

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14th December 2015

Present Chris Drew (Chairman), Jackie Jeffery, James Bell, John Hobson, Lauren McCann, Paul Mundy and Liz Black

Apologies for Absence Jim Gillett, John Davies, Fiona Mowlem and Borough Councillor Nick Ray

6523/15 Open Forum - There were no residents present.

6524/15 Declarations of Interest – Cllr. McCann declared that she has been involved in fundraising for the pre-school

6525/15 Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th November 2015 - The minutes were approved by Council.

6526/15 Matters Arising from the above Minutes – There were no matters arising

6527/15 PLANNING (ref 192)

a) New Applications for Information and Comment:

152833 Application for proposed erection of 1 x detached dwelling with associated amenity space and parking. Demolition of existing double garage at 1, Park View Drive South – The clerk was asked to comment as follows:

Charvil Parish Council wishes to object to this application on a number of grounds.

- 1. The Council feel this development is out of keeping with the street scene on Park View Drive South, where most dwellings are large, detached and in generous grounds – particularly at that end of the road. This development would appear out of keeping with the general spaciousness of surrounding dwellings on the same road.*
- 2. While each dwelling conforms to Wokingham's minimum number of parking spaces, no provision is made for unallocated parking spaces. The Council believes that this will inevitably lead to on-street parking on Park View Drive South, near a busy junction with The Old Bath Road. Council believes this to be a potential safety issue.*
- 3. Council are concerned that this development would affect a very established safe route to school, both for those travelling to the senior Piggott school, and for the smaller children travelling to the Charvil Piggott school.*
- 4. Council feels that there is insufficient amenity space for such large homes, and that this would be out of keeping with the area.*

153084 Application for the proposed single storey rear extension to 7, Charvil House Road – no Parish Council comment

b) Planning Applications Approved – the following approvals were noted

152373 Application for proposed erection of a front porch and shower room at 25, St. Patrick's Avenue

152510 Application for the erection of a four bedroom dwelling at 1, Milestone Crescent

152635 Application for a certificate of lawfulness for a single storey rear extension at 45, East Park Farm Drive

- c) **To consider the Scoping Report for the Local Plan Update** – This was noted but at this stage the Parish Council had no comment to make
- d) **To note two enforcement notices** – two notices were noted

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

FINANCE

6528/15 Finance Reports – It was resolved that the Reports be approved which they were unanimously.

6529/15 Authorisation of Payments – It was resolved that the Council should approve all outstanding payments including £531.73 to NIC Services Group Ltd, £500 to Staples, £538.90 to Tracy Ray and £97.50 for the planning application for the cricket pitch which was done unanimously.

6530/15 To consider the requests for \$137 grants from the Link Visiting Scheme, The Twyford, Wargrave and District Volunteer Centre and Keep Mobile, and also a request for a grant from Charvil Pre-school – After some discussion it was resolved to award £300 to Twyford, Wargrave and District Volunteer Centre, £300 to Keep Mobile and £900 to Charvil Pre-school which was agreed unanimously. The clerk was asked to write to The Link Visiting Scheme to apply again in the summer with more information.

6531/15 To Approve the final Village Hall budget – It was resolved to approve this which was done unanimously.

Cllr Bell had to leave at this point, at 9.05pm

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

REPORTS

6532/15 Village Hall Management Committee The minutes of a meeting on 7th December were noted.

The fire safety audit was noted. There were more issues with the piano pedal. The assistant clerk was to improve the signage in the disabled toilet to discourage unsuitable items being put down the toilet.

6533/15 Amenities Committee The minutes of a meeting on 7th December were noted.

6534/15 Environment – Cllr McCann reported that Simon Bartlam has delivered some willow to the school and has cut a cross in the vegetation in the area beyond the sports pitches on the other side of the stream so that the school can plant the willow there. Simon Bartlam had also sent a report that they have started cutting down the vegetation near the stream in Charvil Meadows, and have also started to clear the stream.

6535/15 Highways – The clerk reported that the speed monitoring camera had been installed for a week on the Old Bath Road, and once the data had been collated, it would be sent to the clerk and the Chair of Highways. The clerk was asked to write to thank Hurst Parish Council.

6536/15 To consider whether Council would like to update its street lights to LEDs in line with Wokingham Borough Council over the next two to three financial years – It was resolved to approve this.

6537/15 To consider the progress on the installation of cricket pitches at East Park Farm – Planning will go in this week; quotes are being sought for the next meeting, and a grant from Tesco is in at the moment

6538/15 To consider progress of the East Park Farm discussions, and in particular, the budget implications - There has been little news from WBC except an assurance that the lease will be ready for a handover at the beginning of April.

- 6539/15 **To consider the impact of the need for BALC to appoint a full-time officer on the BALC subscriptions** – It was noted that the BALC subscriptions had increased substantially so a full time support officer can be recruited.
- 6540/15 **To note that the grant from Wokingham Borough Council toward the Council Tax Housing Benefit gap has been reduced substantially** – Council noted that it had been reduced by £150.
- 6541/15 **To update Members' Interest forms** – Cllr Mundy will sign this once he has found the form. Cllr. Hobson reported that he needed to update his one too and has asked the clerk for a new form.

There being no further business the open meeting closed at 9.40pm

By virtue of the confidential nature of the business to be contracted the press and public were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item under Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

- 6542/15 **To consider the minutes from the last Staffing Committee meeting, and in particular to consider item 9; input into the budget discussions. Also to consider staff's holiday entitlement**

It was resolved that CPC implement the results of the National pay bargaining process for CPC employees. This has yet to be agreed but is likely to be an increase of 1%. It was further resolved that the Parish Clerk is moved to SP 27. It was also resolved that the Assistant Parish Clerk is paid a £300 one off bonus in recognition of her performance. Should she take on more responsibilities at any point in the year, then her Spine Point could be reviewed at that point.

The current staff contracts make no allowance for carrying over unused leave. The staffing committee propose that 5 days of holiday should be allowed to be carried over into the next holiday year.

Chairman's Signature