

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROOKSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE HALL, SAXON WOOD SCHOOL ON
MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2009 COMMENCING AT 19.30**

Present: Cllrs Adlam, Cavalier, Cordner, Lewis-Grey, Miller (Chairman), Phipps & Statham. B. Cllr Cherrett.

In Attendance: 2 members of the public
No member of the Press
Parish Clerk

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs R Dobing, P Dobing..

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllrs cavalier and Cording declared an interest in Item 6(a)(ii): BDB71175.
Cllr Lewis-Grey and the Clerk declared an interest in Item 7(b) – Payments for Approval.

3. MINUTES

13/10 It was
RESOLVED to receive and confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2009.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At 19:40 the meeting recessed into Open Forum during which residents asked for an update on outstanding issues, which were not discussed since they were to be covered under specific agenda items. Open Forum closed at 19:45

5. REPORTS & FEEDBACK: BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND THE POLICE.

County Cllr Reid was not present.
Borough Cllr Cherrett's (KC) Report is Appendix A. Points which arose in general discussion were:
a) KC undertook to press for an update as to the early transfer of ownership of the village green area from HCA to BDBC and the latest position on the proposed Community Centre.
b) Following concerns expressed about children playing on/crossing roads without regard for traffic, KC undertook to press landlords (HAs) to provide "road safety" training events for children in their areas.
c) RPC plans to hold a public meeting on the first Monday in December.
d) The Clerk is to contact the Beat Bobby to discuss changing the RPC meeting dates so that a police representative can be present at most monthly meetings.

6. PLANNING:

a. New Applications:

(i)	(i) BDB71172	Basingstoke Hospital: Erection of a temporary modular building including the installation of 14 no. air conditioning units + amended plans	No comments
(ii)	(ii) BDB71175	Land at the junction of Basswood Drive and Pumphouse Way: Erection of a temporary modular building including the installation of 14 no. air conditioning units	Object on road safety grounds, lack of parking, use of landscaped open space.

b. Planning Decisions:

(i)	BDB71033	18 Barron Place: Erection of a first floor side/rear extension: REFUSED	Noted
(ii)	BDB70893	22: Barron Place: Change of use of open space to residential land enclosed with a 1.9 metre high fence: REFUSED	Noted

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports 2009/2010

A financial report to the 24 September 2009 was noted.

Payments for Approval

14/10 RESOLVED It was to approve the following payments:

CQ No	Payee	Service	Amount
0201	Saxon Wood School	Hall Hire September 2009	£50.00
0202	R Darley	Salary & expenses Q2 of 2009/2010	£774.68
0203	HMRC	PAYE on salary Q2 of 2009/2010	£172.26
0204	Personalised Print	Newsletter printing	£374.00
0205	J Lewis-Grey	Office Supplies: Newsletter	£18.72
		Total	£1389.66

Accounts 2008/2009:

The Clerk reported that additional information had been forwarded to the Audit Commission and that the 2008/2009 Accounts had been agreed.

8. ROOKSDOWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Cllr Adlam reported that the summer play schemes had been very successful, but a Quiz Night had been cancelled through lack of support. Cllr Adlam had made initial contact with The Children’s Centre concerning facilities for children in the parish. Reports had been received about the surface of the football pitch area and damaged fencing. This would be covered under Item 10

9. MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

None received prior to the meeting.

10. PROPOSED LEASE ON EXISTING PLAYING FIELD

A draft lease and associated documents had been circulated to all members. Subject to clarifying the plan area which appears to incorporate the footway in Gillies Drive (which has been adopted), and confirmation of arrangements for repair of the pitch surface and adjacent fencing,

15/10 RESOLVED It was to authorise the Clerk to sign the leases and associated relating to RPC’s use of land adjacent to Gillies Drive & Rooksdow Avenue.

16/10 RESOLVED It was further that the Clerk would seek confirmation of RPC’s understanding that RPC’s public liability insurance covers claims arising in relation to this land.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence had been circulated to Members and copies of those for discussion, issued with the Agenda were noted.

17/10 RESOLVED It was not to make a grant to the Saturday Venture Association.

18/10 RESOLVED It was not to make a grant to Vitalise.

19/10 RESOLVED It was that Cllr Statham would respond on behalf of RPC to the Term Highways Contract Stakeholder Survey and A Trial for the National Highways & Transport Study.

It was agreed that the HCC initiative: Green Circle: Supporting Gardening Independence for Older People would be published in the next newsletter, on notice boards and on the website.

12. MATTERS FOR REPORT

- a. Reports from Working Parties
Newsletter An edition of Rooksdown reporter was issued in September.
Youth: The Clerk had obtained some estimates for a “ball wall” but more were needed.
Open Spaces: The Clerk is to chase BDBC for agreement to site benches on the Mill Road play area; and the contractors for permission to erect a notice board on Pumphouse Way (top of the road).
- b. Other matters for report.
 - (i) Allotments: Clerk to ask BDBC official to attend the October PC meeting, and to make enquiries of a local farmer about availability of land.
 - (ii) Liaison with HCA & Developers: the Clerk reported back from a meeting held on 25 September and undertook to circulate his notes. Future meetings are to be held on the last Friday of November, January etc. Cllr Statham undertook to make himself available for the November meeting.
 - (iii) The Clerk had contacted HCC who claim that BDBC do provide salt bins. HCC will fill and replenish any such bins with salt

13. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS/CLERK

There were none.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meetings of the Parish Council are currently planned for Monday 26 October and 23 November (Draft Budget & Precept to be set). Cllr Adlam gave her apologies for the October meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:50

Date.....

