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## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

**Present** Jim Gillett (Chairman), Jackie Jeffery, Shirley Newman, Chris Drew, Michael Forrer, Nick Ray, Liz Black, John Davies and District Councillor Emma Hobbs.. There were no residents present.

**Apologies for absence** - Alice Wilkinson, John Illenden,

**4658/08 Open Forum** - There were no residents present.

**4659/08 Declaration Of Interest** - None

**4660/08 Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2008** - The minutes were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.

**4634/08 Urgent Matters Arising from the above Minutes** - There were no matters arising which were not on the agenda.

**4661/08 PLANNING**

**a) Applications for Information and Comment:**

2107 (Revision of 1402) 2 storey side/rear extension, front & rear dormers & convert garage and front porch, at 117 The Hawthorns- No Parish Council Comment.

2095 Conservatory at 2 Simmons Fields. - No Parish Council Comment.

2049 Install 2 underground gas storage containers at Nikung, Waingels Road. - No Parish Council Comment.

2209 Single storey side extension plus front porch and extend garage at 39 Chiltern Drive. - No Parish Council Comment.

2329 Two storey front & rear extensions at 7 Old Bath Road- No Parish Council Comment.

**b) Approvals - The following approved application was noted:-**

1529 Rear extensions at 26 Park View Drive South.

**c) Refusals - The following refused application was noted:-**

1944 Erect first floor side extension plus loft conversion with rear dormer window at 24 Old Bath Road

**d) Refused on appeal - The following item was noted:-**

2755 Two storey rear extension and replace garage at Rose Cottage, Lands End Lane.

**e) Public Enquiry– re: Industrial Estate and Retirement home at Sandford Farm, Woodley to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 10.00am.**

Councillor Hobbs agreed to have a representative from Charvil Parish Council listed to speak at the Enquiry. Decision on representation to be made at the next meeting.

**f) Appeal Withdrawn**

2239 Paved Terrace at rear of Herons Creek Thames Drive (recently approved as 1428).

**g) Western Parishes Liaison Meeting** – On 28 October - Councillor Jeffery to report at next meeting.

There being no further Planning Business the Planning Meeting was closed.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**4662/08 Finance Reports** – Council reviewed the monthly financial reports which were noted.  
*Clerks Note: An entry on the budget report of £2174.40 against Youth Support was correct. The invoice for the 2007/2008 provision arrived after the end of the financial year and therefore had to be paid in this financial year 2008/2009. This became an issue whereby Debbie Coleman was instructed to ensure that invoices arrive not later than February of the relevant financial year.*

**4663/08 Authorisation of Payments** – Cheques as detailed were approved and signed.

**4664/08 Donations** - Requests from Keep Mobile and from Charvil Voices were considered. After discussion it was agreed that £100 be awarded to Keep Mobile and £150 to Charvil Voices.

**4665/08 Multi -Sport Area** – A response from Paul Turrell is still awaited. Councillor Ray reviewed the history of this project and emphasised that the Chief Executive had committed the Borough Council to jointly funding this project with the Parish Council and had then reneged on the agreement. Borough Councillor Hobbs gave her understanding of the situation. Following discussion Councillor Hobbs undertook to revisit the issue with the Borough Council at the highest level with documents to be provided by the Parish Council.

There being no further Finance business the Finance Meeting was closed.

**REPORTS**

**4666/08 Village Hall Management Committee** - Notes of a meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October were noted.

**Matters arising:**

Because the meeting was not quorate the following items were referred to the Parish Council meeting:-

159v Friday Night Hire Fee - Council had agreed the principle of a 2-Tier system but concern was expressed that this should be written into the charges schedule. The matter was referred back to the Management Committee for further consideration.

159vii Toilet Water Heater - Council approved the replacement of the toilet's water heater at a cost of £773 (£634 to be the residue of the grant and the remainder to be taken from the Village Hall maintenance budget.

160i Village Society Hire Cancellation - Following discussion Council was of the view that the current procedure was satisfactory. This allowed for Village Society late cancellations to be considered as a lost free booking.

**4667/08 Amenities Committee Report** - Notes of a meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October were noted.

**Matters arising:**

Because the meeting was not quorate the following items were referred to the Parish Council meeting:-

- i) Action on St Patrick's Playground Safety Report – The recently received quotes for replacement equipment which meet the new standards are still being considered. Council authorised the Amenities Committee to make an application for a grant from Defra's Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund – COMMA, to contribute to the cost of replacing the equipment which it is claimed will not meet the latest standard.
- ii) Replacement bench at St. Patrick's – Council approved the replacement with a seat and a bench at a cost of £760 +vat to be part funded from the residue of the 'Care for Charvil' fund (£696 ) with the balance to be taken from the Amenities/Recreation budget.

**4668/08 District Councillor's Report** - Councillor Hobbs reported that:-

The future of the vandalised site on Chiltern Drive is to be discussed.

Complaints have again been received about sewage collection vehicles from the Homestead causing vibration to nearby houses when passing over the road humps on Park Lane.

Following complaint the illuminated bollards on the A4 at the Park View Drive junction have been inspected and found to be working satisfactorily.

NAG has been asked to conduct more speed checks on Old Bath Road.

Ownership of the unmade section of Charvil House Road is being questioned.

Residents have complained to Wokingham Borough Council because they were not informed of the licence renewal hearing for the Kebab Van on Milestone Avenue.

**ENVIRONMENT**

**4669/08 Country Park Management and Fishing Rights** – The hand-over has been confirmed. Wokingham Borough Council in process of arranging a meeting.

