

BADGER PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2013  
AT ST.GILES' CHURCH, BADGER COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

24. PRESENT

Cllr. T .J. Lipscombe  
Cllr. G. Bond  
Cllr. Mrs. S. Greenwell  
Cllr. R. Greenwell

25. ALSO PRESENT

F. D. Voysey (Clerk to the Council)  
Two parishioners for 10 minutes

26. OPEN FORUM

Two parishioners arrived at 7.30 pm and the Chairman suspended Standing Orders to give them the opportunity to speak. They asked what progress had been made on the development of Broadband in the village following the recent Parish Plan meeting. Advised that this was an issue being dealt with by the independent Parish Plan Steering Group, and the Council has yet to be informed of progress.

27. APOLOGIES

Cllr. G. Godbert

28. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none.

29. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF BADGER ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL AND BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013.

The Council agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 were a true record and accordingly the Chairman signed a copy.

30. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013

- a) Minute 16 b): The Clerk has been in touch with Shropshire Council about the road erosion by Stableford Bridge since the last meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 and a response is still awaited.
- b) Minute 17 b): The Council agreed that the Clerk could substitute for the Chairman and Councillor G. Godbert if both were unavailable for a Local Joint Committee meeting.

31. ADMINISTRATION

The Council accepted that a review of its Standing Orders could be deferred until receipt of a new model of Orders was published by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) which is due later in the year.

## 32. FINANCE

- a) The Council approved for an additional column to the Fixed Assets Register which would annually record the current value of individual assets. It was agreed that a fresh professional estimate should be obtained for the replacement costs of the Council's bus shelter, with the Clerk calculating the current value of smaller assets. Thereafter, for all items, increases in value would be based in line with inflationary rises in the amounts for street furniture cover by the Council's insurers
- b) The Council approved the following payments by cheque:-
- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| - The Clerk's salary & expenses (Cheque 100285)            | £309.53 |
| - Income tax on the Clerk's salary to HMRC (Cheque 100286) | £ 67.20 |
| - Bridgnorth Cleaning & Garden Services (Cheque 100287)    | £ 82.00 |
- c) The Council noted that after encashment of cheques approved in section b) above, the Council's Community Account at Barclays Bank will be £7,905.70 in credit, the Business Savings Account £1,549.47 in credit, and petty cash £45.65 after payment of £20.00 for the use of St. Giles' Church for the Council meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2013.
- d) Councillor Mrs. Sharon Greenwell examined the bank accounts and checked the petty cash on 10/7/13, finding all in order as recorded by the Responsible Finance Officer (The Clerk). This was followed by the Council assessing the risks and adequacy in management in achieving its objectives, and accordingly carried out a financial, physical and environmental risk assessment. The Council was satisfied with the management arrangements of its financial affairs.

## 33. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Planning Application 13/02049/FUL: The Council noted that the Clerk had informed Shropshire Council that it had no objection to the erection of an entrance porch and formation of a tennis court with surrounding fence at Badger Farm.
- b) Planning Application 13/02142/ FUL: After debate and careful consideration of the environmental implications, the Council took the view that the proposals for three fish stock pools and an associated storage building at Badger Hall had been sensitively designed causing no real harm to the countryside, and consequently agreed to support the application.
- c) The Council noted that there were no changes affecting Badger Parish in the latest review of the Sam/Dev Albrighton Local Plan, to which Badger is part, and thus decided that no comment was necessary.

## 34. PARISH MATTERS

- a) Shropshire Council's Divisional Surveyor has advised that proposals and options for a parking scheme at The Crescent, Badger, would be forwarded to the Parish Council once all preparatory work was completed. In order that residents of The Crescent had an opportunity to have a say on the proposals the Council agreed to invite them to attend the meeting when the proposals were being considered by the Council. The Divisional Surveyor has agreed to attend the Council meeting and present the proposals.
- b) The Council is waiting to be advised on the progress of the Parish Plan, and is interested to be aware who will be the members of the Steering Group. The Council is keen to ensure that the preparation of the Plan is an open and democratic process where all interested parties have been consulted and their views, whether they come from residents, commercial or local landowners are taken fully into account. As the Parish Plan requires ratification by the Parish Council, it was considered that agreement should be sought for a representative of the Council being a member of the Steering Group.

- c) Shropshire Council has advised that there are funds available to complete the works to widen the bend in road by Badger Lodge before the end of this financial year.
- d) The Council decided to continue the highways maintenance agreement with David Marshall (Agricultural Engineer) who has many years experience in undertaking highway verge cutting along Badger Parish lanes, and has performed a satisfactory service over the last seven years. The Council will annually review the highway maintenance agreement. The Clerk will ask David Marshall to undertake a highway verge cut as soon as possible.
- e) Councillor R. Greenwell gave an update on the preparation of The Badger Bite run scheduled for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2013. Planning of the event is proceeding at a pace with advertising on web site and the social media. Already 20 entries have been received and some sponsorship gained in finance and kind. Councillors R & S Greenwell were thanked for organising the event on behalf of the Parish Council.
- f) Councillor Robin Greenwell expressed concern about the abandoned car in Badger in a field owned by a local farmer, which has been there for the last 10 days. He provided photographs of the car, a red Suzuki, which has a police blue ribbon around it. The Council asked the Clerk to first contact the police about the car's disposal and consult the landowner as necessary.
- g) The Chairman was concerned that workers employed by Shropshire Council who trim the grass on the green at The Crescent, Badger were damaging the young trees, causing one to perish. The Council agreed that Shropshire Council should be approached requesting it to ensure the workmen took more care in grass cutting and asked to replace the dead tree with a similar type. Councillors will look at the possibility of "ringing" the trees for protection..
- h) Councillor G. Bond reported that the overhanging hedges at Stableford Lodge were again causing a road safety hazard, so the Clerk is to request Shropshire Council Highways Department to investigate.

### 35. UNITARY AUTHORITY MATTERS

- a) As there was no real demand for any more public trees in Badger Parish, the Council decided not to enter "The Big Tree Plant Project" being organised by Shropshire Council.
- b) Shropshire Council's new permit scheme on traffic management does not directly affect Badger Parish, so the Council decided not to comment on the project.

### 36. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none to consider.

### 37. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting has been changed to Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013, to be held at St. Giles' Church, Badger, starting at 7.00 pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55 pm.







