

## **BINFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Binfield Heath Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 7.45 pm at the Bottle and Glass (due to fire at the Scout Hut)**

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Meeting of the Recreation Ground Charities & Allotment for the Labouring Poor Charity  
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**019/19 Recreation Ground** Inspections have taken place. The ROSPA report has been forwarded to Councillors. There are no major problems. Cllr Maher will look at the ROSPA report and note any other issues that need attention. The drug problem was discussed and Cllr Maher is going to Henley Library 20<sup>th</sup> Sept as there will be a police presence. Implementing a closing time for the use of the Recreation Ground is being considered. A new playground list will be sent out. **(Clerk to action)**

**020/19 Allotments** The Clerk reported that rents were coming in. The claim for lost water with the leak was discussed. There is an administration charge for the request so the Clerk will try to calculate an average usage to ascertain whether it is worth claiming. **(Clerk to action)**

**021/19 Public Forum** No questions.

#### **The meeting of the Parish Council**

**Present** Cllr P Rollason, Cllr L Ransom, Cllr S Summerland, Cllr H Lacey, Cllr K Maher, Cllr Sarah Fulton-Urry and Cllr D Bartholomew (OCC) Norman Lane and Barney Double. Cllr Bartholomew (OCC) arrived at 9pm after other meetings.

**100/19 Apologies for absence** Cllr Rawlins (SODC).

**101/19 Declarations of Interest** None

**102/19 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019** Cllr Summerland proposed the minutes were accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Ransom. All agreed.

**103/19 Matters Arising** None – all items on the agenda.

**104/19 County Councillor's report** Cllr Bartholomew reported that **a)** two-thirds of rural households with access to superfast broadband have signed up – one of the highest sign-up rates in the country. These have benefited from the roll-out of rural broadband by OCC and BT, with Govt support. **b)** GCSE pupils may choose further study, but many workplace training schemes & apprenticeships are available in Oxfordshire. Help is at [www.oxme.info](http://www.oxme.info) & [National Careers Service](http://NationalCareersService.gov.uk), helpline: 0800 100 900. The apprenticeships website is: [www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk](http://www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk) OCC staff will be available via the web chat service on the [Oxme website](http://Oxme website) Details can be found at [www.oxme.info/resultsday](http://www.oxme.info/resultsday) **c)** OCC is putting a number of changes in place to reduce single use plastics in council buildings across Oxfordshire. OCC has pledged to be carbon neutral by 2030 **d)** Stephen Chandler is OCC'S new Director of Adult Services **e)** Cllr Bartholomew has received positive comments on the new speed limit through part of Shiplake on safety grounds **f)** he spoke about the impracticality of the planned urbanising impact of the ramp and fortified embankment at the Retirement village inquiry **g)** the temporary closure of the A4155 by Thames Water will take place between 8pm and 5am. Dates tba. **h)** Re street light no.3 the PC should email [Anthony.Palman-Brown@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Anthony.Palman-Brown@Oxfordshire.gov.uk) **i)** he moved a motion at OCC Full Council passed by 54 votes in favour, and one abstention. The Leader now has to write to council leaders at Reading, Wokingham and Bracknell, plus MPs John Howell, John Redwood, Matt Rodda and Theresa May, stating that: a) a car-based solution to a car-based problem that would pour thousands of cars and HGVs into Oxfordshire, should a new bridge be built, should be restricted to public transport, cyclists and pedestrians; b) if a car-based solution is pursued, the bridge and necessary mitigation must be considered as one project so that the benefits, disadvantages and costs of the scheme can be holistically assessed. Full details here: <https://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=116&MId=5666&Ver=4> **j)** In response to recent accidents and community concern, officers evaluated conditions on the road and a decision was taken to retexture the road surface overnight this week **k)** Cllr Bartholomew reminded BHPC about his Cllr Priority Fund.

**105/19 District Councillor's report** Cllr Rawlins had reported that SODC was continuing to discuss the emerging Local Plan. He also noted that the third bridge proposal is at the forefront of Reading's plans.