**4670/08 Landfill in The Hawthorns** - A reply from Wokingham Borough Council is awaited. Councillor Hobbs presented a map which she had obtained from Wokingham Borough Council which suggested that the Eastern half of The Hawthorns Park is landfill. According to residents this is not correct. All this land was part of the Hawthorns Development, and Hicks the developers have confirmed that there was no landfill carried out by them.

**HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

**4671/08 Highways Issues** - Councillor Drew noted that no projects for submission to Wokingham Borough Council had been suggested.

**4672/08 Quiet Lanes** Council reviewed draft responses from the Wokingham Borough Council Solicitor and from the Department of Transport. Councillors again expressed disappointment at the lack of support from Wokingham Borough Council. Following discussion it was agreed that the only way forward was for residents to petition Wokingham Borough Council.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**4673/08 Campaign Against Waste** - Cllr Illenden attended. To report at next meeting.

**4674/08 Town & Parish Council Conference – 8<sup>th</sup> October** - Councillor Black attended and reported to Council.

**4675/08 Village Fete – Wokingham Borough Council Charge** – No response has been received to the letter sent to Paul Turrell at Wokingham Borough Council. Borough Councillor Hobbs explained that there were difficulties at the Borough Council because of all the changes which had recently been made. Councillor Hobbs was asked to see if she could expedite a response. Failure to respond to letters was not good customer practice.

**4676/08 Mains Drainage** – Councillor Gillett explained that progress was being made. Difficulty was being encountered in obtaining one of the forms. The Clerk was asked to inform Nigel Mobey, the residents representative, in case some of the properties on Milestone Avenue are not on mains drainage.

**4677/08 BALC - A G Meeting - 8<sup>th</sup> November** – No one available to attend

**4678/08 Changes to Bus Services** - A copy of the Notice was circulated with Items for information.

**4679/08 WISPA Awards** – Noted

**4680/08 Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Needs** – The document was circulated with Items for information.

**4681/08 Making / Enforcement of Bylaws** – The document was circulated with Items for information.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION** (Documents circulated after the meeting) - Wokingham Borough Council Meetings Agendas & Minutes, Staff Bulletin, Corporate News, Town & Parish News, Twyford Newsletter, Age Concern Newsletter, Biodiversity News & Open Spaces.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**4682/08. Charities Trustee** – Councillor Ray informed Council that he had found a resident of Sonning who was prepared to be the Charvil Nominated Trustee. Councillor Ray to request his attendance at the next Parish Council Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

**4683/08. Kebab Van Licence** – A memo from a resident of Milestone Crescent to Wokingham Borough Council was noted.

**4684/08. Lorries on Milestone Avenue** - A memo from a resident of Milestone Crescent to Wokingham Borough Council was noted.

**4685/08. Pre-printed Forms** - The document was circulated with Items for information.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.30pm**

.....Signature  
Chairman of the Council

Signed on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2008

## **Notes for Public Enquiry**

Whilst Charvil Parish Council objects to this proposal for many reasons all of which are detailed in our earlier comments (all of which should be with panel), there are a number of issues which are specific to Charvil: Vehicular Access to Beggars Hill Road, Building in the flood plain and Building in the green gap which separates settlements.

### **Vehicular Access to Beggars Hill Road**

Beggars Hill Road and Lands End Lane are quiet country lanes used by Cyclists and pedestrians many of whom are school children attending Waingels School together with horse riders and a small number of motorised vehicles attending the 14 houses located on these roads. All applications to develop additional properties on these roads have been turned down, many on Appeal. In this respect there are now two significant new factors which we would ask you to take into account.

1. Residents of these roads supported by the Charvil Parish Council have decided to formally petition Wokingham Borough Council to have these Roads designated as 'Quiet Lanes' one of the stated purpose of which according to the legislation (DfT Circular 02/20060), is to *"maintain the character of minor rural roads by seeking to contain rising traffic growth that is widespread in rural areas."*
2. In a more recent application to develop on Sandford Farm, O/2008/1282) the developer has stated that: "an exit on to Beggars Hill Road has been excluded in order to: *"ensure that the quality of life of the residents to the north of the development would not be harmed and that the highway network would not be adversely affected"*

### **Building in the flood plain**

We understand that a large part of this site has been flooded in recent years, and should not be considered for development. Charvil is perhaps more aware than other parishes of the concerns of residents about the increasing risk of flooding. In the recent past many developments have been approved in Charvil, in areas that were known at the time to be at risk of flooding. These ignored PPG25, which was in force at the time. Despite being raised as an issue by this Council, the flood risk was repeatedly ignored by the Planning Authorities.

### **Building in the green gap**

In recent years there have been a number off application to build in this Gap between settlements. All have been refused by both the Local Planning Authority and at Appeal. It is important that planning decisions should be consistent if the credibility of the planning process is to be retained.

**To sum up In addition to all the other reasons for refusal which this Council fully supports. It is the view of Charvil Parish Council that for these reasons alone this application should be refused.**

**1 To comment on Hicks etc comments on Core Strategy - Land available to include Land West of Park Lane.**

**2 Two new applications for 25 Park View Drive North**

**3 Hicks appeal for development at 2 Strathmore Drive - Refused ----- but!**

**4 Sandford Farm Appeal suggested comments.**

**5 Quiet Lanes**

**6 Landfill behind Village Hall ??????**

**7 Appeal against refusal of retrospective for development at 32 Park View Drive South**