

# BAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes

Confidential

LOCATION  
Bayford JMI School

DATE  
24<sup>th</sup> March 2014

PURPOSE OF MEETING  
Parish Assembly

PRESENT  
Michael Wainwright (Chairman), Alan Fitzjohn, Bob Orme, Jane Honeyman, George Rowley, Cllr Ken Crofton and 5 members of the public.

CIRCULATION  
Above listed + Maggie Broomer & Linda Haysey

ITEM	MINUTE	ACTION
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**1.0 Apologies**

1.1 Maggie Broomer

**2.0 Introduction by the Chairman**

2.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**3.0 Chairman's Report**

3.1 As usual this has been a year of 'more of the same'. Noted

The new village sign was finally delivered and installed, thanks to AF and Co. It is positioned a little further down the hill, which we hope will help it to be avoided by out-of-control cars.

We obtained a supply of salt from HCC this year, but fortunately AF on behalf of the BPC did not have need to use it. Due to the mild winter this may have contributed to survival of the village sign.

We are grateful to David Sitwell for auditing the accounts. He has agreed to do this for a further year.

Rail replacement buses: this problem appears to have been finally solved; thanks to everyone who report instances of coaches using Bayford Lane, First Capital Connect for their sympathetic hearing and MB for persistence.

Bayford Lane was finally subject to a week long maintenance program. The drains were cleared and the gravel on the first corner finally removed. Not everything we would have hoped for was carried out. Many thanks to Cllr Ken Crofton for his intervention and help.

The centenary of the Memorial Hall was celebrated on Sunday 19th May, thanks to Colin Taylor and everyone who contributed. The Village Hall has dropped off the agenda during this year. It is undoubtedly a case of no news is good news (in the very best sense). All the repairs and the new kitchen are to be applauded.

The annual playground inspection has brought to our attention the need for a more close look at the state of the equipment.

The subject of gravel and the proposed site 'Broad Green, has demanded much attention during the year. We are grateful to Katie and Paul Neilson and

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	Annie and Claire for their sustained work in opposing this, which appears to be nearing a resolution. However, there may be appeals to come.	
	Paul Curson has continued to be our litter picker and we are very grateful for his meticulous efforts	
	The Annual Village Cleanup happened on the 16 <sup>th</sup> March, it has now been running for over 10 years. It was both enjoyable and worthwhile.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
4.1	<p>The War Memorial. We have now received 3 quotations. We should review these and make a decision.</p> <p>Mike and Alan said they favoured the middle option from Peter Hilliard. He had visited the site three times and MW has spoken to him on the telephone. MW stated that he would like to avoid the war memorial looking like new. George said he favoured the cheapest option but that we should ask all contractors to meet us on site and to explain exactly what work they will be doing.</p> <p>This was agreed.</p> <p>MW asked JH and GWR to arrange this since they are both available during working hours.</p>	Noted/JH/GWR
4.2	<p>The 'Resident's Only' parking sign.</p> <p>This is located near to the bus shelter. The present board is in very poor condition.</p> <p>MW suggested we obtain a quotation for a new sign to match the notice board.</p> <p>This was agreed.</p>	Noted/MW
4.3	<p>The Playground.</p> <p>It is a few years old now. We perhaps need to engage a professional company to renovate it.</p> <p>Andrea Trendler confirmed it was erected in 1999.</p> <p>It was suggested that we investigate the moving of the playground to Bayford Green as this site is more open and pleasant. This would need a specialist company and may not be possible.</p> <p>Andrea said she would particularly like a swing.</p> <p>This was agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Ken Crofton advised us that grants could be obtained for both the play equipment and the goal posts.</p> <p>We should check whether there is anything in the terms of the transfer of this land to the PC from the estate of the late Alice Armitage Smith to prevent this.</p>	Noted
4.4	<p>Willow Corner Pond</p> <p>Many of the posts around the green are missing. After the work on the willow tree by the road, some form of barrier is required here.</p> <p>It is important to preserve the parking alongside the pond as parking around Willow Corner is in very short supply. It was suggested that we renew the posts around the Green and the pond to match. Gravel could be laid alongside the road to avoid this area becoming muddy in winter.</p> <p>GWR suggested we consider a revamp of the whole pond area. It was pointed out that the area behind the pond is owned by Riversmead.</p> <p>Peter Musk has been asked to inspect the trees in the playground and behind the pond. However, he has been out of action for a few weeks.</p> <p>Residents will have to be consulted and permission and possible finance from Riversmead sought if this area is to be remodelled. The large trees behind the pond and the nettles and brambles could be cleared. The posts erected on the verge by Riversmead/EHDC opposite the School entrance might be used as a pattern.</p>	Noted

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4.5	The rose triangle needs maintenance. The posts should be replaced to match the Green/pond. There is a water leak between the church gate and the village sign. MW agreed to report it.	MW
4.6	The proposed permissive footpath on PC land. As part of the extension to the bridleway from Buck's Alley to Bayford House, Dawn Grocock has asked to PC to sign a permissive bridleway agreement. However, Alan pointed out that this would involve the PC indemnifying itself against any claim by walkers/riders. Andrea Trendler pointed out that it might be possible to have a dedicated bridleway instead, when HCC would take on full responsibility. HCC may not agree to this. MW agreed to asked Dawn to investigate this.	MW
4.7	It was agreed to renew the grass cutting contract with John O'Connor again this year, since this is at the same price as last year.	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Date and Time of Next Meeting</b>	
5.1	Next meeting is the Annual Meeting on Monday 7th April 2014 at 8.00pm	
5.2	There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.50pm.	

Signed.....

Date:.....