



BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th April 2011

PRESENT:

John Godbold (Chair)
Fenella Jarvis
Dean Upton
Ian Tait
Will Hawthorne
Nicola Blencowe
Chrissie Sanders
Heather Nicholson

APOLOGIES:

Martin Macpherson (Clerk)
Cllr Charlotte Bailey (HCC)
Cllr Lynda Banister (WCC)
Cllr Brian Laming (WCC)

IN ATTENDANCE:

41. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous Assembly Meeting held on 12th April 2010 were **AGREED** and signed as an accurate record.

42. Parish Council – Chairman's Report

The following is the text of the Chairman's report read to the meeting by **JG**:

I have now been chairman for one year, although it seems more like five. When I took over from Keith I had no idea of the work that he did in the background and made no mention of at our meetings - no wonder he had had enough after a decade.

The past year was over shadowed by the death of our City Councillor David Spender, whose loss we are still feeling. After some time we had a by-election and Brian Laming was duly elected. No doubt his first year will be as steep a learning curve as was mine.

As a Parish we have seen a few changes in personnel with the loss of Ray and Daniel and the addition of Heather and Chrissy. Whilst on the subject of Democracy, come May we will all be asked our opinion of an alternative election model, hopefully everyone will be encouraged to vote so we can get an accurate representation of the will of the people.

The end of the year saw another large deluge of snow, this time there was less chaos on our roads and the new salting routes did seem to help. The snow led to the usual clamour for salt bins and as I speak I think that there are only one or two sites left on our list to be installed. I would however point out that it is impractical for every slight gradient to be covered and if you have to walk one hundred yards to get salt, look on it as an adventure.

There have been two very contentious planning issues this year, which are the applications from the phone companies to extend the mast on Ridgeway. The first was refused by WCC and this led to a revised plan which was submitted by yet another phone company. This looks like it may be refused as well although this will no doubt

lead to another mast further up Ridgeway, which will probably lead to more objections from residents having their view of Stanmore ruined. I would like to thank Fenella, Dean and Will for their efforts on this matter. There have been the usual variety of planning applications for extensions and conversions albeit somewhat less than last year.

Other changes in the area have included the new Park and Ride and completion of the roundabout at BFR. Although it seems to be well used I have not noticed any less traffic going into Winchester. However, the new road layout going onto the roundabout seems to work well.

With the new Government and subsequent uncertainty regarding budgets etc saw us trying to reduce expenditure with a view to taking up some of the slack on estate maintenance. It seems that WCC will not now be making great cuts in this area - not in the near future at least. There are certain areas of the estate that I feel still need to be brought up to standard for example the left hand side going down Meadow Way which does look unkempt for most of the year.

There has been various transport initiatives in the area and I would like to thank Keith Taylor for keeping us up to date. The art work in the underpasses has been a great success and is well worth taking a look at if you have not seen it already.

We have undertaken a review of our spending plans (wish list) which we are now starting to put into place i.e. the new picnic table and resiting of benches on WS ridge. Along with other more community based ideas.

The management of WSR has gone well this year with one major setback - the destruction of 130yds of 400 year old hedge at the top of the Ridge. We were forced to take immediate action to make the area secure and are now in talks with S&SE to make good the damage although it will not be the same in our lifetime.

I will not touch on our finances save to say that they are very healthy thanks to Martins' Trojan efforts on our behalf. He will no doubt be going into great detail very shortly. We did not raise our precept demand this year along with most parishes even though WCC would have liked us to, as the precept is not capped or under political control. Finally, I would like to thank all councillors who have made this year a success in very trying circumstances.

43. Presentation of Parish Council Finances for 2010/2011

The Parish Clerk reported that the accounts for the year 2010/2011 had been prepared but not yet audited. He went on to outline that:

- a) During 2010/2011 the Parish Council had received a total income of £30,241. This was made up of a Precept from the City Council of £27,900, £1,202 from an HCC grant, £1,042 from an insurance claim and sundry credits of £97.
- b) Expenditure amounted to £24,865. This consisted of:
 - (i) Clerk's Salary, PAYE & NIC £ 6,521
 - (ii) Administration £ 3,704
 - (iii) Litter £ 2,358

(iv)	Open Spaces	£ 725
(v)	Play Equipment	£ 2,791
(vi)	Whiteshute Ridge	£ 6,266
(vii)	Donations	£ 2,500

- c) Donations had been made to the Carroll Centre, (£1,000), Winchester CAB (£400), BF & OB RCA (£400), Hampshire Air Ambulance (£500) and Victim Support (£200).
- d) The surplus on the year was therefore £5,376.
- e) Taking into account the previous year's brought forward figures this resulted in a final overall balance of £10,000 with a further £14,500 held in reserve for the lease of Whiteshute Ridge, £12,581 for future capital projects and £1,669 in the Pension Fund making a grand total of £38,750.

44. Question Time

There being no questions the Chairman closed the meeting at 1945.

Signed

Date