

BINFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Binfield Heath Parish Meeting held on Monday 23rd February 2009 at The Scout Hut from 7.45pm

Present: Councillor E Ransom (in chair), Cllr G Englefield, Cllr B Timms, Cllr S. Summerland, Cllr Richard Pawson, and one member of the public.

013/09 Apologies for absence

Cllr P Rollason, Cllr C Viney (OCC)

014/09 Declarations of Interest

None

015/09 Minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2009

Cllr Englefield proposed the minutes be adopted. Proposal seconded by Cllr Ransom.

016/09 County Councillor's report

Cllr Viney's report was read by the chairman: The Council tax precept for OCC is set at 3.75%.

Essential services will not be affected. Oxford is to appoint 8 new social workers over the next 2 years.

Money is also being invested in improving day care centres and care homes. Armed services are also to have facilities updated and receive support for the rehabilitation of injured soldiers.

017/09 District Councillor's report

No report this month

018/09 Public Forum

Mr Meddick asked if there had been any response to the letter to BT re the lack of a reliable Broadband. He was informed that there has been no response so far.

Mr Meddick then pointed out the requirement for councillors to attend meetings and asked if a record was kept. He was assured that attendance at meetings was very good and the existing arrangements for recording attendance were sufficient.

Mr Meddick is in correspondence with the Rights of Way Office as he has lodged his objection to the recent footpath modification.

019/09 Financial Situation

019.01/09 The account balances were circulated.

019.02/09 Cllr Englefield proposed the accounts be paid. This was seconded by Cllr Pawson.

020/09 Planning Matters

New Applications

P09/E0017 Two-storey Rear Extension at Primrose Cottage, 3 Heathfield Avenue, Binfield Heath, RG9 4ED Amendment No 1 (As amended by Drawing No PRIMROSE/2D. Recommended for approval.

P09/E0078 Two storey side extension at 15 Heath Drive Binfield Heath RG9 4LX. Recommended for approval.

Appeals

P08/E0613 Erection of one three bedroom detached cottage, detached garage and access at land at Shiplake Row, Binfield Heath.

Applications granted

P08/E1312 Removal of existing sub-standard single storey lean-to extension and construction of single storey kitchen/dining extension with duo-pitched roof at Dunsden House Binfield Heath RG9 4LJ.

Future Planning Applications It was noted that although the present system of notifying Parish Councils about planning applications will remain for the moment, SODC would like to move towards a paperless system. However, a letter is to be written informing SODC about the unreliability of the internet in certain areas and this causes problems. **(Clerk to Action)**

021/09 Highways/Transport & General Maintenance

021.01/09 Green Pond: The Parish Council was informed about the work undertaken by Mr Watson and what was required to continue to improve the area. A letter of thanks has been sent to Mr Watson including a request for costs. 021.02/09 Kissing Gates: Comments about the disadvantages of kissing gates have been sent to the Parish Council. These were noted and discussed. It was decided that a letter would be written to Savills to enquire whether the stiles that are proving difficult for some walkers can be lowered. **(Clerk to Action)** The Parish Council has also received a complaint a footpath near Gravel Road which is extremely difficult to walk upon in wet weather due to the damage

by horses using the path. A letter is to be written to the Phillimore estate asking if anything can be done about this. There is a general need for more bridle paths. When discussing footpaths a reminder to dog walkers to collect dog excrement will be placed in the newsletter and on the blog.

(Councillors to action)

021.03/09 Traffic Calming: Discussion took place again about how to limit speeding through the village. It was suggested that the villagers need to be made aware of the dangers particularly outside the recreation ground. A lot of effort has been put into this over the years and many devices cannot, for a variety of reasons, be utilised. The Area Traffic Engineer will be asked what speeding device could be actually used or installed in this area. It is possible at a cost to install a Speed Indicating Device on the Emmer Green Road. This will be discussed at the next meeting when all councillors are present.

021.04/09 Litter Pick: The litter pick around the village on February 14th was very successful and the Parish Council would like to thank all those people who helped in the organisation and on the day.

022/09 Website

The website is now live. Names, addresses and phone numbers of councillors are to be pasted onto the website. Static information relevant to village activities can now be submitted to Cllr Pawson. Links to village planning applications will be provided on the website. **(Clerk to Action)** The Parish Council expressed thanks to Cllr Pawson for the time he has put into setting up the website. All councillors are encouraged to join in the blog and invite other residents to sign in and do so as well.

023/09 Parish Plan

The Parish Plan Committee met and decided to formulate a questionnaire that will be sent around the village later in the year. Plans are being discussed to motivate villagers into completing the questionnaire.

024/09 Matters for future consideration: waste; risk assessment; speeding in the village

Date of next meeting Monday 23rd March 2009

The meeting of the Recreation Ground Charities and Allotment for the Labouring Poor Charity
Minutes of the meeting held at the Scout Hut on Monday 23rd February after the meeting of Binfield Heath Parish Council

03/09 Recreation Ground

03.01/09 The recreation ground has been inspected and a football net has been stolen. The police are to be informed. **(Clerk to Action)** There are no plans to replace it yet.

03.02/09 Two pieces of wood from the adventure trail need to be replaced. It was decided to order replacements. **(Cllr Englefield to Action)**

03.03/09 Permission will be given to the Long Distance Walkers Association to use the Recreation Ground Car Park on May 2nd to provide drinks for the walkers.

04/09 Allotments

The apple tree causing problems on the allotments has been removed. The use of the notice board was discussed briefly. The majority of the allotment rents have now been paid.

Date of next meeting Monday 23rd March 2009

The meetings closed at 10.05 pm