Chairman.....

Update from Borough Cllr Karen Cherrett

Community Facility Development Consultation

The consultation results have been reviewed and the amended designs presented to the Rooksdown Community Association and members of the Parish Council. There were some very positive and helpful comments received and the support of other agencies through the consultation leads us to believe that the design we now have will not meet any objections as it enters the planning process.

It is hoped that final comments from the RCA and Parish Council can be acted upon by the designers in time for a final sign off of drawings in October. The aim is then to apply for planning approval before Christmas.

BDBC are continuing legal discussions with the developers about managing the release of S106 funds for the community centre. I am assured that the funding issues will not stop the initial build provided that the council can be assured that funds are forthcoming.

Progress on Wessex Christian Fellowship's acquisition of the old Main Hall for a church and community centre, has been slower than hoped as the sale of the Fellowship's existing premises has yet to complete. There has been progress over the summer and Pastor Bob is still looking for a completion in time for Christmas 2010. More news when we have it!

Traffic management at Moth's Grace / Crondall Terrace

The installation of the traffic hump is complete and has made a positive difference to the speed of cars using the route between the houses. The remaining work to shrubs and paths is scheduled for completion with the road surfacing, but temporary barriers are being placed across the footpath to avoid people walking directly into the road.

Permanent Surgery site

There is slow progress in getting a confirmed plan for the permanent surgery site. Meetings between TW, the Rooksdown Practice and PCT, facilitated by BDBC officers, have continued through the summer but agreement over when the Villa 7 will be available for building has yet to be reached. I will keep you posted on a timeline for development when it is reached.

Safety of roads, paths and lighting in Phases 3 & 4 - Limes Park

We are assured by Taylor Wimpey that they have laid the cabling and erected street lighting columns across Limes Park thus meeting its end of August deadline as promised. Can anyone confirm this from attending the latest developer meeting? Some areas are already lit but we continue to wait on the electricity companies connecting the supply across the occupied areas in time for the end of BST and the darker nights.

Rooksdown Pavillions

These structures continue to attract nuisance behaviour and vandalism. The residents have spent several Saturday mornings this summer clearing up graffiti and broken glass from the area and are increasingly unhappy about the developer's attitude toward the upkeep of these structures.

I have met with residents to hear their concerns as well as spoken the developer and Conservation and Planning about the longer term position of these structures. We have not got an immediate solution other than to seek removal of the glass and benches. We continue to look at the options with the developers who have responsibility for these structures. In the meantime Sarah, our warden, has been trying to engage with the youths who use the shelters.

Perceptions about Social Housing schemes

Increasing comments are received about perceived noise or nuisance from areas of social housing. However when incidents are reported or looked into, it is often private households or multi occupancy households at the base of the problem. Whilst a difficult area to address, Rooksdown does appear to be growing into very distinct areas and each has differing perceptions about the other. Does the Parish have any views on seeking help from the council for further community engagement with the newer areas and social landlords that could help overcome these perceptions?

Parking in Canadian Way and Watertower Way

Residents are finding parking in the area very difficult because of the lack of definition between road and lay-bys. Consequently cars are being trapped in car ports by inconsiderate visitors parking too close to allow access. There is a similar problem with multi-occupancy houses where residents simply have too many cars for one home and do not know where the overspill parking is.

When the site is complete there will be better marking and use of bollards to separate the road from parking but in the meantime it is causing difficulty for everyone.

Is there an opportunity here for the Parish to work with the local residents group on an information campaign?

Strategic Housing Land Area Assessment (SHLAA) and the Local Development Framework (LDF)

Both of these documents are in development and are looking at future housing and development provision for the council's area – as far ahead as 2026. The documents put forward sites that could be suitable for development and make recommendations on the areas most suitable for development.

It will come as no surprise to find that Aldermaston Triangle and Manydown continue to feature in these documents. We have already been given the indication that development of Manydown has been put back a few years but Cllr Reid and I continue to push back on these sites being made available at all – and at least until there are firm assurances that the investment in roads, water treatment and facilities will be made available first. We will let you know as the news develops.

Community Transport assessment

The review I reported on in July (looking at criteria for supporting local transport schemes) is now nearing completion and I should have some results to share next month. In the meantime you will have seen that local bus routes have been overhauled (without BDBC involvement) and as such we have seen some reduction in the timing of the Jazz 6 routes. Let me know if this is causing real issues for residents over and above the general point that we are not well served.

It would also be useful to know what community transport schemes our residents use and whether there is any scope for schemes like neighbour car-share in the area?

Petition

Having seen the excellent letter in the Gazette would it be a good time to re-focus efforts on the HCA petition and decide how to use it to maintain focus on Rooksdown facilities this autumn. What does the council think?