

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 4th November 2013

At

7.15 in Saint Aidan's Church

1. Attendance

a. In attendance

Councillor I Goldthorpe	(IG) (Chairman)
Councillor A Walker	(AWa) (Vice Chair)
Councillor A Mills	(AM)
Councillor F Shaw	(FS)
Councillor B Taylor	(BT)
Councillor A Wood	(AWo)

Mrs Stephanie Tolson (Clerk), Borough Councillors P Hand Davis and J Wilson, Jane Harding – Oxspring Open Gardens.

b. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor I Stanley (BT,AWa)

2. Prioritisation of Agenda Items.

None.

3. Community Matters.

a. Public Participation Adjournment.

- Jane Harding spoke about Oxspring Open Gardens and that there was to be a break from doing it for a couple of years. The intention is to change it to a full village event and alternate it with the Cawthorne event. It was agreed that the current organisers would meet with the Titivators at some point to discuss a way forward.
- Borough Councillor Hand Davis spoke about the current SHLAA consultation and a meeting he had with the head of planning, Stephen Moralee. He pointed out the infrastructure problems that would be caused by the number of new houses in the Penistone Area, but Mr Moralee stated he had no choice, and that BMBC had to build a number of new houses in line with Government targets. It was noted that a Neighbourhood Plan was the only document that carried statutory weight that could help fight the plans. Councillor Hand-Davis stated that the Penistone Councillors will be fighting any new housing plans.
- Councillor Walker reported that she had commented on the SHLAA consultation, and had asked two questions re the site assessment on Upper Roughbirchworth Lane. What is the “bad Neighbour?”, and “Is the land actually available?”
- The Borough Councillors spoke about the Tour De France coming to Yorkshire, and stated that they were attending a meeting on Thursday to find out more information for plans in this area.
- Councillor Hand-Davis stated that he had reported to the TPT Officers that the lights were out in the Tunnel.
- Councillor Wilson spoke about bicycles speeding on the TPT. He stated that he felt this was a problem and that it had been reported to Sarah Ford.
- The speed lowering system recently put in place at the Thurgoland crossroads was discussed, and it was thought that this would be a good idea for the Four Lane Ends crossroads. The Clerk is to contact highways for accident statistics at this junction.

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

- Councillor Wilson spoke about the dry stone walling project that he had been involved with in Silkstone Common. They were doing the wall themselves, with the help of a dry stone wall company and some students from Barnsley College. It was thought that Oxspring could get a group of volunteers together from the village, and do a similar project to rectify the wall on Sheffield Road. The costs involved would be the stone and the daily rate for the dry stone wall company. An article on this would be put in the newsletter.
- Councillor Wilson reported that Councillor Barnard had obtained quotes for the footpath extension. These ranged from £6000 to £9000. The Parish Council agreed that they would also get some quotes. Councillor Wilson will find out the spec used to obtain the quotes so that a similar spec can be used by the Parish Council. The Borough Councillors stated that they would match fund the project with the Ward Alliance funding.
- Councillor Mills spoke about her concerns that Gypsies may move onto the playingfield in Oxspring, and that a resident had stated that they would build a barrier across the field entrance if the Parish Council provided the timber. It was noted that Councillor Wood had a timber post that could be used as a bollard. Councillor Mills will provide the resident with Councillor Wood's contact details.

4a. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2013, and Matters arising from them.

- The Chair **agreed** to sign the minutes as a true record after **agreement** by the Council (BT,AWa). The Clerk had circulated action reports from the minutes and provided the latest update in addition. The Chair and other members reported on their actions.
- The improvements at the playarea were discussed and the matting pegs were looked at. It still appears that none of the samples fit. Councillor Taylor is to trim the washer on a peg to see if it will fit. The Chair is meeting with Jo Birch at the playarea on Wednesday morning to look at the safety surfacing.
- The Clerk reported on the consultation on the removal of the Sheffield Road phone box.
- It was agreed to put playingfield charging on the agenda for the December meeting. It was noted that the adults played on the field on the 25th October.
- Regarding the leaning post on Roughbitchworth Lane, nothing has been done. Councillor Taylor will remove the post and fill the hole.
- Regarding parking at school times on Roughbitchworth Lane, the Clerk will write to the school and request that parents are asked not to park near the bridge for safety reasons, and that the village green and playingfield car parks are available for their use.
- The Clerk will find out what's involved in creating a byelaw.
- Any other matters would be included in later agenda items.

