

Minutes
Berrick Salome Parish Council
12th November, 2015

The Meeting of the Berrick Salome Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Berrick Salome, on Thursday 12th November, 2015. Present:

Ian Glyn (Chair)
Hannah Bradley (Vice-chair)
Craig Tribe (Treasurer)
Steve Rhodes
Chris Cussens (Clerk)

Ian thanked the retiring clerk, Sarah White, for her excellent work and welcomed her replacement, Chris Cussens.

1. Apologies received
David Bridgland
2. To approve and sign the Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting
The minutes of the meeting of the 15th Sep, 2015 were approved.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
 - 3.1. Ian has responded to the consultation on Oakley Wood on behalf of the Parish Council; one acknowledgement (from OCC) has been received to date.
 - 3.2. Steve has canvassed opinion on buses; we would like to continue receiving a subsidy.
 - 3.3. Steve reported that a straightforward registration directly with the Land Registry would cost in the region of £200.00. The lack of deeds and documentation may mean that registration becomes more involved and hence expensive but this will not be known until the application is made and the Land Registry responds. This won't necessarily confer ownership but is good housekeeping and will make it more straightforward for us if we have to defend against any other claim. It should also define the borders. **ACTION** Steve to action registration with a budget of £200. If the process becomes more complicated or expensive we'll review the situation.
4. To receive reports from the District and County Councillors; both reports will be distributed to the village email database and from the Parish Clerk on request.
 - 4.1. David Turner, District Councillor, provided the District Council report:
 - 4.1.1. We've had our first big prosecution for dealing with scrap metal without a licence, resulting in a fine of £7,770 and a Criminal Behaviour Order.
 - 4.1.2. [South News](#), the SODC newsletter for parish councils, has been published for November. It has been forwarded to our PC and will be published every two months.
 - 4.1.3. SODC's Planning Department are up for another national award for work they did to help the Science Vale Enterprise Zone. The Milton Park Local Development Order helps new businesses to set up shop here and existing ones to expand, grow and deliver more jobs for both the South & Vale Districts. The order has already won an award from the Royal Town Planning Institute, and has now been shortlisted for this year's Award for Planning for Economic Growth. The winner will be announced on 17 November.
 - 4.1.4. Section 106 consultation: We're asking people to let us know what they think of [the supplementary planning document](#) that explains how we secure money for infrastructure. The deadline was 5 November, but they will take late responses as the response so far has not been good. **Action:** Ian to respond.
 - 4.1.5. An exciting new scheme to help older people in rural areas become more active is to launch across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse, who have been awarded £227,000 by Sport England for [Go Active Gold](#). Activities will include dance, tai chi, table tennis, golf, bowls, Pilates, yoga, Nordic walking and fitness. Chalgrove will begin taster sessions in January.
 - 4.1.6. Grant Funding: For projects next year, we can offer over £1,000 for improvements to village halls, community shops, play areas, sports clubs and skate parks or to buy new or replacement equipment. You can apply for up to 50 per cent of the project cost. We'll open for applications

early between 1 February and 1 April. If this is too soon for any projects you have in mind, we're also planning to open later in the year from May 2nd. For more information, visit the [grants webpage](#).

- 4.1.7. Keep food waste out of your recycling wheelie bin. This includes recyclable food trays with food stuck to them. Biffa are checking recycling bins - if they contain things that can't be recycled, Biffa won't empty them and will leave a note to explain why. Please rinse out your food trays before you put them in the green bin - if our recycling is contaminated with food waste, the people who take the recycling off our hands might reject it and send it to landfill.
- 4.2. Steve Harrod, County Councillor, provided the County Council report:
 - 4.2.1. Budget Consultation: OCC has launched a public consultation on options for saving money. It has already saved or has firm plans to save nearly £300m since 2010, but believes it needs to find another £50m of savings over the next four years. As well as receiving less money from government, the council faces rising demand for services –particularly for vulnerable adults and children at risk of abuse and neglect. About half OCC's budget is spent on 2% of the population of Oxfordshire, and that proportion is set to rise as a result of a growing aging population. The council is consulting the public before taking the decisions and delivering a balanced budget on 16th February 2016.
 - 4.2.2. The way public services are delivered will shift towards enabling people and communities to take ownership of local priorities. The days when the council could deliver all services to all people have gone. OCC's vision for working together is outlined in [Oxfordshire Together](#).
 - 4.2.3. OCC is on track to achieve the target – agreed back in 2013 – of connecting 64,500 homes and businesses with superfast (24mbps) broadband by the end of 2017.

