



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17th July 2017

Present Jim Gillett (Chairman), John Hobson, Jackie Jeffery, Paul Mundy, James Bell and Fiona Mowlem

Apologies for Absence John Davies and Borough Councillor Emma Hobbs

Absent

6856/17 Open Forum – Claire Andersen attended, and was officially co-opted. One member of the public attended to see how a council meeting worked with a view to putting his name forward for co-option.

6857/17 Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Claire Andersen signed her Declaration and her Member's interest form.

6858/17 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest apart from the fact that Cllr. Davies works for the company that are supplying lights for the hall.

6859/17 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th June 2017 - The minutes were approved by Council.

6860/17 PLANNING (ref 211)

a) New Applications for Information and Comment

- 171554 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension; first floor side extension; infill extension to provide additional habitable accommodation plus replacement of existing flat roof to pitched roof at Temple Cottage, Beggars Hill Road – no Parish Council comment
- 171771 Application for proposed erection of first floor side extension and single storey rear extension at Stumbles, Charvil House Road – The clerk was asked to comment as follows: *The Parish Council are concerned that the neighbour's concerns are fully considered when deciding on this application.*
- 171721 Application for the proposed single storey side extension at 15, St. Patrick's Avenue – no Parish Council comment
- 171259 Application for the retention of the freestanding automated teller machine to the right of the North-East facing elevation (retrospective) at Co-Op Food, New Bath Road – no Parish Council comment
- 171260 Advertisement Consent for the retention of 4 non-illuminated fascia signs on the ATM machine (retrospective) at Co-Op Food, New Bath Road – no Parish Council comment
- 171855 Application for the proposed single storey side extension plus rear conservatory extension following demolition of existing conservatory at 17 Thornbers Way – no Parish Council comment
- 171933 Application for certificate of lawfulness for the proposed erection of single storey rear extension to dwelling plus part conversion of existing garage at 6 Wenlock Edge – no Parish Council comment

171943 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey side/front extension to dwelling plus conversion of garage to habitable accommodation at 41 Cheviot Drive – no Parish Council comment

b) Planning Applications Approved – The following was noted

171398 Application for a certificate of lawful development for the erection of a single storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory at 10 Simmons Field

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

FINANCE

6861/17 Finance Reports – It was resolved that the financial reports be approved, which they were unanimously. The Chair of Finance presented the first Quarter's figures, and there was some concern that the income did not reflect that expected in the budget. The Clerk explained that this was because some large invoices were not issued until July for a variety of reasons, but that income was on track. Despite this, there was still a sense of unease that it was hard to see how viable the Pavilion and East Park Farm are. There was a discussion around this, and it was agreed that it would be hard to gauge this until a full year had passed, and possibly longer. There was also a discussion around the type and level of accounting required, with some members feeling that Council should introduce Management Accounting. This is not something the clerk has experience of, but would be best done by the RFO.

6862/17 Authorisation of Payments – It was resolved that the Council should approve all the following outstanding payments:

£522 to ADD Plumbing Solutions

£212.15 to the Assistant Clerk

£2428.48 to ISS Facility Services Ltd

£970.56 to NIC Services Ltd

£79 to CCB

£985.25 to CCF Ltd

£3398.40 to Dextra Lighting Ltd

£603.60 to Gemma Lighting Ltd

£65.26 to the clerk

£461.39 to Loddon Doors

£90 to Wokingham Town Council

£372.50 to Silkiskills

£145.32 to Southern Electric

£205.34 to SSE Contracting

£216.82 to Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd

£512.30 to Royal Berks Pension Fund

6863/17 To consider the applications for S137 grants from Homestart and Berkshire Vision and Grants from CAB, Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association and ME 2 Club

– After some discussion, it was resolved to award £200 to Homestart, £250 to Berkshire Vision, £50 to the Tree Association and £618 to CAB which was unanimously approved. It was agreed that Council would ask ME 2 for some more information before reconsidering the application in December.

6864/17 To Approve the price and source of the internal lights – This had previously been discussed by the Amenities Committee and the best value was provided by Dextra Lighting so it was resolved to approve this source, which was done unanimously.

6865/17 To give retrospective approval for the emergency replacement of the water tank serving the toilets in the Village Hall – It was resolved to approve the cost of around £600 for this repair which was carried unanimously

6866/17 To consider the development of the five-year plan – The Chair of Finance proposed to take a list of possible items and develop it and bring back to Council as a draft document in September. This was agreed to be a sensible course of action.

6867/17 To consider the quotes for the deep clean of the pavilion – It was resolved to give the work to Rapid Clean, which was agreed unanimously.

6868/17 To approve the cost of repairing the barrier at East Park Farm – It was resolved to approve the cost of the repair which is £695 ex. VAT. This was approved unanimously.

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

REPORTS

6869/17 Amenities Committee- The Minutes of a meeting on 3rd July were noted. It was noted that although the Sports Booking Conditions had been approved, they were still being tweaked on minor issues, and so while they are good enough to send out to hirers in August, they may be amended at the next Amenities Committee meeting.

There had been a complaint from the Ballet Group as there had been a mix-up with the cleaners; consequently the floor had not been cleaned before the Ballet exams, resulting in damage to shoes and difficulties in performing well. The assistant clerk had reimbursed the ballet group and is intending to pass the lost revenue to the cleaning company.

The clerk has arranged for a new contract for electricity at the pavilion.

The gate at the Vegetable Plots had broken but has now been fixed by the landscapers at the Hall.

The clerk reported issues with litter while the litter picker was on holiday, and what should the correct procedure be in his absence. This was deferred to the next Amenities meeting, where the idea of recruiting a second picker would be considered.

6870/17 Report from the Borough Councillor

The Borough Councillor could not attend this month, but sent in a report which included a brief update on the Homestead and that they have recently been awarded a contract with Thames Water and that she has requested to see their vehicle movement licence adoption. WBC have refused to adopt a small piece of unmade road on Chiltern Drive. She also reported that she had had complaints about Reading University cutting down willows on Milestone Avenue – these are a commercial crop and more will be planted in the autumn.

6871/17 Highways

Regarding Pipistrelle Way, Cllr Mowlem reported that Ian Haller of WBC had replied and advised that the residents need to write to the developer, Bewley Homes, to ask them if they are willing for the Borough Council to adopt the road. If necessary, the Parish Council would write in support of the residents.

6872/17 To approve the procedure for the filling of casual vacancies to the Council – It was resolved to approve this which was done unanimously.

6873/17 Reports from Representatives of the Borough Parish Working Group and WDALC Meeting

– Cllr Jeffery reported that there had been a discussion on the Local Plan and that at present it appears to be planning by appeal. There was also a talk from the Community Resilience Officer. Cllr Hobson reported that the WDALC meeting was a complete waste of time, and wondered why the group had not been wound up.

Clerk's note: Although the parishes had largely supported the group's cessation, the County Association vetoed this move.

There being no further business the open meeting closed at 9.58pm

Chairman's Signature

Chairman's Initials.....

Date.....

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