Matt Felix
	Agreed to a one-off expenditure of £800 plus VAT to carry out repairs and maintenance to the 30 + benches and 5 Bus shelters in the village. Once this initial work has been completed the on-going maintenance of these items will become part of the normal contract.	Matt Felix
	Councillor Stent, Matt Felix and the Parish Clerk to have a walk around the village to identify work that needs to be carried out.	Councillor Stent / Matt Felix / Parish Clerk
	Councillor Stent asked SRT to consider whether they are able to provide any additional hours to help with extra work around the village.	Matt Felix
	Agreed that a Working Group will be set up to look into the provision of suitable signboards / posts for banners to be properly displayed around the village.	Councillor Stent / Parish Clerk
	It was suggested that rather than set up individual Working Groups it may be preferable to split the village geographically and for groups of councillors to take responsibility for an area and pick up on any work that needs undertaking.	Councillor Stent / Parish Clerk
7.	2018-19 Budget – spend to date	
	In the absence of a report this item was deferred.	
8.	High Street Project update	
	In consultation with the Parish Council, Herts County Council have appointed Lambert Smith Hampton to provide advice on the feasibility of redeveloping public sector assets in Bovingdon. The cost will be split between the County, Borough and Parish Councils. The work is on-going.	

	Agreed that Councillor Barrett will get comparative quotes for supplying 30 wooden / metal posts for putting around various grassed areas in the High Street and Memorial Hall.	Councillor Barrett
	Agreed that a proper scheme is needed to improve the parking area outside of the Co-op including the introduction of parking restrictions and the provision of a disabled parking bay. The Parish Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with Councillors Graham Barrett, Ben Richardson, Dave Stent and Phil Walker.	Parish Clerk
9.	Community Safety	
	<p>Councillor Ben Richardson reported back as follows:</p> <p>CCTV Crime Prevention Last week there was an initial meeting between the Parish & Borough Councils and police representatives to discuss the possibility of installing crime prevention CCTV in public spaces in the village (High Street). The Dacorum CCTV Unit has undertaken to complete the first two stages of the project. These are;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare the Justification and Eligibility to such a system. 2. Investigate the technical feasibility using either (or both) Wi-Fi and Broadband signals. <p>Councillor Richardson has contacted Karl Stonebank (Grants and Funds Officer) in the Office of the PCC to understand what financial support is available and how to make a successful bid. There will be set-up costs and annual running costs. A camera costs £17.5k and there are annual running costs of £5k.</p> <p>Citizen Patrols (Community Watch) Trial patrols continue with volunteers working with both Police and Community Officers. The PCC has now approved the concept of using Citizen Patrols and a detailed report on its implementation is being drafted for Hertfordshire's Chief Police Officers. Following Chief Officer approval, it is likely that a pilot scheme will follow. As our Parish Council is more advanced in developing the concept than other areas in Hertfordshire, it is hoped that this pilot will held in Bovingdon.</p> <p>Road Safety Fund The Police & Crime Commissioner's (PCC) road safety funding approved Options one and two of the feasibility study, which is to improve the Gateway Features in the Chipperfield Road, Chesham Road and Hempstead Road and Advisory Part Time 20 mph Speed Limit in the High Street to improve the safety for children attending the Bovingdon Primary Academy. The Parish Council is waiting to find out when the works are to be included in the County Councils programme of works. Councillor Richardson is in regular contact with the Hertfordshire Road Safety Partnership and has had discussions to suggest ways the gateway signage could be improved.</p> <p>Provision is still included in the Parish Council's budget towards the cost of the provision of another Speed Indicator Device (SID) costing £8k, but this is on hold pending the implementation of the above improvements and to monitor the effect this has on the traffic situation in the village.</p> <p>Rural Crime Another new initiative is being developed between police and the rural communities. The inaugural meeting took place on 14 June and Councillor Richardson and Hugh Schneiders attended.</p>	

10.	Christmas Street lighting / Street Fayre	
	Councillor Alison Gunn has written another letter to businesses to seek further sponsorship.	
	Councillor Pauline Wright to meet with Tracey Wood to help her with setting up a properly constituted group to organise the Christmas Street Fayre.	Councillor Wright
	Agreed to an additional expenditure of £1,568 over two years to enhance the existing Christmas Column Lighting display.	Parish Clerk
11.	Health & Safety	
	Nothing to report.	
12.	Any other business	
12.1	Herts County Council Flood meeting	
	Councillor Steer reported that the County is investigating the tunnel that runs from the airfield to Hamer Close and if it may have had anything to do with the flooding that took place in Hyde Lane in September 2016.	
12.2	Concrete bollards outside the Memorial Hall	
	Councillor Schneiders agreed to remove these on behalf of the Parish Council.	Councillor Schneiders
12.3	The former Bull Pub sign, Chipperfield Road	
	Following an engineer's report, which recommend the removal of the sign, Councillor Schneiders agreed to undertake this work and make good the pavement at a cost of £250 on behalf of the Parish Council.	Councillor Schneiders
12.4	Safety outside the Library	
	Councillor Steer to investigate options for improving the safety of people outside the library, due to badly parked vehicles.	Councillor Steer
12.5	Bovingdon Green pond	
	Councillors Graham Barrett and Dave Stent and the Parish Clerk have met with representatives from the Countryside Management Services to discuss the future management of the pond. The pond is at the mercy of 'mother nature' and is suffering from a series of years of varying drought. In addition, some of the conduits taking water into the pond are blocked. Agreed to install gullies to allow more surface water to makes its way into the pond and to recreate one area of the pond that is clear of marginal water plants.	Councillor Stent / Parish Clerk
13.	Date of next meeting	
	Monday 22 July starting at 7.30 p.m. in The Memorial Hall (immediately following the Planning Committee meeting). The Parish Clerk gave his apologies as he is on holiday.	All to note
	Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.	