



## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016

**Present** Chris Drew (Chairman), Lauren McCann, Jackie Jeffery, Fiona Mowlem, John Hobson, Jim Gillett, Paul Mundy, Liz Black and Borough Councillor Nick Ray

**Apologies for Absence** John Davies and James Bell

**6578/16 Open Forum** - There were no residents present

**6579/16 Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest

**6580/16 Minutes of the Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016** - The minutes were approved by Council.

**6581/16 PLANNING** (ref 195)

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

160320 Application for the proposed erection of a new smoking shelter to existing patio area at The Wee Waif (part retrospective) – the clerk was asked to comment as follows:

*Charvil Parish Council would like to object to this application on the following grounds:*

- 1. Council feels that the siting of the smoking shelter so close to the gardens of the neighbouring properties is unneighbourly, as the people most affected by this shelter will not be fellow hotel users, but the families that back on to the area where the smoking shelter is.*
- 2. Council feels that the siting of the shelter in this particular location on the quite substantial Wee Waif site is unacceptable because of its close proximity to the boundary; there would be less objection if it were located closer to the back garden of the Wee Waif, or nearer to the petrol station, as this would have a far lower impact on the neighbouring properties.*
- 3. Due to the size of the shelter, the fact that it has heating, and that it is clearly set up for dining if desired, Council feel that this is not merely a place for customers to visit briefly when smoking, but rather a desirable spot to spend longer periods of time eating and drinking, which will inevitably lead to increased noise pollution – a point that has been well documented by many of the near-by residents. Given also that the Wee Waif has extended opening hours for much of the year, this noise pollution will inevitably go on into the night when most people may reasonably be trying to sleep, severely impacting on the neighbours.*
- 4. Lastly, this shelter has an unacceptable impact on the residential amenity of the area. All the neighbouring properties report that they cannot use their gardens as much as they would like due to the noise and unacceptable language emanating from the users of the smoking shelter. This seems to be seriously impacting on their rights as householders to enjoy their properties to the full, and it seems unacceptable that the owners of the site should put commercial gain before the interests of the village.*

- 160440 Application for the proposed single storey rear extension at 143, East Park Farm Drive – no Parish Council Comment
- 160535 Application for proposed erection of a two storey side extension at 3, Milestone Crescent – no Parish Council comment
- 160574 Application for the proposed construction of a wooden landing stage measuring 2m x 1.2 m, replacing an existing landing stage on land adjoining Chilterns, Thames Drive – no Parish Council comment
- 160618 Application for the proposed erection of a part two storey part first floor side extension, following demolition of existing garage at 30, Gingells Farm Road – no Parish Council Comment
- 160632 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey side extension, new dormer extension to garage plus conversion of loft space to habitable accommodation with front and rear dormers at 12, Simmons Fields – no Parish Council comment
- b) Planning Applications Approved** – the following approvals were noted
- 152026 Application for to close existing field access and relocation to form replacement access on land west of Park Lane
- 152753 Application for a two storey side and rear extension to 140 Park View Drive North
- 152833 Application for proposed erection of one detached dwelling at 1 Park View Drive South
- 160025 Application for installation of astroturf strips for cricket use at East Park Farm
- 160123 Retrospective Application to convert existing garage to habitable accommodation at 44, East Park Farm Drive
- 160100 Application for the proposed erection of a conservatory at 35 Cheviot Drive
- c) Planning Application Refused** – the following was noted
- 153397 Erection of an outbuilding at 44 Old Bath Road
- d) Appeal** – Council noted that the appeal for 25 Houses to be built on land West of Park Lane is to start on 12<sup>th</sup> April and is expected to last the rest of that week. Cllr. Jeffery will attend what she can on behalf of the Council. The Chairman reported that at the recent Local Plan meeting he had attended, the latest appeals to be allowed were because the Borough could not identify an “objectively assessed need” throughout the area, a point now rectified. *Clerks note: this appeal has now been postponed due to the unavailability of the inspector.*

**There being no further Planning business the Planning Meeting was closed.**

## **FINANCE**

- 6582/16 Finance Reports** – It was resolved that the Reports be approved which they were unanimously.
- 6583/16 Authorisation of Payments** – It was resolved that the Council should approve all outstanding payments including £531.73 to NIC Services Group Ltd and £1007.10 to Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd which was done unanimously
- 6584/16 To authorise and sign the letter regarding payroll instructions to Barclays Bank for the next Financial year** – It was resolved to authorise this and for it to be signed at the next Staffing Committee meeting, which was done unanimously.
- 6585/16 To note increases in the price for grass cutting by £16.43 per month and for the waste wheeler by 85p per week** – It was noted that these increases have been driven by increased labour costs, the need for improved pension provisions and land fill tax in the case of the waste wheeler.

