

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 19th January 2015

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

.Apologies for absence John Davies, Liz Black and Borough Councillor Nick Ray

6324/15 Open Forum – There were no residents present

6325/15 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest.

6326/15 Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th December 2014 –The minutes were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.

6327/15 Matters Arising from the above Minutes – The Terms of Reference were brought up, and the clerk explained that it was more sensible for these to be considered at the next Village Hall and Amenities meetings before returning to full council for ratification. The clerk was requested to send the Standing Orders to all councillors electronically for information.

6328/15 PLANNING (ref 181)

a) New Applications for Information and Comment:

2679 Proposed erection of one four bedroom detached dwelling on land adjacent to 1, Milestone Crescent – no Parish Council comment

2712 Proposed erection of single storey side extension, attached garage and front porch plus conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation at 15, Strathmore Drive – no Parish Council comment

2741 Proposed erection of part two storey, part first floor and single storey rear extensions at 1, Charvil Meadow Road – no Parish Council comment

0003 Proposed erection of an attached garage to the side of the existing dwelling at 15a, Charvil House Road – no Parish Council comment

2863 Proposed erection of one detached dwelling on land adjoining 6, Phillips Close, Woodley (detailed application for dwelling already given outline planning permission) – no Parish Council comment but clerk asked to write again about not receiving adjoining parish applications

b) Planning Application Rejected – The following rejection was noted

CLP/2014/2360 Erection of single storey extension at 21, Thornbers Way

c) Feedback from Mr Hicks' letter re. application – The clerk had been copied in on a letter sent to the Borough Councillor for Sonning, Mr. Mike Haines, and Council was concerned they had been mis-represented, so the clerk was instructed to write to Mr. Haines with the planning comments submitted to Wokingham last month, to be copied to both Mr. Hicks and Laura Stevens, the Planning Officer. The clerk explained that Council would be able to submit further comments if the applications was unsuccessful and went to appeal, which may be more appropriate, but Council still wanted to send a letter at this stage.

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

FINANCE

- 6329/15 Finance Reports** – It was resolved that the Reports be approved which they were unanimously. Cllr. Bell gave a detailed presentation of the figures to improve Council's understanding of the financial situation.
- 6330/15 Authorisation of Payments** – It was resolved that the Council should approve all outstanding payments, including a sports grant of £250 to a young cyclist, S137 payments of £300 each to Keep mobile and Twyford and District Volunteer Centre, and a grant donation of £500 to Charvil Pre-school. Other substantial payments included £1018 to Fericon Press and £515.75 to NIC Services Group. All these were unanimously approved.
- 6331/15 To approve the budget for 2015-16** – It was resolved to approve the budget prepared by the Finance committee, which was passed unanimously
- 6332/15 To approve the precept for 2015-16** – It was resolved that this should be set at a level of £39,451 which equates to a 1.5% increase. This was passed unanimously.
- 6333/15 To approve and sign a letter Barclays Bank to alter the Standing Order to reflect the changes to staff wages approved last month.** It was resolved that this be done, and the Chairman and Cllr. Jeffery signed it.

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

REPORTS

- 6334/15 Village Hall Management Committee** – There was no meeting this month
- 6335/15 Amenities Committee** – There was no meeting this month
The clerk and Cllr. Jeffery fed back information about the possibility of alternative amenity van provision, but it was felt that the alternative would be difficult to police and would be very expensive. It was agreed that the Parish Council could house a battery bin, but Council did not like the idea of a small appliance wheelie bin, nor did they like the idea of trying to find a home for any other recycling facilities within the village.
- 6336/15 ENVIRONMENT** – Cllr. McCann had heard from Simon Bartlam and the nature trail is nearly complete. It will be computer based, and the idea is to create an app for people to access the trail on-site. The trail is aimed at slightly older children, and Cllr. McCann would also like an observation sheet that can be printed off for younger children. The hope is to get the trail up and running by the spring. The chairman thanked Cllr. McCann for her work on this project.
- 6337/15 HIGHWAYS** – It was resolved that the Chairman would attend the Highway Maintenance Efficiency Programme Peer review.
- 6338/15 To consider any progress on the East Park Farm discussions** – Cllrs Mundy, Hobson, Drew and the clerk will attend a meeting with Wokingham on 30th January. Cllr. Mundy ran through the present position, and the scenario Council would present to Wokingham.
- 6339/15 To set an inaugural meeting date for the staffing committee** – It was confirmed that the committee consists of Cllrs. McCann, Hobson, Davies and Jeffery with the chairman also in attendance. The first meeting was arranged for 16th February at 7pm.
- 6340/15 To consider development of a disaster management strategy** – It was resolved that the clerk would investigate cloud technology.
- 6341/15 Feedback from Borough Parish Working Group** – Cllr. Jeffery reported that any replacement for the amenity vehicle was discussed (see above), and also the Community Infrastructure Levy was also explained to the councillors present.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40pm

Chairman's Signature