



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 23rd January 2007

Present: Alice Wilkinson (Chairman), Jim Gillett, John Illenden, Jackie Jeffery, Shirley Newman, Chris Drew, and District Councillor Pamela Graddon.

Apologies for absence: Nick Ray, Michael Forrer, John Davies and Steve Gray,

4128/07 Open Forum - There were no residents present.

4129/07 Declaration Of Interest - None

4130/07 Minutes of the meeting held on 19th December 2006 –The minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4131/07 Urgent Matters Arising from the above Minutes - There were no matters arising.

4132/07 PLANNING

a) Applications for Information and Comment:

9528 (Resubmission) Demolish Dwelling & erect one detached Dwelling at 101 Milestone Avenue. Significant changes noted and did not comment previously. No Parish Council Comment.

9067/(additional) Erect single storey garage. Now includes Change Use of Land opposite - 1 Old Acre Lane. Following discussion the Clerk was asked to comment as follows:

Council strongly objects to any approval which might subsequently allow any residential development on this site because:-

- 1) The site is too narrow for any acceptable residential development.*
- 2) Any development will have to be close to and protrude above the boundary fence with adjacent properties. This precludes even a garage particularly one with a pitched roof.*
- 3) It is immediately adjacent to and will access onto the narrow access road to other properties on Old Acre Lane.*
- 4) The site is in the designated 'at risk of flooding' area.*
- 5) Council asks that the status of the two trees on the site be taken into consideration.*
- 6) Any development on this site would be out of keeping with the street scene.*

To sum up, Council is of the view that this site is not suitable for any development and should be retained as amenity open space. However, should the Planning Authority decide to approve this application, then this Council would strongly request a provision limiting use to that of garaging only.

9462 Single storey front extension & convert garage to enlarge kitchen at 4 Charvil Meadow Road. Following Discussion The Clerk was asked to write as follows:

Council is concerned that the two parking spaces in front of this property are relatively small and that there can be no parking on the narrow entrance road which serves all the properties..

Council is concerned that were this to be allowed it could set a precedent which could result in parking chaos.

Consultation with all the neighbours is recommended.

0037 Conservatory at 20 Newbury Close. No Parish Council Comment

b) **Approved** - The following approvals were noted:-

9220 Two & single storey side extensions & Rear conservatory. Front porch & new access, at Dandy, 97 Milestone Avenue.

9126 Erect two storey side extension at 4 Gingells Farm Road.

9275 Replace flat roof with pitched roof at 52 Old Bath Road

b) **Refused** - The following refusals were noted:-

7721 Redevelopment of Service Station at A4 - New Bath Road

9150 Outline for 5 two storey dwellings at land to rear of 2-4 Old Bath Road

9229 Single storey rear extensions & first floor side extension & Dormer extension at 4 Park Lane.

9331 Two Storey side/rear & single storey front extensions at 10 Charvil House Road.

9263 Convert loft to habitable room at 24 Old Bath Road

c) **Appeal Allowed** –

5894 Change of use of garage at 1 Park View Drive South.

d) **Appeal Dismissed** –

7375 Demolish bugalow and build 5 new dwellings at 15 Charvil House Road.

e) **Sanford Farm Development** – Postponed meeting with the Village Society and residents now to take place on Wednesday 24 January 2007.

f) **Development at 25 Park View Drive South** – Council considered a report from the Clerk concerning his conversation with the Planning Enforcement Officer. The conversation indicated that there had been four separate concerns expressed by a resident; three off these had been resolved and one is still being investigated.

g) **Wokingham District Council e-mailing planning documents** - Noted. The Clerk was asked to forward these to Councilors as appropriate.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

4133/07 Finance Reports – Council approved the financial reports which had been circulated with the agenda.

