

BINFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Binfield Heath Parish Meeting held on Monday 26th January 2009 at The Scout Hut from 7.45pm

Present: Councillor E Ransom (in chair), Cllr P Rollason, Cllr G Englefield, Cllr C Viney (OCC) Ben Wyatt (Police Community Support Officer) and one member of the public.

001/09 Apologies for absence

Malcolm Leonard (SODC), Cllr B Timms, Cllr S. Summerland, Cllr Richard Pawson

002/09 Declarations of Interest

None

003/09 Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2008

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

004/09 County Councillor's report

Councillor Viney presented her report and this is attached at the end of the minutes.

005/09 District Councillor's report

Councillor Leonard submitted the following:

Shared Management: The shared management with the Vale of White Horse DC is progressing with Chief Executive David Buckle and three Strategic Directors appointed. In February the eight Heads of Department will be appointed completing the joint management. This reorganisation has saved £450,000 for council tax payers.

Council Tax: The tax for next year is still to be finalised but it is hoped to be in the region of a 3% increase. To achieve this figure we have had to reduce costs significantly but have not cut any services.

Waste: The joint VoWHDC and SODC waste contract has gone to Verdant and will be an improved, less costly service. It should greatly increase our recycling. When the contract starts in June glass and beverage cartons can be added to the recyclables currently handled.

Recyclable rubbish will be in 240l green wheelie bins and collected fortnightly.

Residual waste will be in 180l charcoal grey wheelie bins and collected fortnightly.

Food waste will be collected in 25l containers with a caddy of 7l for the kitchen.

Green waste will remain an opt-in system and will be in the present brown 240l wheelie bin.

There will be a lot of information coming out and households visited to check the suitability for handling. The government has enacted legislation to cover charging of waste by weight, bin size, bin bag and weekly collection.

Outlook Magazine

SODC was voted the Best Council Newsletter in 2008.

006/09 Public Forum

Ben Wyatt, the Police Community Support Officer, apologised for not attending PC meetings before, but some meetings will be attended in future. He reported that although the crime level was very low, there was a slight concern over the recent increase in burglaries in Shiplake. Residents are advised to be wary and to report any concerns. Speed cameras are to be used increasingly on the A4155. There will be further police surgeries outside the village shop.

Mr Meddick raised the subject of broadband in the village. It was decided to raise the subject again with BT and request that a land line sufficiently substantial to bring broadband to the village be provided. **(Clerk to Action)** Mr Meddick also made it clear that he was still opposed to the Footpath Modification Orders. He was surprised that the PC had withdrawn its objection. The Chairman explained that the PC did not feel that public money should be spent to pursue this issue further.

007/09 Financial Situation

007.01/09 The account balances were circulated.

007.02/09 Cllr Rollason proposed the accounts be paid. This was seconded by Cllr Englefield.

007.03/09 Councillor expenses were paid.

008/09 Planning Matters

New Applications

P08/E1255 Two-storey Rear Extension at Primrose Cottage, 3 Heathfield Avenue, Binfield Heath-see below-now withdrawn.

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. Recommended

for approval.

P08/E1397 & P08/E1398/LB Alterations to access arrangements by creating new point of access. Closing existing access forming new driveway and construction of wall to close up access at Holmwood Shiplake Row Binfield Heath RG9 4DP. The majority view was approval but recommended changes to improve the perimeter fencing.

P09/E0008 Erection of one detached house and access at 1, Swedish Houses Kiln Lane Binfield Heath RG9 4EJ This was recommended for refusal.

Applications granted

P08/E1219 Single storey front porch to replace existing. Holmwood, Shiplake Row, Binfield Heath RG9 4DP

P08/E1210 Erection of a detached garage, (revisions of the design of the approved garage (P07/E1184) to enable use as home office. Picture Cottage Binfield Heath RG9 4JY

Applications Withdrawn

P08/E1209 Erection of a detached garage (revisions to the design of the approved garage (P07/E1184) to increase height) Picture Cottage Binfield Heath RG9 4JY

P08/E1220 Alterations to annex accommodation to incorporate cottage into main dwelling. Alterations to courtyard buildings, including lean-to extension, to allow formation of new flat. Holmwood, Shiplake Row, Binfield Heath RG9 4DP

P08/E1245/LB (Listed Building Consent) Alterations to main house. Single storey front porch to replace existing. Demolish service yard wall and lean to. Form new windows in front and side elevations. Alter doorway in side elevation. Replace existing principal staircase with new in new location. Alter 1no.roof truss and form access stair to attic to create habitable room. Internal alterations to form kitchen/family room and alter layout of bathrooms and bedrooms. Holmwood Shiplake Row Binfield Heath RG9 4DP

P08/E1246/LB Alterations to annex accommodation and courtyard buildings to include new bridge link at first floor level, and to incorporate cottage into main dwelling, alteration and extension to lean-to, alterations to courtyard elevation with new doors and windows and internal alterations to allow formation of new plot. Holmwood, Shiplake Row, Binfield Heath RG9 4DP

P08E1255 Two-storey Rear Extension at Primrose Cottage, 3 Heathfield Avenue, Binfield Heath

009/09 Highways/Transport & General Maintenance

009.01/09 Signage: A new village finger post is to be erected in the centre of the village.

