

**Minutes**  
**Berrick Salome Parish Council**  
**13th Jul 2017**

The Meeting of the Berrick Salome Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Berrick Salome, on Thursday 13th July 2017. Present:

Ian Glyn [IG] (Chair)  
Hannah Bradley [HB] (Vice-chair)  
Craig Tribe [CT] (Treasurer)  
Steve Rhodes [SR] (Councillor)  
David Bridgland [DB] (Councillor)  
Chris Cussens [CC] (Clerk)

At the start of the meeting, CC announced that he wished to record the meeting, as he could not always hear what was said. No objections to this were received.

These minutes follow the ordering of the agenda, even though some diversions from this order were made to accommodate changing circumstances.

1. Apologies for absence

Steve Harrod [SH] (County Councillor), David Turner [DT] (District Councillor), Rob and Pam Marsh, Colin and Pauline Hoad, Chris Kilduff

2. Declarations of interest regarding items on the Agenda

None

3. To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting of 11th May 2017

CT advised that the cheque number for the second entry in the payments section in Appendix 1 should be changed from 100962 to 100692. The minutes were approved.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

None that won't be covered elsewhere in the agenda.

5. The County and District Councillors' reports are available via the following links: -

5.1. OCC: [Monthly Report](#)

5.2. SODC: [Monthly Report](#)

6. Treasurer's Report (See Appendix 1 for full report)

The schedule of payments and transfers was approved by the Council.

7. Review of planning applications (see Appendix 2 for details)

- Applications for West Cottage, Kimbars and Willowbank have all been sanctioned by SODC.
- Application for the land south of Watlington road (BEN 05) has been rejected by SODC.
- Applications for Deaneshurst, Stonehaven and Parsonage Farm were all supported by the Parish Council.
- For the 240 dwellings north of B4009 (BEN03/04) see under item 13.

8. Amelioration of traffic flows

IG recently convened a meeting with DT, SH and a senior OCC highways officer. Also, a well-regarded independent traffic consultant attended.

The consultant's view is that signs, speed humps etc are not only ugly, but are also generally ignored. His view is that if one creates an environment where drivers feel more comfortable driving slowly, carefully and sensibly, then they will do so. The consequent reduction in speed will discourage drivers from using our lanes as a rat run. The preponderance of hedges makes the village look more like open countryside than it really is and this can cause drivers to drive faster than they should. He made several recommendations: -

- Make the village hall appear more part of the road by removing the hedge between it and the road (possibly also the adjacent playground)
- Put a mini-roundabout at the Rokemarsh corner
- Put a proper parking area outside Weller Close, narrowing the road there
- Change the priority at the millennium stone in favour of the HSH, thereby slowing Benson traffic

- Make more of the village green outside The Chequers
- A seated area outside the Chequers adjacent to the road
- Extend the verges around Green Lane

The OCC Highways officer confirmed that such an approach would be supported. Funding for the work would need to be sought but we were advised that this should be forthcoming. IG suggested that there was a balance to be struck between the traffic calming / discouraging advantages of such an approach and the principle of maintaining the rural nature and appearance of our lanes and much further debate on the issue was expected. The approach would form part of the Neighbourhood Plan exercise.

9. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

At the last meeting, we reported that we had formally submitted our NP application to SODC and were awaiting their response. This has now been accepted.

We are preparing a questionnaire for issue to all parishioners in the autumn. Responses to this will serve as a basis for our developing Neighbourhood Plan.

As our parish is a 'smaller village', we'll need to accommodate 5% to 10% growth until 2033; in other words, we'll need to find room for 6 to 12 extra houses. Originally, we didn't expect to have to designate sites for these houses, but a [ministerial statement of Dec 2016](#) changed this; for our plan to be secure, we will now be required to specify where these extra houses should potentially go.

10. Playground Maintenance

In anticipation of the annual inspection, thanks to John King, Roger Smith and Ray Perfect, we have repaired the timber retaining walls for the pits and spread new bark in the two pits for the swings. More bark is arriving next week for the climbing frame pit and help spreading it would be much appreciated.

11. Gigaclear

The service is being rolled out now and people are generally very satisfied with it.

BT have now installed a new fibre cabinet (Stadhampton 6), expected to be live in the Oct – Dec timeframe. This will use copper to the house and speeds of anywhere between 2 Mbps and 24 Mbps, depending on how far one is from the cabinet and the quality of the line.

12. PAGE

The inspector has supported OCC on the principle of the amount of gravel that's needed. PAGE will continue to resist, but the likelihood has increased that gravel extraction will come to somewhere in this locality.