4134/07 Allocation of Potential Underspend on P C Account - Following an assessment by the Budget Committee of a surplus of £4k on the PC Account, it was unanimously agreed to approve the purchase of the following items:-

- i) Replace assistant Clerks Answer Phone and Provide back up hard drive @ £120
- ii) Village Hall Floor cleaning machine @ £1000
- iii) Village Hall emergency lighting @ £500
- iv) Plant trees around Village Hall @ £200
- v) Photo and Map for Committee Room @ £300

- 4135/07 Authorisation of Payments** - Council considered the cheques report. Cheques as detailed were unanimously approved and the cheques signed.
- 4136/07 Donations** Council unanimously agreed to a donation of £100 to Homestart. Council declined to make a donation to BBO Farm and Wildlife Group
- 4137/07 Banking** Councillor Drew will visit Barclays to establish Identity.
- 4138/07 Budget/Precept 2007/2008 Meeting** –Council considered the Budget Committee recommendations which had been circulated with the Agenda and unanimously agreed to accept the report and to set a precept of £33,585 which is an increase of 4.1% on the previous year, but because of an increase in the number of houses/tax payers this represents only a 1.37% increase per household.

REPORTS

4139/07 Amenity Committee Report of meeting held 21 November 2006

Matters arising

- a) **Vandalism** - The Assistant Clerk has obtained Quotes for a replacement for the destroyed bollard light and for the Notice Board outside the Village Hall. Orders will be placed and an insurance claim for both items will be submitted.
- b) **Sports arena** –Council considered the response to the consultation article included in the January Charvil News and to the subsequent articles in the Press. One e-mail from a resident, which had been responded to by Councillor Ray, was noted.

4140/07 Village Hall Management Report of meeting held September 2006

Matters arising

- a) The decision to purchase a floor-cleaning machine was noted. It was noted that this included training for the cleaner.
- b) Following discussion of a window broken during a party it was agreed to require a £100 deposit for all evening parties.

4141/07 Youth Reports

The latest reports, which suggest that few young people were attending the Monday sessions, were included in the documents for circulation.

4142/07 District Cllr's Report

Councillor Graddon reported on recent activity at the District Council including:

S E Plan Reduction of new housing numbers still being sought. 500 new houses per year will require £50 million of infrastructure.

School performance in Wokingham District continues to improve.

Budget will be set at February Meeting.

Attended meeting with Sanford Farm Developer.

4143/07 ENVIRONMENT

- a) Country Park and Fishing Rights – Nothing New To Report
- b) Veteran Tree Project – Councillor Illenden reported that a Veteran Trees Association has been formed and that he is a member. Council discussed a letter from the Chairman of Wokingham District Council asking Parish Councils to help fund the project. Following discussion it was agreed to defer further consideration until next year.
- c) Grants Available for conservation projects. - Noted
- d) Biodiversity Questionnaire – Councillor Illenden to complete.

4144/07 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- a) Highways policy – informal meeting to follow Highways meeting on 29th January

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

4141/07 BALC Core training for Councillors – Third stage has been distributed to Councillors.

4142/07 Petition for Borough status on Wokingham Unitary Authority –Reply from Chair of Wokingham District Council considered. Clerk was asked to forward copies of correspondence to Privy Council to take into consideration.

Clerks Note *Contrary to the indication in the letter from the Chairman of WDC that a decision would not be made until the end of February. The decision has now been made and Wokingham is now a Borough with a Mayor. There would seem no point in forwarding copies of our letter to WDC and their reply to Privy Council.*

4143/07 Devolution of Power to Parish Councils - White Paper - Circulated with Items for Information

4144/07 Post Office Closures - Circulated with Items for Information .

4145/07 District Parish Conference - Response to a question from Charvil Parish Council about the role of Traveller Liaison Officer and Plans for travellers' site and reaction time once travellers set up camp. Clerk to copy complete document to Councillors for discussion at next meeting.

4146/07 District Parish Conference – Future arrangements - Councillor Jeffrey to review and report at next meeting.

4147/07 Encams – Local environment quality guide – Distributed at meeting.

4148/07 Village Fete – Defer to next meeting.

4149/07 Post Office Closures - Letter form Wokingham District Council - Noted

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

4150/07– Councillor Illenden asked if letter of support could be sent to Chairman of Wokingham District Council in support of new moves to obtain a grant to purchase a property in Twyford. Clerk to write to Chief Executive.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.30pm

.....Signature
Chairman of the Council

Signed on 27th February 2006