5. Business Matters.

a. Community Partnership Facilities

- The Clerk has heard from Chris Booth, who reported that he is handing over the administration side of the Charitable Trust to Ian Stanley and John Crowther. He will remain a Trustee.

b. Bower Dell

- The picnic benches have been delivered, but the bin is still on order.
- John Mitchell has started work on the wall.
- The Volunteer group cleared the brambles around the wall area in October.
- The trees have now been ordered.

c. Neighbourhood Plan

- Councillor Walker updated the Council, and reported that a training session is due to take place with Planning Aid England on the 27th November at 7.30pm. This meeting will look at Housing site assessments and the next public consultation.

d. Willows Allotments

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

- Councillor Taylor has received a quote for the footpath behind the allotments of approx £3600 to £4000 to clear the ground and put up two fences. This did not include putting gates in.
- Councillor Taylor reported that from speaking to residents there, many are not happy with the suggestion of creating this new path, but would be happy to have a grass access strip the full length of the allotments on the bungalow side of the existing fence. This would entail the removal of approximately 3 borders or areas of planting that currently go up to the back fence.
- It was agreed to write to all the residents with the suggestion and the decision will go with the majority.
- The Clerk will write a new contract for the Willows tenancies for the Council to comment on/approve.

e. Wall at Sheffield Road

- Discussed under community participation.

f. Playingfield Drainage

- A pump was hired in October to investigate the drainage. Unfortunately it was not possible to find where the drain in question lead to as the dye could not be seen in any of the outlets. It was agreed to hire a digger to excavate.
- The Clerk will contact Mr Fielding to see if he kept any plans of pipe intersections when he installed the Culvert.

g. Other Business

- None.

6. Financial Matters

a. Balances and Transfers

- There were no transfers during the month.
- The closing Balances for 31st October 2013 are c/a £7204.88, d/a £5172.96, Imprest a/c £41.43.

b. Payments and Receipts

Payments amounting to £798.55 and receipts of £15 were presented and **agreed** for payment. (BT,AWa)

c. Other Financial Matters

- None.

7. Planning Matters

a. Planning Applications.

- There was one planning application for consideration.
- 2013/1076 – 12 West Crescent – There were no objections.

8. Administrative Matters.

a. Correspondence

- The work done by the Volunteer Group was discussed. The Councillors were pleased with the improvements done so far.
- The Volunteer group would like to clear some undergrowth and do some planting on either side of the old Bower Hill Bridge road. As this is BMBC land the Parish Council will need to apply for a license to do the work. This work was agreed and it was agreed that the Clerk will apply to BMBC.
- It was noted that the volunteers had done some clearing at the Anthills, and it was noted that Neighbourhood Pride had not flailed the area for the second time as had been agreed. The Clerk will contact Andy Poole.
- It was agreed that the volunteers could clear the path to the TPT at the Anthills, but decided that the Anthills should remain wild and only be cut twice next year also. Councillor Shaw will feed this back to the group.

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

- It was discussed whether equipment could be provided for the Volunteer group. The discussion was positive but no agreement was reached. To be discussed at a future meeting.
- It was noted that the tariff for electricity from Southern Electric had changed. The Council will now have to pay a standing charge for electric.
- The next newsletter was discussed. Councillor Shaw reported that Oxspring Friends would not be doing a New Year Eve dance this year. She will provide the Clerk with the details for the Carol Concert at Saint Aidans.
- Councillor Walker will provide an update on the Neighbourhood Plan for the Newsletter, and Councillor Shaw will provide an article on the Volunteer Group.
- The Clerk will provide an update on Parish Projects for the newsletter, and a request for volunteers for the dry stone walling project idea.

b. Items to Report

- Councillor Walker and Taylor spoke about Penistone Cycle Hire. They have met with the owner and she is proposing to site a steel container for Bike Hire on the playingfield. It would be in the corner behind the Waggon & Horses. The Waggon and Horses have agreed with the proposal. It is suggested that the Parish Council offer a 12 month contract and the Cycle Hire Company would pay rent for the space. It was agreed to discuss at a future meeting. Councillor Wood and Shaw stated that at this point they could not agree to it as the field footpath still needs attention, and the route to the trail would need to be looked at.
- Councillor Wood reported that pruning was still required on the TPT even though a lot of it had died back. Councillor Taylor felt that there wasn't a problem here.
- Councillor Wood also felt that Himalayan Balsam in the village was an issue, but this was not agreed with other Councillors.
- Councillor Wood reported the drains on Sheffield Road (from Roughbitchworth to Bower Hill). The Clerk will enquire with Highways, and report that the problem has not been fixed.
- It was reported that trees are overhanging the trough planter near the Pinfold. Councillor Shaw will talk to the Titivators about pruning them.
- Councillor Taylor reported that he had done a Tree Inspection of all trees on Parish Council Land. There are a couple of trees in the Village Green that he will cut back. It was noted that the branches of a tree in the Rookery was getting close to the roof of a Neighbouring house. This is to be kept an eye on.

9. Other Matters

a. Emergency Items

- None reported.

b. Matters for future discussion.

Community Partnership Facilities, Bower Dell area project, Neighbourhood Plan, Wall at Sheffield Road, Willows allotments, playingfield drains investigation, Penistone Cycle Hire, Playingfield Charging.

7. Date and Time of the Next Meeting.

The next full meeting will be at 7.15pm on Monday 2nd December 2013 at Saint Aidan's Church.

Signed this day _____ 2013.