Ian reported (as requested) one of our parishioner's views that the cost savings required were going too far and should stop. Steve Harrod acknowledged this view and invited those who think similarly to express themselves in writing to OCC.

5. To receive the report from the Treasurer
 - 5.1. Bank balances as at 31 October 2015 totalled £8,613 and there were no unpresented cheques. The total reserves of the Parish were therefore £8,613.
 - 5.2. At 31 October 2015 the accounts show a deficit of income to expenditure of £2,613. The budget for this period was for a surplus of £400. The main reason for this is the playground maintenance expenditure of £3,370 which is covered by our separate playground maintenance reserve.See Appendix 1 for schedule of payments and bank transfers, as approved by the Council.
6. Review of planning applications
Decisions since previous meeting:
 - 6.1. Apple Tree Cottage. Construction of Rear Porch Extension. SODC granted.
 - 6.2. Allnutts, Berrick Salome Construction of single storey side extension. Condition discharges accepted and withdrawnSee Appendix 2 for details.

District Councillor David Turner is happy to be informed / involved in any less straight-forward planning applications.

Derek Shaw advised that an additional 241 houses are proposed to be built in Littleworth Road, Benson.
ACTION Hannah to track the implications of this.

7. Archiving Recommendation from David Langston
David has listed 30 'items' from the Parish Council archive, extending from the year 1894 onwards. Such 'items' may be a book, a folder, a ring binder, a wallet or even a sheaf of loose documents. Options were suggested for archiving them:
 - 7.1. Do nothing; the material is safely stored in one place and can be easily referenced against the attached table.

- 7.2. Make the material available to those 'many parishioners' who expressed a preference to keep the archive within the parish (at the July PC meeting).
- 7.3. As was mooted at the July PC meeting, send the material to the Oxfordshire History Centre for professional recording and archiving of the papers whilst allowing free public access.

Ian said that the PC was very grateful for David's excellent work. **ACTION.** The Parish Council to discuss and decide on the way ahead.

8. Mobile Phone reception

David Bridgland provided results of the mobile and data coverage survey for Berrick and Roke. From the 38 replies he received, he concludes that 9/10 people in the parish do not receive acceptable service from mobile phone providers. See Appendix 3 for the detail, which was provided to David Turner. **ACTION** David Turner to use info in his overall review of this issue.

9. RAF Benson

Parishioners, especially those in Roke, voiced their concerns regarding the arrival of Chinook helicopters. These concerns are on grounds of noise, property damage and safety. Ian is already in contact with the base (Nikki) and read out a series of emails he has sent and received. The following course of action will be taken.

- 9.1. Ian, on behalf of the Parish Council, will maintain his contact with Nikki with a view to persuading RAF to consider more carefully the impact of their flying on the residents of Roke (particularly) and to persuading them to be more sympathetic -- particularly given the arrival of the Chinook-- if the occasion arises. NOTE. Ian's view is that the Parish Council should not be seen to wind up the situation but , rather, should be seen as trying to broker a compromise solution acceptable to those most affected but practical (also) to the needs of the RAF.
- 9.2. The Equestrians amongst us will tackle the RAF on the safety implications to them of low flying over the fields by the HSH. They will refer to action taken in other RAF areas to mitigate this risk.
- 9.3. The residents of Roke will work out how to put in place measuring arrangements so that when and if the low flying over Roke occurs we have some professionally endorsed measurements to support any approach to the RAF that we may feel is appropriate. That "approach" can then be based on "fact not fear".
- 9.4. We will all try to ensure that our concerns are heard by the RAF base commander and not dealt with by those under him who are clearly briefed to be courteous but evasive. We will do so conscious of the knowledge (based on experience) that the Base Commander's attitude and instructions materially affect the extent of the disruption caused.
- 9.5. We will try and introduce a political dimension to the issue by involving SODC and John Howell. David from SODC will introduce us to Andy Maton who is on Chalgrove Parish Council and works in community relations on the Base.