13. BEN03/04

A draft response to [this application](#) had been distributed as hard copy to the meeting attendees at the start of the meeting. This was constructed from two individual responses: -

- A succinct response from Douglas Taylor
- A slightly more detailed and informal response from IG

Attendees were given a further 5 minutes to study this draft. The meeting was generally in agreement with the draft, which strongly opposed the application and a few extra suggestions were received from the floor. The headings of the draft were as follows: -

1. ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE SETTING OF THE HAMLET OF ROKEMARSH
2. THE EFFECT OF INCREASED TRAFFIC ON THE RURAL LIFE WE ENJOY IN THE PARISH AND, MOST PARTICULARLY, ON OUR VERY FRAGILE ROAD NETWORK
3. THE LURE OF THE PROPOSED "EDGE ROAD"
4. REFUSAL OF APPN 16/S3441/0
5. INCONSISTENCY WITH SODC'S STATED PLANS FOR BENSON

It was agreed that a final version of the Parish's response would be produced, based on the comments of the meeting and any Councillor's further comments, with submission to SODC well within the revised SODC deadline of July 31<sup>st</sup>.

14. Next Meeting

Sep 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Signed ..... Chairman

Date .....

## Appendix 1: Responsible Financial Officer's Report

### To Parish Council meeting Thursday 13 July 2017

1. Bank balances as at 30 June 2017 totalled £12,706. There was one unrepresented cheque for £420. The total reserves of the Parish were therefore £12,286.
2. At 30 June 2017, the accounts showed a deficit of expenditure over income of £12,057. This included a payment of £13,743.74 towards the village hall improvements. Money to partly cover this was received in the previous financial period and a separate reserve was established. A further cheque for £4,277.86 will be authorised this evening to cover the remainder of the parish council's contribution to the refurbishment. The second part of the SODC grant for this purpose will be requested once all payments have been made.

There was also £839.63 spent on playground maintenance. This was covered by a specific reserve built up over previous periods.

3. A VAT repayment claim of £2,430.56 has been submitted to HMRC.

#### 4. Schedule of payments

Confirmation of the Council requested for the following cheque payments:

Date	Chq. no.	Payee	Amount (£)	Purpose
24/05/2017	100693	Came & Company	573.49	Parish council insurance
18/06/2017	100694	Benson Sawmills Ltd	419.63	Wood for playground maintenance
18/06/2017	100695	Azalea Landscapes	325.00	Bridleway maintenance
18/06/2017	100696	The Wallingford Window Co Ltd	13,743.74	Replacement doors and windows for village hall
25/06/2017	100697	Norman R Cox & Partners	420.00	Play bark
05/07/2017	100698	Azalea Landscapes	200.00	Bridleway maintenance
05/07/2017	100699	John Smith	450.00	Grass cutting recreation ground
09/07/2017	100700	Classic Builders (Watlington) Ltd	4,277.86	Village hall improvements
13/07/2017	100701	Norman R Cox & Partners	420.00	Play bark

There have been the following bank transfers since the last meeting.

Date	Transfer from	Transfer to	Amount £
18/06/2017	Business Premium ME	Community	3,898.15
09/07/2017	Business Premium ME	Community	3,062.21
09/07/2017	Business Premium ME	Community	1,000.00

## Appendix 2: Planning Application Summary as at 13.07.17

Click on link in Planning ID Column for SODC document

Cllr Abbreviations: CT – Craig Tribe; DB – David Bridgland; HB – Hannah Bradley; IG – Ian Glyn; SR – Steve Rhodes  
Date Abbreviations: PC – PC notification; EC – End of consultation; TD – Target Decision

Planning ID	Cllr	Location	Description	Dates	Status
<a href="#">P17/S0102/HH</a>	CT	Kimbars Roke Marsh	Side extension, two storey with pitched roof	PC: 09 Jan EC: 10 Apr TD: 13 Apr	PC supported (09 Mar) SODC approved (8 Jun)
<a href="#">P17/S1052/HH</a>	DB	West Cottage Berrick Salome	Rear extension	PC: 30 Mar EC: 27 Apr TD: 22 May	PC supported (19 Apr) SODC approved (12 May)
<a href="#">P17/S1163/HH</a>	IG	Willowbank Berrick Prior	Proposed demolition of the existing rear extension, new rear extension and internal & external alterations	PC: 05 Apr EC: 4 May TD: 19 May	PC supported (24 Apr) SODC approved (19 May)
<a href="#">P17/S1405/FUL</a>	IG	Deaneshurst Berrick Prior	Removal of existing single storey dwelling and replacement by a new dwelling. Existing access to remain the same.	PC: 26 Apr EC: 16 May TD: 16 Jun	PC supported (13 Jul)
<a href="#">P16/S3441/O</a>		Land South of Watlington Road (BEN 05)	Outline application for the erection of up to 120 dwellings (40% of which will be affordable)		SODC refused (26 May)
<a href="#">P17/S2044/O</a>	DB	Stonehaven	Erection of detached dwelling with parking and garden	PC: 01 Jun EC: 14 Jul TD: 27 Jul	PC supported (13 Jul)
<a href="#">P17/S2262/FUL</a>	IG	Parsonage Farm agricultural building	General purpose agricultural building	PC: 19 Jun EC: 20 Jul TD: 14 Aug	PC supported (13 Jul)
<a href="#">P17/S1964/O</a>		240 dwellings north of B4009 (BEN 03/04)		PC: 25 May EC: 31 Jul TD: 26 Sep	PC does not support this and will be stating this with reasons on SODC website