

**Minutes of the Meeting of Selborne Parish Council held in
Oakhanger Village Hall on Wednesday 10th October 2007 at 7:30pm**

Present:	Mrs. H Carter	Chair
	Mrs. M Palmer	
	Mr. P Dixon	
	Mr. N James	
	Mrs. A Boase	
	Mrs. A Luty	
	Mr. S Goater	
	Mrs. M Barnfield	
	Mr. P Ravenscroft.	
	Mr. S Cabrol	
	Mrs. L Coney	Clerk

Also present were 1 member of the public and District Councillor Mrs. Comber

Item 1 - Apologies for absence. Received from Cllr McMeekan.

Item 2 – Co-option to the Parish Council. To fill any vacancies left by reason of resignation (Selborne). There was one candidate, Mr. David Ashcroft, a councillor on the previous parish council. He introduced himself to the council. There being no questions for Mr. Ashcroft he was unanimously co-opted to the council.

Item 3 – To receive declarations of acceptance of office. There were none to receive. The clerk will send Mr. Ashcroft the declaration form to be sent to EHDC, via e-mail.

On completion of item 3 the meeting recessed to allow members of the public to speak on any matter prior to the re-commencement of the meeting.

Item 4 – Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12th September 2007.

With there being no amendments it was **AGREED** that these were accepted as a true record and signed accordingly.

Item 5 - Disclosure of Pecuniary and other interests.

The Chair reminded members who had an interest to disclose, in relation to any item included in the agenda for this meeting, that it was their duty to do so at the appropriate agenda item. (As required to be disclosed by Section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 1972; and in accordance with the Parish Councils Order 2001) Cllr Mrs. Boase declared a prejudicial interest in item 6.

Item 6 - Chinooks over Selborne. Wing Commander Brown, the Chief of Staff at RAF Odiham introduced himself and outlined his position. He gave councillors the background of Odiham Airfield, which was originally used as a summer camp for Farnborough in 1925. It was officially opened in 1937. The new RAF Odiham was opened by General Erhard Milch, Chief of Staff of the Luftwaffe! General Milch was so impressed with what he saw that he is reputed to have told Hitler: "When we conquer England, Odiham will be my Air Headquarters", and he ordered his pilots not to bomb RAF Odiham. Whether or not this story is true, the fact remains that RAF Odiham never was bombed during the war.

Today RAF Odiham is an operational flying station. As well as the regular station functions of Admin Wing, Forward Support Wing and Operations Wing, the Station is home to No 18B Sqn, No 27 Sqn, No 7 Sqn, 651 Sqn AAC and 657 Sqn AAC. Odiham has battlefield helicopter capability and is also available on 2 hour national standby for emergency tasking.

Of interest to councillors is the Night Vision Devices Operations which pilots train for in this area. Soldiers prefer to operate at night because it is safer and so it is an integral part of training. Operations that the Chinooks have been involved in include the Falkland Islands, Beirut, Northern Ireland, Gulf War I, Turkey, Bosnia, Albania, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Gulf War II, Pakistan and the Lebanon. Training at the moment is for preparation for deployment to Afghanistan where the Chinooks are currently in active service. Wing Commander Brown brought up on screen the local airspace maps, which show, that because of the restrictions of Gatwick, Heathrow and Southampton, local trainings pushed down a corridor to the south and east of Odiham, which roughly includes Alton down the A31 to Alresford, and the A272 towards Petersfield. To the west of Odiham along and beyond the A339 is restricted much of the year for game birds and to the east towards Guildford is very built up and includes a number of studs and equestrian facilities which they avoid. This does mean that Selborne is frequently overflown for training and there are a couple of local field complexes where they are permitted to practice landings.

Councillors then asked a number of questions regarding the training flights. The replies are summarised below.

Flight training is legally required to be carried out at 250ft or higher unless they are on approach for a landing and where possible they avoid flying directly over houses. The noise that is heard from the ground is effected by the cloud base, the loading of the Chinook and sometimes by the wind. The noise that you can hear is the sound of the air being pushed down to the ground by the rotors. On the

night which sparked the complaint to Odiham in August the wind had been above 25knots which mean't that their approaches were all done in the same direction. Ordinarily if the wind is below 25kts they can alter the direction of approach to avoid overflying the same area time and again on the same evening. Another concern from residents was the time of night that training is undertaken. Obviously in the winter night flights can be undertaken earlier but at this time of year (October) they cannot start until at least 9pm until it is dark at altititude as well as on the ground.

Wing Commander Brown was keen to stress that they only do essential training and only have two operational Chinnocks at any one time. In times of war such as now he has to take every opportunity to train. The overall flying hours in training (nation2wide) has increased to 14,500 hours from 10,500 three years ago which reflects this. Details of the training schedules can be found on the RAF Odiham website. The clerk said she would place a link from the parish council site for residents to click through direct.

Cllr Goater said he would like to express his gratitude for the work done by the Chinnocks. This was echoed by other councillors.

Item 7– Reports of Sub Committees.

