

## BINFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Binfield Heath Parish Council Meeting held on Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020 at 6.30pm by Zoom

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Meeting of the Recreation Ground Charities & Allotment for the Labouring Poor Charity  
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#### **23/20 Recreation Ground**

23.01/20 The new goalposts are in use. It has been reported that some of the boys causing a nuisance last summer had come back. If it happens again the goalposts will be locked.

23.02/20 Bags will be ordered and a new litter collection rota is to be sent out. **(Clerk to action)**

**24/20 Allotments** The sheds on the allotments were broken into two weeks ago. All tenants were notified. Fortunately, only one or two things were stolen.

**25/20 Public Forum** No public questions.

### The meeting of the Parish Council

**Present** Cllr P Rollason, Cllr L Ransom, Cllr S Summerland, Cllr H Lacey, Cllr Sarah Fulton-Urry and Cllr K Maher. Cllr D Bartholomew (OCC), Cllr L Rawlins (SODC) and two members of the public.

**110/20 Apologies for absence** None

**111/20 Declarations of Interest** None

**112/20 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020.** Cllr Lacey proposed the minutes were accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Summerland. All agreed.

**113/20 Matters Arising** None

**114/20 County Councillor's report** Cllr Bartholomew's full report is attached to the minutes. On some local matters he reported that a) The work at Coppid Crossroads has been completed b) street lights along the A4155 at Thames Farm are to remain on c) the drainage proposal from Taylor Wimpey at Thames Farm has major implications for Shiplake and a flood risk assessment is now expected d) Cllr Bartholomew has objected to the proposed 20 dwellings at the rear of Crossways.

**115/20 District Councillor's report** Cllr Rawlins introduced his report. His full report is attached to these minutes. When asked about the Local Plan Cllr Rawlins commented that the Inspector's report was due any time. The Chairman explained the position with the disposal of the refuse from the Recreation Ground. Cllr Rawlins was unaware and will check the situation.

**116/20 Public Forum/Correspondence** No public questions. **(Clerk to action)**

#### **117/20 Financial Situation**

117.01/20 The financial position was circulated.

117.02/20 The November accounts were presented. Invoices to the value of £1075.67 were authorised for payment mostly by BACS. These payments were proposed by Cllr Ransom and seconded by Cllr Summerland. **(Clerk to action)**

117.03/20 Councillor expenses None this month

117.04/20 CIL Report The Clerk reported that the CIL report for 2020 had been completed. Use of the CIL money was discussed briefly as replacement storage for the Flower Show is necessary. To install a Speed Indication Device was also suggested to control the speeding through the village.

117.05/20 Budget for 2021 The notes previously provided by the Clerk were discussed. Future possible expenses were discussed and it was decided that the precept would remain at £14,000 as this year. All agreed. **(Clerk to action)**

#### **118/20 Planning Matters**

##### ***New Applications***

P20/S3828/FUL Proposed demolition of existing single storey dwelling and adjoining store and erection of a replacement three bedroom dwelling house with associated amenity space and parking provision. The Log Cabin, Kiln House Kiln Lane Binfield Heath RG9 4ES A response has been \*P20/S3942/FUL Variation of condition 4 (approved plans) on planning application P16/S2861/O & conditions 1 (approved plans) & 5 (landscaping) on planning application P20/S1990/RM

Reserved Matters following outline planning permission P16/S2861/O (Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 8 dwellings) 1. Appearance of the dwellings, including materials; and 2. Landscaping in the development. Mount Ida Lower Shiplake RG9 3PH (\*Consultee 51)

**Applications Granted** None

**119/20 Community Matters** A plain white van has been spotted at the end of Kiln Lane where residents walk their dogs. A warning about puppy stealing will be circulated locally.

**120/20 Highways/Transport and General Maintenance** Concern has long been expressed about the exit from Heathfield Avenue as with vehicles constantly parked on the side of the road, visibility is very reduced increasing the possibility of an accident. A mirror on the opposite side of the road outside the shop was suggested. The Clerk was asked to write to Adrian Beales to see whether this is possible. **(Clerk to action)**

**121/20 Green and Open Spaces** Nothing for discussion this month.

**122/20 Neighbourhood Watch** Cllr Maher mentioned the Thames Valley Alerts which can be signed up to. Alerts on various matters such as security warnings and reports on courses that might be of local interest are sent out when necessary. The availability will be added to the website.

