

Bovingdon Parish Council

Meeting of the Outdoors Committee
held in The Memorial Hall, High Street, Bovingdon
on
12 August 2019 starting at 7.30 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:

Borough Councillor Stewart Riddick
Matt Felix, Site Coordinator - Northchurch, Sunnyside Rural Trust (SRT)
Mike Kember, Parish Clerk

Residents:

Five

1.	Apologies for absence	
	There were apologies for absence received from Councillor Adrian Watney.	
2.	Declaration of Interests linked to any of the items	
	There were no Declarations of Interest.	
3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2019	
	It was agreed by those present at the meeting, that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2019 were a true representation of the meeting and were signed by Councillor Dave Stent.	
4.	Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2019 – not on the agenda	
4.1	The former Bull Pub sign, Chipperfield Road	
	Councillor Hugh Schneiders has removed the sign. Councillor Stent to consider whether the sign post can be re-used to provide a village sign. If not, a resident living in the converted Bull Pub has indicated that they may be interested in purchasing it. Proposed that £300 be asked for the sign.	Councillors Schneiders / Stent
4.2	Concrete bollards outside the Memorial Hall	
	These were removed by Herts Highways during the first week of August.	
5.	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 for July during which, 56 bags of litter and have been collected (not incl. the large items that have not been bagged). It has been a busy month and the villagers have given some very positive	

	feedback. Agreed that the High Street looks much better following the 'blitz' on it by SRT and agreed that this should be extended to include Old Dean / Hyde Meadows.	
	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
	Vehicle damage to grass verge on Bovingdon Green	
	SRT asked to provide a 'No parking' sign on the gate leading to the Green by the memorial plaque.	Parish Clerk / Matt Felix
	Trees	
	SRT to replace the hornbeam with a lime tree on Bovingdon Green in the autumn. Matt Felix confirmed that arrangements are in hand 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
	Grassed areas	
	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. Dacorum BC cut grass six times per annum.	Councillor Stent / Matt Felix
	Wooden Posts	
	Councillor Barrett ordered 30 wooden posts and they have been delivered to the SRT nursery in Hemel Hempstead. SRT will arrange for them to be installed (beginning with the grassed area outside Archway Flats) over a period of time.	Councillor Stent / Matt Felix
	Bovingdon Green pond	
	Following advice received from the Countryside Management Services it was agreed to install gullies to allow more surface water to make its way into the pond and to recreate one area of the pond that is clear of marginal water plants. Councillor Stent to meet with Matt Felix to discuss.	Councillor Stent / Matt Felix
6.	2018-19 Budget – spend to date	
	The budget spend to 30 June was noted. The Committee is currently on track with expenditure. The Committee asked for a breakdown of the costs of the contract with SRT to date.	Parish Clerk / RFO
7.	High Street Project update	
	Brad Gunn attended the meeting and presented a draft plan on High Street Parking Optimisation, which has been produced by a working group of the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group. The proposal is to maximize availability of parking on the High Street during prime business hours through the implementation of parking control e.g. parking restricted to 30 mins. / parking machines and enforcement. This working group has passed this to the Parish Council for consideration.	
	Councillor Stent thanked Brad for his work and said that he had already spoken to County Councillor Richard Roberts who had sounded supportive of the proposals. Councillor Stent said that this needed to be considered	Councillor Stent

	along with any work to improve the area in front of the shops incl. Jarmans and the Co-op. Councillor Stent to liaise with Brad Gunn.	
	As discussed at the last meeting, it was 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
	Councillor Stent circulated the updated notes of the High Street Walkabout held on 5 October 2018.	
	Feasibility of redeveloping public sector assets in Bovingdon	
	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 consultants are currently obtaining indicative comments from HCC highways on a number of options. They need to undertake some initial viability assessments for each and produce a briefing paper for discussion with the stakeholders. It is hoped to circulate this by mid-August with a view to meeting soon thereafter.	
8.	Community Safety	
	<p>Councillor Ben Richardson reported back as follows:</p> <p>DriveSafe The volunteer group has been operating for three and a half years and now needs some more volunteers. Councillor Richardson will be having talks with the police about the future of this scheme.</p> <p>CCTV Crime Prevention There have been meetings with the Borough Council and police representatives to discuss the possibility of installing crime prevention CCTV in public spaces in the village (High Street). The current suggestion is that there should be two CCTV's installed in the High Street on the bus stops outside the Memorial Hall and the Baptist Chapel. The initial cost would be £34k with annual running costs of £10k. It might be possible to access funding from the Local Partnership Reserve.</p> <p>Citizen Patrols (Community Watch) 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 and 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.</p>	

9.	Christmas Street lighting / Street Fayre – Sunday 1 December 2019	
	Following the letter to businesses to seek further sponsorship, there have been a couple of expressions of interest and it was agreed that these should be followed up with a personal visit.	Councillor Gunn
	Councillor Pauline Wright has meet with Tracey Wood to help her with setting up a properly constituted group to organise the Christmas Street Fayre and Councillor Adrian Wright is drafting a constitution for the group.	
	The Parish Clerk confirmed that approval has been given to an additional expenditure of £1,568 over two years to enhance the existing Christmas Column Lighting display	
	The Parish Clerk confirmed that our application has been submitted for the Street Lighting Licence Schedule and should be received by the end of September.	
10.	Health & Safety	
	Nothing to report.	
11.	Any other business	
11.1	Tree Bench by Memorial Hall	
	Councillor Steer reported that the tree had died in the centre of the bench and that it would not be replaced.	Councillor Steer
11.2	New Disabled Parking Space	
	It is hoped that a space for disabled parking can be created now that the concrete bollards have been removed to the side of the Memorial Hall.	Councillor Steer
11.3	Creation of additional off-street parking	
	Councillor Steer had met with Gill Martinez from Dacorum BC who is going to look into the possibility of creating additional parking spaces on the grassed areas in Old Dean and Austins Mead.	Councillor Steer
11.4	Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3) 2019 - funding	
	The Parish Clerk has been informed that there is still some funding available on a first come first serve basis. Agreed that there was need for some new footpath signs and for the area by the gate leading to Footpath near Church Street. The Parish Clerk was asked to co-ordinate.	Parish Clerk
11.5	Working Groups	
	Councillor Stent and the Parish Clerk to look into the setting up of Working Groups to undertake work on behalf of the Committee.	Councillor Stent / Parish Clerk
12.	Date of next meeting	
	Monday 14 October 2019 starting at 7.30 p.m. in The Memorial Hall – apologies received from Councillor Graham Barrett	All to note
	Meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.	