- i) **Traffic.** - There was no report, as the committee has yet to meet this month. A date of Monday 22nd October at Selborne Village Hall at 6pm was agreed. If the Village Hall is not available then the meeting will be held in either the School Hall or the Recreation Ground Pavilion. Residents of Gracious Street and the Plestor to be notified as items for discussion will include prohibition of waiting in Gracious Street, parking in Selborne and in particular on the Plestor and the feasibility study of the future of the B3006.
- ii) **The Plestor** - Work is due to start on the third week of November. Cllr Mrs Carter to check with the church when their works will be complete. Extra funding may be made available from HCC Hampshire Village Initiative which will enable the bench to be fully funded and possibly allow for extra planting.
- iii) **Recreation Ground.** Allotments – The clerk met with Melody King on Monday to mark out the site at Goslings (9 plots were marked out, 4 larger and 5 smaller), to make small adjustments to the lease and to finalise the public meeting/ drop in session on the 29th November. A flyer will be sent to all households advertising the meeting and will be distributed with the traffic survey. A separate letter will be sent to those who had previously requested an allotment to check they still wish to have one. The clerk would like to meet Cllrs Dixon and James next Monday to mark out the plots at the Recreation Ground. Play Area – still awaiting the results of the grant applications £2000 has been approved from EHDC's project fund, and the results of all grant applications should be known by mid November, ready place the order for the playground which would then be constructed during February.
- iv) **Oaklands Farm – Jalsa Salana.** No report. Cllr Cabrol is still trying to ascertain from the organisers what level of income the event brings to the area. i.e how many B & B beds are used.
- v) **Selborne Brickworks Liaison Panel.** No report.
- vi) **Blackmoor Recycling Panel.** No report.

Item 8 – Matters arising from these and previous minutes.

- i) **Footpath at Dorton.** Cllr Mrs. Carter reported that she had met Mark Kemp Gee to sign the grant papers. An e-mail had circulated which said the Dorton's bridge had moved up to number 3 on the bridge list. Clerk to ascertain whether this is because HCC know it is being paid for or whether it has just moved up the list. There was concern from Cllr Mrs. Comber that the price the parish has been given for the bridge was excessive and the parish council should look at other bridge companies who may be cheaper.
- ii) **Publicity.** It was agreed that Minutes are now to be placed in the village shop in Selborne at both pubs in Selborne and in the Red Lion at Oakhanger. A member of the public has suggested that a report of council meetings be sent to the local press. Cllr Mrs. Barnfield agreed to undertake this and would circulate for councillors to view before submission to the Herald.
- iii) **Suggested crossing point at Selborne Village Hall.** Deferred to Traffic subcommittee
- iv) **Parking on the Plestor.** – Deferred to Traffic subcommittee
- v) **Parish Plan** – It was agreed to put a note in the parish magazine asking volunteers to come forward so that a meeting could be organised to form a parish plan committee and to get Chris Patterson from EHDC to attend.

Item 9- District councillors Report. Cllr Mrs Comber reported that the recent transport forum meeting was focused on the reduction of bus services. The Alton to Petersfield service has seen a reduction in service, and these cut backs are based simply on the buses that are used the least. The EHDC Road Safety Council is also looking to widen its membership if anyone wishes to join. Meetings are twice a year. Cllr Dixon said she would be interested in joining. Finally, Mrs Comber wished to raise the idea of splitting the parish into two parishes. She said she had already spoken with electoral services on this matter as she said a number of people had approached her about the possibly of Oakhanger and Blackmoor forming their own council. The clerk said this idea had been raised and dismissed by the former council about a year ago. After discussion it was decided to add this to next month's agenda for consideration.

Item 10 – Finance

a) The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Councils current financial position as of Monday 8th October 2007 was

i) Lloyds Account	£7,983.39cr
ii) Alliance & Leicester Account	£31,441.55cr

b) It was agreed that the following payments which had been requested since the last meeting be **APPROVED**:

- i) £Xxx.xx Mrs. L Coney (Clerks wages Sep)
- ii) £14.60 Cllr Mrs Luty (Travel expenses)
- iii) £56.73 Mrs. L Coney (Clerks Expenses)
- iv) £7,500 Oakhanger Village Hall (grant as agreed June meeting)
- v) £30.00 Open Spaces Society (Subs)
- vi) £275.46 Inland Revenue (Clerks Tax & NI)
- vii) £27.24 Coomers (Allotment markers)

c) **Suggested projects for 2008/09 for consideration by finance committee prior to setting of the precept for next year.** Projects suggested so far include a play area for Goslings Croft, Selborne, Allotments and a play area for Oakhanger, Selborne Archive Society, Selborne War Memorial, and a new Notice Board for Blackmoor. The clerk suggested that either Cllr Mrs. Boase or Cllr Mrs. Luty join the finance committee for the meeting at the end of the month so that Blackmoor is represented.

d) **Grant requests.** Selborne School £2,500. Deferred as no written request received.

Item 11 – Correspondence. The Clerk listed in the agenda all items of paper correspondence received since the last meeting.

Item 12 – Any other Business. In accordance with Local Council Administration there will be no resolution made on matters arising from this item. If action is required the matter will be placed upon a future agenda.

Cllr Ashcroft informed councillors that there is a 30mph sign for lorries on the A3 on the approach to the Ham Barn Roundabout, which may show that the Ham Barn Roundabout is not suitable for heavy vehicles. The council should now be looking to the future and asking the Department of Transport what will happen to the B3006 and beyond after the A3 roadworks are complete. Cllr Mrs. Carter said this would form part of Cllr Kemp Gees feasibility study.

Cllr Ashcroft also asked if the parish council were now involved in the Bordon regeneration initiative, as requested by the previous council. The clerk replied that councillors are invited to the meetings and will forward him details of the next one.

The clerk at East Tisted had been in touch with the clerk to ask if the parish council would have any concern with her requesting an East Tisted sign to be erected on the junction of the B3006 and Galley Hill Road on the same post as the Newton Valance sign. It is obviously a decision for the highways authority but she wished to inform Selborne PC as a courtesy. The clerk was asked to reply to say please keep the sign as small as possible, and to enquire with highways about replacing the sign at that junction anyway with a more in keeping finger post sign.

Cllr Dixon asked if the clerk could chase up PC Warwick at Whitehill regarding the date and times that she has been on duty outside the school in Selborne.

Item 13– Date and Place of next meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th November at Blackmoor Village Hall at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 9:40pm

Date.....

Chairman.....