**123/20 Neighbourhood Plan** Cllr Maher is following the Eye & Dunsden NDP group to learn from the group's experience as it works towards a Neighbourhood Plan. A BH working party held a meeting to prepare a short initial questionnaire for residents referring them to the previously developed Parish Plan (2013) and the updated Community Led Plan (2016). Discussion to decide when to send out the questionnaire took place. It is important to ascertain the amount of interest and commitment from residents. If support is not sufficient then it would be very difficult to pursue the Plan. The two residents present offered their help with the questionnaire.

**124/20 Website Compliance** The website needs to become compliant with regulations. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Dobson to seek a quotation for the work that needs to be undertaken. There is an SODC Compliance Test that can be run to ascertain the issues that are needed for compliance. **(Clerk to action)**

**Matters for future consideration** Neighbourhood Plan; CIL money;

The meeting finished at 8.16pm

**Date of next meeting: Monday January 25<sup>th</sup> 2021**

## **REPORT TO BINFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL NOV 2020 FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW**

### **GENERAL OCC REPORT**

#### **NEW NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS FROM 5 NOVEMBER**

As you will be aware, the Prime Minister has announced a four-week national lockdown for England, with strict new measures coming into force from Thursday. The move comes in the wake of rapidly rising infection levels across the country and a significant rise in hospital admissions. The lockdown measures are designed to stem the spread of the virus, prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed, and save lives. From 5 November, people will be told to stay at home unless they have a specific reason to leave, such as education, childcare, and work which cannot be done from home. Pubs, restaurants, and non-essential shops and businesses will have to close, although hospitality venues can continue to provide takeaway and delivery services. Schools, colleges, universities and early years settings can remain open. People must not meet socially indoors or in a private garden with family or friends who are not part of their household or support bubble. People are also being asked to avoid travelling in or out of their local area and to reduce the number of journeys they make. For full details see [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

OCC is working rapidly to identify how the new measures will affect service delivery and what action is required. Contingency plans are in place across all services

#### **OCC CHALLENGES GOVERNMENT PLANNING**

Residents in Oxfordshire are being assured that national changes to planning laws that

could reduce local democratic input on key decisions are being challenged by local councillors. OCC Cabinet members have written a response to government to reflect their concerns over future planning policy as set out by in a recent high-profile consultation.

### **PARENTS URGED TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN VACCINATED AGAINST FLU**

Parents in Oxfordshire are being urged to have their young children vaccinated against the flu this winter. Children aged two and three can have a free, quick and painless nasal spray vaccine at their GP surgery. In addition, children in primary school and those in year seven can have the nasal spray vaccine via the school nurse service. Ansaf Asaf, Director of Public Health at Oxfordshire County Council said: "It's more important than ever that everybody eligible gets a free flu vaccination this winter. Young children don't have to get an injection, and instead can get a quick, painless nasal spray. By ensuring that young children get their vaccinations, we can also help to protect our older and more vulnerable friends and family members by reducing the risk of transmission."

### **FLU VACCINATION ELIGIBILITY**

The full list of those who are eligible for a free flu vaccine on the NHS is below:

- People aged 65 years and over
- Patients aged from six months to 65 years in clinical 'at risk' groups (see below)
- Pregnant women
- Children aged 2 and 3
- Children in primary school and Year 7
- People in long-stay residential care homes
- Social care and hospice workers who provide direct patient contact
- Health and social care staff working in residential/nursing homes
- Patients on the NHS shielded patient list
- Household contacts of carers and those on the NHS shielded patient list

### **SPECIFIC REPORT FOR BINFIELD HEATH**

#### **TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AT COPPID CROSSROADS**

All works have now been completed.

#### **IMPACT OF ROAD WIDENING ON A4155 AT THAMES FARM**

Data is now in for the southern and central site, but the northern survey (nr Bolney Lane) is has just been re-run due to equipment failure.

