
Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Environment and Highways Committee held on
11th March 2019

Present Jane Hartley (Chair), Claire Andersen, Greg Elphick and Jim Gillett

Apologies Jackie Jeffery

Absent Daljit Ryatt

43/19 **OPEN FORUM** – There were no residents present but Peter Baveystock and Irum Gulzar of the Cleaner and Greener team of WBC attended. The main discussion was about the new food waste scheme that is being rolled out from April. WBC needs to reach a target of 50% of waste being recycled by 2020, and as 30% of what goes into household waste is food, it is hoped that the introduction of the scheme will enable this target to be reached. As a result of the current Government consultation on waste, it may well become mandatory for Councils to provide this service. There is a lot of effort going into ensuring the roll-out of this service is smooth, with a fleet of new lorries, more staff being employed and a new contract with Veolia all contributing to the effort. Parishes have been kept fully informed and Charvil PC has spread information as and when requested. This will continue. It was explained that the contents of the Borough's blue bags is sent to Slough to be incinerated to produce electricity, but it would be much better if more could be recycled, and this food waste will go to an anaerobic waste plant to produce energy in a more sustainable fashion. In the immediate term, multi-occupancy buildings will not be included, but the aim is to involve them as soon as practicable. The Chair thanked them for their presentation, and they left at 8.45pm.

44/19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CLERK** – There were no declarations of interest

45/19 **Approval of the Minutes of 11th February 2019** – These were approved.

46/19 **Highways**

The Speed Indicator Device has shown that the average speed on Waingels Road heading toward Woodley is 31mph, so well within the speed limit. Council would now like the device to be placed on the A4 or back on the Old Bath Road. The clerk will check with the Borough that they are happy for the unit to be placed on one of its lampposts on the A4.

Cllr. Gillett reported that there are dead branches in the trees on Waingels Road that were reported in October last year, and the work is supposed to be completed by the end of March. While some trees have been cut back, most still need attention, and the current bad weather is increasing the chance of falling branches causing injury. It has been brought to the attention of Cleaner and Greener again today, and hopefully the branches will be dealt with quickly.

Cllr. Andersen is concerned that the road markings where the Old Bath Road meets the A4 are not only worn out but are unhelpful and would like the clerk to see whether they could be altered to allow two clear lanes to approach the roundabout to make it safer.

47/19 **Environment**

The bottle bank is being emptied more frequently and there may be a second green container placed there in future. The Chair and the clerk had a meeting with the flood wardens recently, and while there has been no flooding recently, they are still checking the water levels regularly. The main concern was that, while they have identified some

vulnerable people, they have no way of helping them currently, and the conclusions was that if a team of volunteers could be found, then the flood wardens could contact them if their help was needed. It was felt that contacting helpful neighbours to encourage them to look out for those more vulnerable in times of bad weather would be helpful. If Council could promote the call for volunteers, the flood wardens would co-ordinate the further actions needed.

Cllr. Andersen attended a meeting of the Veteran Tree Association, and they have asked whether they can use the Committee Room free of charge as they have no income. As there was precedent for this, it was felt this was not a problem, but they would have to fit in so that Council does not lose business. It was noted that their AGM would be held on 30th April. The tree survey is continuing, and they would like to know whether there are any trees with special significance within Charvil – either planted for jubilees or marking something special – or just of historic value.

Cllr. Elphick has been following up on the vandalism to the post box on Chiltern Drive. It was accepted by the Post Office that it was possibly not robust enough, but he is trying to speak to someone in authority to have it replaced with a stronger design.

Cllr. Sutlieff has put a proposal in writing to the Cleaner and Greener team, to try to get litter bins placed in the East Park Farm estate.

48/19 Planning

a) The following Applications (231) were discussed (231):

190429 Application for the proposed part garage conversion and erection of a single storey rear extension with three roof lights and changes to fenestration following demolition of existing walls to 86 Old Bath Road – there were no Parish Council comments

b) Planning Applications Approved – The following were noted

182547 Application for the proposed conversion of the existing garage into habitable accommodation, plus proposed erection of single storey front extension to create a link between garage and the main dwelling at 15 Thornbers Way

190040 Application for the proposed part conversion of existing garage to create habitable accommodation, plus internal alterations and changes to fenestration at 10, Foxes Walk

c) Planning Applications Refused – The following was noted

182951 Application for the Proposed single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory. Gabled projection to rear elevation. Single storey front porch and changes to fenestration at Milton, Milestone Avenue

d) Appeals dismissed – The following were noted

173587 Full planning application for the erection of 1 no 5-bedroom dwelling and detached garage with access and parking at Oaklands, Beggars Hill Road

180224 Full application for proposed erection of 3no x 4-bed detached dwellings with on-site parking and access off Park View Drive South

e) Enforcement Update – It was decided that there was no breach at the wee Waif.

Any other Planning business at the discretion of the Chairman

Items for Consideration

49/19 To note the new Bike Hub in Woodley – The clerk had received an e-mail this evening regarding the bike hub, saying that if there is sufficient demand for learning to ride and using balance bikes etc, then the Borough would consider new bike hubs. The e-mail also discussed the process for deciding where to put new bike tracks in the Borough and are trialling a new system in the west of the Borough. If this is successful, and the northern parishes can identify areas that would benefit, they would be considered as part of this. It was decided to give this some thought and to ask people their views at the Annual Parish Meeting. The immediate ideas were cycleways to Twyford Station, and from places to the south of the Old Bath Road to Cycle Route 4, but there would possibly be others.

50/19 To Update the Objectives Paper

The Chair ran through this – several targets have been reached or are under development. Cllr. Elphick is following up on the damage to the pavilion possibly caused by drug users and will keep everyone updated. The cycle racks will be ordered shortly,

* Copies attached and/or forwarded

and Council will continue to help promote the food collection scheme. The Chair will update the sheet accordingly.

The meeting closed at 9.41pm