10. Child Safety

Contact information has been added to the village website.

11. Risk Assessment review

The 2014 Risk Assessment has been updated by Craig and distributed to the PC. **ACTION.** David and Steve to check it.

12. Oxfordshire Together

The PC supports [Oxfordshire Together](#). **ACTION** David Turner to advise on insurance arrangements and implications in the event of self help activity on the Highways.

13. Citizens Advice in our Community

We are unable to offer financial support.

14. Christmas Tree/Support

A support base for the village Christmas tree has been identified by Ian Kirkwood at a cost of £260. It was agreed that the PC would fund this, provided that all ancillary features are guaranteed. These include lighting and its power supply. **ACTION** Steve to review and action with Ian Kirkwood.

15. Dates for Parish Council meetings 2016

The following dates were agreed: 14th Jan, 3rd March, 12th May (AGM), 7th July, 1st Sept, 3rd Nov

16. Any other business

The sewerage problem has arisen again in Roke and Rokemarsh, which is hugely disappointing after so little rain and when the water table is still low after a prolonged dry spell. David Bridgland has written to Denise Kinsella at Thames Water to ask for a meeting, or a confirmation that action will now be taken to replace the pipe from Rokemarsh to Benson.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Signed Chairman

Date

Appendix 1

Schedule of payments

Confirmation of the Council requested for the following cheque payments:

Date	Chq. no.	Payee	Amount (£)	Purpose
17/09/2015	100653	Urban Recreation Ltd	3,370	Playground maintenance
17/09/2015	100654	Derek Shaw	53.50	Website hosting
17/09/2015	100655	Broomfield Tree Services	-	Cheque lost and replaced with 100657
09/10/2015	100656	Roy Troth	60.00	Grass cutting
09/10/2015	100657	Broomfield Tree Services	220.00	Tree surgery playground/village hall
21/10/2015	100658	Roger Smith	50.00	Internal audit
12/11/2015	100659	C R Tribe	18.00	CPALC Pay Check for clerks
12/11/2015	100660	SODC	125.58	Dog waste bin emptying
12/11/2015	100661	John Smith	450.00	Grass cutting

Confirmation of the Council requested for the following bank transfers

Date	Transfer from	Transfer to	Amount £
03/11/2015	Business Saver	Community	110.00
12/11/2015	Business Saver	Community	593.58

Appendix 2

Planning Applications

Planning ID	Location	Application	Status
P15/S2185/HH	Apple Tree Cottage Road Passing the Home Sweet Home Roke	Construction of Rear Porch Extension Address: Apple Tree Cottage Road Passing the	SODC granted
P15/S2820/DIS	Allnutts, Berrick Salome	Discharge condition 3 (materials) of listed building consent P15/S2312/LB. Construction of single storey side extension	Withdrawn - Invalid on 20th August 2015
P15/S2822/DIS	Allnutts, Berrick Salome	Discharge condition 3 (materials) of planning permission P14/S2311/HH and condition 3 of listed building consent P14/S2312/LB. Construction of single storey side extension	Fully Discharged on 25th September 2015

Appendix 3

Based on the 38 replies we received for the Mobile and Data Coverage for Berrick and Roke, here are the conclusions:-

- We had a good initial response with 38 (30%) of the 125 households responding;
- The split of mobile phone providers from the 38 replies received is: Vodafone (39%), EE (34%), O2 (18%) and Three (8%);

- EE and Three have slightly better signal performance than O2 and Vodafone;
- A lot of negativity was voiced towards Vodafone, who is the largest provider but has the worst coverage;
- Just 11% of houses get good mobile phone signal indoors, improving to 18% outdoors;
- 29% of houses get intermittent mobile phone signal indoors, improving significantly to 69% outdoors;
- 60% of houses get poor to no mobile phone signal indoors, improving to 21% outdoors;
- 3G data signal performance is similar to phone signal;

So the final important conclusion is:-

Assuming performance has to be 'good' to be acceptable, 9/10 people in the parish do not receive acceptable service from mobile phone providers.