#### **STREET LIGHTING ON THE A4155 AT THAMES FARM**

Residents have asked me why the streetlights on the A4155 at Thames Farm have been turned on, even though construction hadn't started, let alone anyone living on the site. I raised the issue with officers and received the following response: *The street lighting for the section 278 works have been installed for the new road layout and in line with the British standard and OCC policy so we would not depart from this standard by turning lights off. They provide essential guidance for road traffic users to show that the road layout has changed with a new turning lane and pedestrian crossing points and would highlight any one crossing the road. We could not assume the crossing would not be used. Should the development be delayed in its completion by a considerable timeframe then the Roads Agreement Team would need to assess the situation and decide what measures need to be put into place to accommodate this.*

### **SPECIFIC SODC REPORT FOR BINFIELD HEATH**

#### **P20/S2808/DIS: THAMES FARM (DRAINAGE)**

As previously advised, this drainage proposal from Taylor Wimpey (TW) has major implications for the village. Residents are now well aware of the details and around 150

objections were lodged on the SODC website. There was incredulity that TW had not been asked to undertake a revised Flood Risk Assessment (FRA). TW has now agreed to do this and an updated FRA is anticipated later this month.

## **P20/S2103/FUL: PROPOSED ERECTION OF 20 DWELLINGS TO REAR OF CROSSWAYS**

I have objected to this in both my capacity as County Councillor and as District Councillor.

## **SODC WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – BINFIELD HEATH – 23RD NOVEMBER 2020**

### **Covid-19**

Covid cases have been growing in Oxfordshire and Reading; the virus is showing strong resurgence. At 6th November, Oxford City was at a weekly rate of 266 per 100k population. By comparison Cherwell DC was 160, West Oxon DC at 126, SODC at 130 and Vale of WH DC at 140. Reading BC was at 159. Numbers are rising steadily and extending more fully through the age ranges as time progresses. A national lockdown has been confirmed lasting until 2nd December. It is hoped that this will help choke the growth in cases and reduce the reinfection "R-rate". Hopefully this will be reflected in the data in local cases in the weeks ahead. The government has extended the previous furlough scheme, opened it up for new employees to be added and extended cover to self-employed people. The scheme has now been extended to March – indicating that the Covid situation may be difficult for some time? For businesses affected by lockdowns or high-tier restrictions there is also funding available through (district) local councils and the government have provided funding for the national period to 2nd December. After the 2nd December there will be a return to an amended 3-tier system, with specific relaxation for the core Christmas period. There have been positive announcements on the progress of potential vaccines – notably from Pfizer, Moderna and Oxford/AstraZeneca. However, a full roll-out of a vaccination programme through the UK population is likely to take a considerable time – perhaps to autumn of 2021, albeit that the summer period is less conducive to the spread of infection.

### **Community Hub details**

Please help us spread the word the word to make sure help reaches those most in need - if people are in urgent need of support during the lockdown they should contact our Community Hub on 01235 422600 or email [communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk). There's more info at:

- [southoxon.gov.uk/covid19](https://southoxon.gov.uk/covid19)
- [whitehorsedc.gov.uk/covid19](https://whitehorsedc.gov.uk/covid19)

SODC have been working hard to prepare for this second lockdown – it will require a lot of work. Staff will need to call once again on local support in the coming weeks to ensure our most vulnerable residents get the support that they need. E-mails are going to all the voluntary groups and individuals that SODC have been working with since March to explain the current situation, seeking support and to provide support resources and information too. (It is suggested that a joint memorandum of understanding be signed so that personal details can be shared in cases of need.) SODC will also be advising on details of the funding streams available to them.

### **Homeless**

SODC will be once again taking action as part of a wider initiative to ensure that the homeless are given appropriate support and accommodation – including where households are made homeless as a result of the pandemic.

### **Business Grants**

As regards business grants businesses that need help and guidance should go to [svbs.co.uk](https://svbs.co.uk)

Businesses required to close in England due to local or national restrictions will be eligible for the following:

- For properties with a rateable value of £15,000 or under, grants of £1,334 per four weeks
- For properties with a rateable value of over £15,000 and below £51,000, grants of £2,000 per four weeks
- For properties with a rateable value of £51,000 or over grants of £3,000 per four weeks.

Details are available through SODC at the South and Vale Business Support website: [www.svbs.co.uk](http://www.svbs.co.uk).

### **Additional Restrictions Grant**

The government has also announced that SODC will be receiving a pot of funding to use to provide discretionary business grants. Details are available through SODC at the South and Vale Business Support website: [www.svbs.co.uk](http://www.svbs.co.uk).

**Parking Policy Consultation** The consultation for giving feedback on some proposed changes to parking arrangements in the district council's off street car parks was Thursday 19 November. You can find out more at [southoxon.gov.uk/parking](http://southoxon.gov.uk/parking)

Leigh Rawlins  
District Councillor