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

## **REPORTS**

- 6586/16 Village Hall**- The minutes of a meeting of the Village Hall Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> March were noted.  
It was resolved to ask Woodley Roofing to repair the guttering at the hall, as they were the cheapest of the quotations and have done much satisfactory work at the hall already.  
It was also resolved to approve the replacement water heater for the kitchen, and to ask ADD Plumbing to fit it.  
It was resolved not to lower the boundary hedge any more as this would not be cost effective.  
Cllr Black has persuaded Mullie's Estate Agent to provide a floor plan of the hall in return for providing a place to plant some of their trees.
- 6587/16 Amenities Committee**- The Minutes of a meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March were noted.  
Cllr. Gillett reported that he had had a meeting with some of the Waingels Road residents who are not happy with the lack of progress of the proposed sewer. Cllr Gillett and Borough Councillor Ray are due to meet with Thames Water and a further expert later in the week to discuss the possibility of compulsory purchase of the identified land, and also to consider another solution that Thames Water have come up with.
- 6588/16 Borough Councillor's Report** – Cllr Ray announced that he plans to stand again for election. He also said he intended to speak at the Public enquiry for the appeal against the refusal to allow development of the land west of Park Lane. One other point raised was that the approval of the Community Asset Transfer model has been shuffled back and will not now be discussed until after the election in May.
- 6589/16 Environment**- It was noted that there had been an application for some work on trees with TPOs on at 15c Charvil House Road (1383/2001). A meeting had been arranged with the school and Simon Bartlam to further the progress of the Forest School. The Chairman had received an e-mail from the Piggott senior school that one of the sixth form students had been working on an app for the nature trail and he and Cllr McCann were due to see it.
- 6590/16 To consider progress of the East Park Farm discussions** – The chairman, Cllrs Hobson and Mundy and the clerk had met with Peter Baveystock and Dee Maddox-Hinton earlier in the evening. The issue of the full repairing lease will be dealt with by including something in the lease to the effect that wear and tear will be taken into account. The condition report was done in August, and Council would like a fresh check in case of any new damage. Peter Baveystock agreed to meet with Cllrs Hobson, Mundy and Drew at East Park Farm to look at this issue, and also to take a look at any other issues that may need sorting out before handover, including the tennis court fence, the danger points for traveller incursion and damage to the new footpath. As far as travellers are concerned, if there were an incursion, then Wokingham's legal department could help but the Parish Council would have to pay for it. There are break clauses at two and five years in case of not being able to make a success of it. It was agreed that the formal approval of the hand-over be included in the next agenda.
- 6591/16 To consider whether to purchase a defibrillator for the hall** – It was resolved that Council would purchase a defibrillator at a cost of up to £2,000. The clerk was also asked to speak to the school to see whether they would consider making theirs available for public access.
- 6592/16 To complete nomination papers for re-election as Parish Councillors** – Some were completed at this point, but some councillors had not brought them, but agreed to hand them to the clerk the following week for delivery to Wokingham
- 6593/16 To update Members' Interest Forms where necessary** – Cllr Hobson signed and dated his and it was counter-signed by the clerk.
- 6594/16 To consider whether Council had any comment on the Fire Service Consultation** – there was no particular comment, but the clerk was asked to complete it.

- 6595/16 **To hear a report on the Poor's Land Charity meeting** – Cllr has such strict criteria and many people don't know it exists, that it does not donate very much. There was some conversation as to how best to advertise its existence and role.
- 6596/16 **To update Members' Interest forms** – Cllr Hobson has updated his form again and both he and the clerk have now signed it.

**There being no further business the open meeting closed at 9.35pm**

**Chairman's Signature .....**