



## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 20th February 2017

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

**Apologies for Absence** John Davies

### **Absent**

**6772/17 Open Forum** – Four residents attended, three to discuss the appeal on the land adjacent to the Model Farm Cottages on the A4, and one to discuss the pinch point. The three residents concerned with the appeal ran through the issues they have come up against in living next to the site, including the use of their address, visitors asking them to open the gate, two more caravans based on the site, floodlights shining into their bedrooms, a cesspit being installed, commercial vehicles using the site, the erection of a high fence and other disturbance. The Chairman explained that any extra comments to be put before the appeal inspector must be planning based and that Council would write to bring these additional issues to their attention in addition to the original objections.

The fourth resident was concerned that Council wished to install a further pinch point on Beggars Hill Road, but Cllr Gillett explained that what Council actually wanted to do was to remove the pinch point altogether because it seemed to be serving little purpose in deterring traffic, but is leading to many incidents of car damage.

**6773/17 Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest.

**6774/17 Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th January 2017** - The minutes were approved by Council.

**6775/17 PLANNING** (ref 206)

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

- 170016 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension with 3 roof lights, conversion of existing garage to additional habitable accommodation and erection of in-fill side extension, to include raising of existing flat roof and internal alterations at 22, Chiltern Drive – no Parish Council comment
- 170078 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear and side extension, erection of single storey to form a new porch and new dormers to the front and rear at 15 Old Bath Road – no Parish Council comment
- 170317 Application for the proposed erection of two link detached bungalows at the land at the rear of 70-72 Old Bath Road – no Parish Council comment

### **b) Planning Applications Approved** – The following were noted

- 163095 Application for the retention of 2 existing A/C condensers and the proposed relocation of 2 existing condensers (part retrospective)
- 163127 Application for the proposed erection of first floor side extension, changes to garage access and fenestration at Orchard House, Milestone Avenue
- 163268 Application for proposed erection of a new artist's studio, installation of roof lights, erection of new porch and changes in fenestration at Heron's Creek, Thames Drive

163421 Application for the proposed single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory at 55 The Hawthorns

163463 Application for vehicular access to serve temporary works compound required for electrification of railway (retrospective) on Land South of Waingels Road

163521 Application for the proposed erection of a part single, part two storey rear extension and two storey side extension to Paradise, Beggars Hill Road

c) **Approval of screening Opinion Application** – The following was noted

170128 Installation of a gas-powered grid balancing plant with generating capacity of up to 15MW on land off Loddon Drive

d) **Appeal dismissed** – the following was noted

160849 Application to erect a two-bedroom dwelling and demolish existing garage at 111 Old Bath Road

e) **Appeal**

161565 Application for the proposed use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes for 2 gypsy pitches together with the formation of utility/dayrooms and hard standing ancillary to that use on land adjacent to Model Farm Cottages, Bath Road – Council resolved to add to the comments already submitted based on the planning issues brought to the council by the neighbouring residents; namely, the high fence, loss of amenity, the installation of the cesspit, the commercial use of the site and the increased number of caravans on the site, which is situated in the countryside and on a major road. The residents then left at 8.20pm.

f) **Wokingham Borough Council: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Update 2017 - Stakeholder Consultation** – Council decided that it was not in possession of enough information to comment on much of this as much of the consultation was on a borough-wide scale, so Council only commented on unauthorised encampments; that they are disruptive to the local community and damage community relations.