**106/19 Public Forum/Correspondence** Barney Double asked if the street light at Heathfield Close could be perhaps turned off overnight as it shines brightly through a bedroom window. The PC passed a resolution that the light be turned off at night. Cllr Bartholomew said that if turned off overnight there would have to be a consultation with all those affected. Alternately, the light could

be shielded to reduce the impact, with no need for consultation. The Clerk will contact the relevant person to consider the latter option. **(Clerk to action)**

### **107/19 Financial Situation**

107.01/19 The financial position was circulated. The Clerk confirmed that all July's payments had been made. The Certificate of Exemption was accepted by the external auditor.

107.02/19 The September accounts were presented. Invoices to the value of £927.36 (August) and £729.59 (September) were authorised for payment by BACS. These payments were proposed by Cllr Rollason and seconded by Cllr Ransom. **(Clerk to action)**

107.03/19 Councillor expenses: None this month.

### **108/19 Planning Matters**

Cllr Lacey & Cllr Maher are to attend the Planning Training Session to take place at Didcot on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Cllr Ransom clarified the position with the wall at High Wall House. Permission has been given to remove part of the wall and reinstate it a little further back, aiding visibility at the entrance. The PC has written to the developers and expressed their concern that the wall should be rebuilt to look the same as before as far as is possible.

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

P19/S2461/HH Single-storey rear extension and revision to existing south elevation 8 Heathfield Close Binfield Heath RG9 4DS The PC recommended this application for approval.

P19/S2390/HH Detached two bay garage. Hollow Tree Cottage Road between Dunsden Green and Arch Hill Binfield Heath RG9 4LR The PC recommended this application for approval.

P18/S2377/FUL Appeal reference APP/Q3115/W/19/3230720 Retention of Crowsley Park Farmhouse Annexe as an independent residential dwelling and for associated alterations to the building. Annexe Crowsley Park Farm Crowsley RG9 4JN So far no news about the appeal.

#### ***Applications Granted***

P19/S2179/FUL Variation of condition 2 – Approved Plans for changes to the fenestration of the dwelling including addition of roof light window to application P18/S2146/FUL. Demolition of summer house and erection of new house. (Amended plans received 10 September showing roof height reduced by 0.5m) Site Location: 1 Sweet Briar Cottages Road between Dunsden Green and Arch Hill Binfield Heath RG9 4LP

### **109/19 Community Matters**

109.01/19 Flower Show A letter from the PC to the owner of the field has been sent. The future of the containers will be discussed at a meeting to be held with the Flower Show Chairman in the next week.

109.02/19 It was suggested that a card and a gift should be sent from the PC to a resident who is 100 years old on October 8<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk will purchase a card and pass to Councillors to sign. Cllr Summerland will purchase a gift. **(Clerk & Cllr Summerland to action)**

**110/19 Highways/Transport and General Maintenance** Concern was again expressed over the buses through Playhatch and Binfield Heath. The recent closure at Playhatch caused problems as residents were unaware due to lack of signage. Cllr Ransom had found a letter indicating this closure back in June. Cllr Bartholomew will look into this again.

**111/19 Grants and Donations** None

**112/19 Neighbourhood Plan** The possibility of undertaking this was discussed again. The PC would have liked to know the outcome of John Howell's private members bill but this may be dropped in the present political climate. The Clerk was asked to look at the process for drawing up a plan. **(Clerk to action)**. The PC is aware that it is time consuming and needs some residents' commitment. It would also require involvement with the local landowner. Ricardo Rios will be asked if he could possibly attend the next PC meeting. **(Clerk to action)**

**113/19 Neighbourhood Watch** Cllr Maher has spoken to the central body for Neighbourhood Watch. He is now arranging a meeting with the leader of Henley Neighbourhood Watch. He also suggested that relevant local items should go onto the website.

**114/19 BH Representative on Dunsden Village Hall Committee** Cllr Summerland has resigned as a Trustee but is willing to continue to be the BHPC representative.

**Matters for future consideration** Closing time for the recreation ground; Cllr Priority Fund. The meeting finished at 9.35pm **Date of next meeting: Monday October 28<sup>th</sup> 2019**