The Kiln Lane sign where it joins Shiplake Row near Shiplake Cross has fallen. A request for re-erection is to be made. **(Clerk to Action)**

The Emmer Green Road sign opposite Thanksgiving Lane has fallen down. Its removal is to be requested. **(Clerk to Action)**

009.02/09 Green Pond: The pond is in the process of being restored to its former self. The PC expresses its gratitude and appreciation to Mr Robert Watson for his work

009.03/09 Kissing Gates: Kissing gates are available to replace some of the local stiles. The Parish Councillors will consider which stiles to possibly replace. A decision will be made at the next PC meeting.

009.04/09 Traffic Calming: A suggestion was made to ask OCC to consider the possibility of having the road through the centre of the village painted red to try to slow the traffic down. An example of this is at Ipsden. **(Clerk to Action)**

The possibility of purchasing Speed Activation signs for the Emmer Green Road was considered. Details about the electricity costs to be sought. **(Clerk to Action)**

009.05/09 Reading transport: See the County Councillor's report.

009.06/09 Hedge/Tree maintenance: Concern was expressed over the state of the trees along the Sonning Common Road opposite Crowsley Park. Some are dead and could fall into the road. There is uncertainty as to the landowner. A letter is to be written to try to ascertain the owner. **(Clerk to Action)**.

009.07/09 Litter Pick: A litter pick around the village is to be arranged for February 14th. Litter pickers, yellow jackets and bags to be requested from OCC. **(Clerk to Action)**

010/09 Requests for Donations

These were considered and a decision was taken to donate £50.00 to the Oxfordshire Carers.

011/09 Parish Plan

The Parish Plan Committee has not reported this month.

012/09 Matters for future consideration: Insurance & the value of playground equipment; kissing gates

[Report to Eye & Dunsden Parish Council](#)

[by County Councillor Carol Viney](#)

The Meeting I organised for all local parishes to Discuss Reading Transport Proposals which affect Oxfordshire was held last Thursday at Dunsden Village Hall. It was very well attended, and if the emails and telephone calls I have received since, was very well received....

It was felt that the motion being put to Cabinet should be amended to give more flexibility to OCC. The amendment therefore reads as follows:

It reads" To support the principle of the TIF bid by Reading Borough Council to secure traffic improvements provided there is appropriate evidence to justify such improvements but acknowledging that this does not commit this council to support any of the measures set out in the TIF bid."

This was put to the Cabinet on Wednesday 21st January. The amendment has been accepted.

[Oxfordshire is second best shire county for cycling to school](#): Oxfordshire is the second best shire county in England for the number of children travelling to school by bicycle. Department for Transport census data published in 2008 shows that Oxfordshire is second best on a list of 35 shire counties for the percentage of pupils travelling to school on a bike. Eight per cent of children in Oxfordshire cycle to school - a figure only bettered by Cambridgeshire's nine per cent.

[Budget](#): The budget will be set at Full Council in February. Discussions have been going on for some months and I have attended several budget presentation. It is likely to be 3.875% but this could change slightly and cannot be confirmed until after the vote of Full Council in February. All Scrutiny Groups have had to attempt to pare something off their Directorate's budget. Community Safety Scrutiny, of which I am Vice Chairman has very little 'wiggle room' being responsible for Oxford Fire & Rescue and all other elements of Safety to residents.

Date of next meeting Monday 23rd February 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 26th January after the meeting of Binfield Heath Parish Council

01/09 Recreation Ground

25.01/08 The Recreation Ground has been inspected. One of the football post nets has been badly chewed by deer. A replacement is to be purchased. **(Clerk to Action)**

25.02/08 New bins can be purchased from SODC. However, with the introduction of the wheelie bin system in early summer, Cllr Englefield suggested that the present system of bin emptying by the village volunteers may not be possible if bags cannot be placed along the road outside the recreation ground. SODC is to be consulted on this matter. **(Clerk to Action)**

02/09 Allotments

There are a number of outstanding rents. A second reminder is to be sent. **(Clerk to Action)**

Date of next meeting Monday 23rd February 2009

The meetings closed at 10.05 pm

[Please note that these minutes will not be ratified until the next meeting of the Parish Council.](#)