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

## **FINANCE**

**6776/17 Finance Reports** – It was resolved that the financial reports be approved, which they were unanimously.

**6777/17 Authorisation of Payments** – It was resolved that the Council should approve all the following outstanding payments:

- £402.39 to the assistant clerk
- £174 to ADD Plumbing Solutions
- £736.47 to ISS Facility Services Ltd
- £2028.62 to NIC Services Ltd
- £48.60 for amenity maintenance and repair
- £29.63 to Cathedral Hygiene
- £115 to Cox Decorators
- £157.64 to the clerk
- £282 to Drain and Able
- £654.36 to RES
- £432 to Redstone Computers (UK) Ltd
- £95.92 to Staples
- £216.82 to Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd
- £575.05 to Royal Berks Pension Fund

**6778/17 To note the thank you letters received from the recipients of the S137 grants** – all three recipients have written to express their appreciation

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

## **REPORTS**

- 6779/17 Amenities Committee**- The Minutes of a meeting on 6th February were noted. It was reported that the Borough had now completed the outstanding works on the pavilion. The assistant clerk is to investigate prices for bollards near to the tennis courts. Cllr Bell asked whether the equipment that is provided in the pavilion kitchen could be improved. *Clerk's note: The assistant clerk will consider purchasing some more cutlery and will contact the Halls guidance team to see what is allowable in such a kitchen in terms of knives, bottle openers etc.*
- 6780/17 Report from the Borough Councillor**  
The Borough Councillor had nothing to report except on Highways (see below).
- 6781/17 Environment**  
**To note the TPO application 170251 to fell a lime tree at 8, Charvil Meadow Road –**  
This was noted.  
**To note the progress of getting a group of tree wardens for Charvil** – Cllr McCann reported that she has five people interested in becoming tree wardens – herself, Cllrs Jeffery and Hobson, plus two other residents. They will receive training from the Veteran Tree Association. She also reported that Rachel Chopping from the School wanted to meet her regarding the progress of the Forest School, and that the editor of the Sonning Church magazine wanted to run something on the Nature Trail.
- 6782/17 Highways** – Cllr Mowlem ran through the exchange of correspondence regarding the Waingels Road pinch point which concluded that it would be a very low priority for Wokingham to go through the necessary processes to have it removed. Council asked Cllr Hobbs to see if the original order was temporary as it was the Council's understanding that it was. Cllr Mowlem then explained her interest in finding out whether the gated signs that have been installed by Hurst Village Society would be beneficial to Charvil. The police suggest they are effective in slowing down traffic, but Council would like some more detailed data before deciding whether these would be a worthwhile investment. Cllr Bell reported back from a meeting he attended at the Borough over the Local Plan and Highways. He reported that Alex Deans, the acting Head of Highway, would be happy to communicate further with parishes as plans develop for new roads, and Council asked the clerk to invite him to a meeting as plans develop.
- 6783/17 To note the decision to close the pre-school and consider any further action** – The Chairman reported that he and Cllr McCann attended the extra-ordinary meeting of the pre-school, where the decision was made to close it at the end of May. A lady had attended this meeting who is interested in setting up a pre-school in the village, but at present there is no suitable location. Borough Cllr Hobbs is going to ask the Church for copies of the ownership of the land at St Patrick's and Cllrs Bell and Hobson would like to meet with the vicar to see if there is any way that the Church could help fund a new pre-school.
- 6784/17 Update on Lighting Plans for East Park Farm** – It was agreed that Council would like to keep the new lights on all night, and the heritage style lights for Milestone Avenue were noted.
- 6785/17 To consider whether Charvil should introduce recycling facilities into the village following the removal of the ones in Waitrose** – After a brief discussion, Council decided this was unnecessary as the site in Polehampton car park is sufficient.
- 6786/17 To note that the clerk has now passed CiLCA and whether Council would like to pursue gaining The General Power of Competence** – The clerk was congratulated and was asked to investigate further.
- 6787/17 Report on the Borough Parish Liaison Group** – The main item was the parking Enforcement and that the Borough has produced an App which is designed to help people find somewhere legitimate to park. Unfortunately, this does not talk to Sat Nav systems.

**By virtue of the confidential nature of the business to be contracted the press and public are excluded from the meeting during consideration of the**

**following item(s) under Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

**6788/17 News from the Chairman** – The Chair announced that he is standing down in May.

**There being no further business the open meeting closed at 10.05pm**

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