

# Sunningdale Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13 September 2011 at the Pavilion, Broomhall Lane, Sunningdale

Sunningdale Garden in Bloom. Bill Hathaway was congratulated and presented with the First Prize in Sunningdale in Bloom 2011. Lillian Parkes was awarded the second prize

80/11 **Attendance:** Christine Gadd (Chairman) Nick Dawson, Robin Booth, Jon Read, David Lupton, Kate Webb

Apologies: Mark Klincewicz, Richard Sefton, Rodney Stubblefield,  
There were no declarations of interest for items on the Agenda.

81/11 **Approval of the Minutes** of Council meeting on 19 August and 31 August 2011

These were duly signed as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising: Discussions with the Borough had highlighted the problems associated with extending footpath 13 to Sunninghill, most notably the cost of buying the land, as well as health and safety issues next to the railway line. This is no longer an option. CG had organised for the local press to write a short article on the activities at the Rec.

82/11 **Finance**

The financial report was received.

Council **approved** the income and expenditure figures for August

83/11 **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee had met on 9 September. It had covered 4 topics:

- a) Review of current budget – to amend the budget to increase by a total of £2525 to cover anticipated higher costs on grants, water, and newsletters. The existing surplus of income over expenditure allowed for this extra expenditure. Council **agreed**
- b) It was recommended that Council proceed with the budgeted project to refurbish the public toilets with tiles and replace the cracked toilet, having examined two very similar quotations. This falls within the budgeted figure of £3500. Council **approved**
- c) The Chairman recommended that the hours for the Clerk be increased from 30 hours a week to 37 hours to cover the additional work of Localism, Neighbourhood Plan and Big Society. Finance Committee confirmed that this could be met within the budget. This would cost in region of £3k for the coming half year starting in October. It was suggested that a letter should go to the Chief Executive to note the necessity of additional hours and seek assurance that any increase in the Precept would be looked on favourably. Council sought assurance that the extra work is now required of Parish Council, and not an option. The chairman confirmed this is the case. The Clerk will represent Council on the NP Steering Group so that Council fully participates. This was **unanimously agreed** by Council.
- d) 2012/13 budget. Council was reminded that it is timely to consider projects to be undertaken in the coming year. Councillors need to propose projects for 2012, with bids made in time for the November Council to be finalised by December/January.

84/11 **Big Society**

Joy Chan Meeson's paper was presented to Council on her work as BS Coordinator. Council expressed its delight in having such a capable and hard working Big Society Coordinator, who had engaged so well with the public at both the Retirement Fair and Sunningdale Carnival. Council has a much higher profile as a result of her work and recruitment of volunteers. While she is currently focusing on building up Adopt a Street teams and additional volunteers for the library, she is looking ahead at future projects, notably the Diamond Jubilee Proposals.

Diamond Jubilee Projects – the results of survey of opinion at Carnival on the four options are as follows: Music Festival (65), Plant trees (59), Solar lighting (49) and improve public spaces (44). It was agreed to hold full discussion on these at the next meeting, to explore Big Society grants for the music festival and other costings. Those Councillors who favoured a permanent memorial should present their ideas and costings. The Parish will continue to work with the Borough on tree planting proposals, noting that the Borough have already located 16 places within the Parish where trees will be planted as part of this programme. Councillors to forward their ideas to the Clerk as soon as possible.

**85/11 Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

Council were updated on the information being prepared for the launch event on 28 September (3pm – 8pm) and the questions being posed to the public under the four headings of the topic groups: environment and housing, economy, community and transport. The Clerk reported on the work she and CG are undertaking on the SHLAA sites to better understand the potential of sites. CG emphasised the importance of playing a central part in the Steering Group which is drawing up this plan. It is also important to identify the overarching vision to be achieved in the plan. Council continued to have questions on this plan, which they will put to Peter Hitchen, Senior Planning Manager, who will attend the October meeting of Council.

**86/11 Recreation Ground**

Council received the report on the sporting activities at the Rec. Council was pleased to note the following points from Simon Grassi's report; that there are now 110 registered players, that there is free coaching for 60 Holy Trinity pupils and that Broomhall will become a registered LTA "place to play" by September. Council expressed its satisfaction at the predominantly successful programme of activities which is building the reputation of the place. Council expressed its thanks to Graeme for all his input to an excellent programme at the Rec. Further consideration needs to be given to use of the Community Room to support the programme during the winter.

**87/11 Coworth Road Burial Ground**

Council was informed of the large number of letters of objection to the new gate and associated issues of the use of the graveyard, as well as the notable letters of support for the way the graveyard is now being maintained. It was noted that as of 13.9.2011 the applicant had withdrawn her application for the new gate. It was unclear whether the old gate would be restored. Council debated the issue and concluded that it should not get involved at this time as it was not Council's role, nor had the Wessex Trust requested our involvement. It was agreed that we should take down the spoof yellow notices posted up in the village.

**88/11 Reports and Representatives**

- a) **Chairman.** CG reported on her meeting with RBWM Business Improvement Roadshow. Their intention is to build up specialist management within the Borough focusing on system, skills, building and values in bringing changes within the Borough structures. Listening and working with the community is a priority. The proposed date for the Summer gathering is **Sunday 25 Sept 12 or 12.30** – to which all Councillors and partners are invited. CG will confirm time and place.
- b) **Highways.** JR reported that a list of roads requiring repair has been submitted to RBWM to be undertaken under the participatory budgeting exercise.
- c) **Allotments.** DL noted that hedge trimming should be done in the immediate future.
- d) **Cemetery:** KW remarked that the grass is too long, and compost bins need to be sorted out as people put in unsuitable items. This needs to be prioritised for Graeme.

**The meeting ended at 9.30pm**