



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17th October 2016

Present Chris Drew (Chairman), Jim Gillett, Lauren McCann, Paul Mundy and Fiona Mowlem

Apologies for Absence John Hobson and Jackie Jeffery

Absent John Davies and James Bell

6697/16 **Open Forum** – There were no residents present. Inspector Alistair Lloyd, the local neighbourhood inspector attended. He ran through his history with the force and explained that he is responsible for the western area of Wokingham Borough. He explained that Wokingham had merged with Bracknell to save money, to increase resilience, and to be better placed to cope with on off events such as the Henley Regatta without compromising everyday policing. Loddon Valley will remain the main police station for the area, and Twyford will continue to have a station of some kind. Since he came into post, Inspector Lloyd has undertaken a neighbourhood policing review and from this has drawn three main priorities: problem solving, visibility and engagement to help build community resilience. Problem solving would include the development of No Cold Calling zones, and the police have an organiser who can help get these off the ground; trying to have a joint approach with mental health teams as people who call regularly call the police often have mental health issues; neighbourhood watch etc. Engagement means trying to get a better idea of what needs to be done, maybe by attending community events, through social media etc. Visibility includes trying to get more residents to sign up to alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk ; the more local residents sign up, the more local the news on it would be, and more relevant to the community. The use of social media will also help as this is possibly the most effective way to re-assure resident that the police are dealing with local issues

One of the major areas of concern is the issue of speeding and Council was asked to contribute to a new Speed Indication Device that will be used across the neighbourhood. To make speed enforcement more effective, police need evidence of the worst places to target enforcement most effectively. Some areas have managed to train members of the public to help conduct surveys and then the worst offenders are written to by the police to let them know this is unacceptable behaviour.

The chairman thanked Inspector Lloyd for coming and he left at 8.40pm.

6698/16 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr. Gillett lives next door to the site in Waingels Road which is subject to a planning appeal

6699/16 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th September 2016** - The minutes were approved by Council.

6700/16 **PLANNING** (ref 202)

a) **New Applications for Information and Comment** – There were no planning application this month

b) **Planning Applications Approved** – the following approval was noted

162419 Full Planning Application for the proposed removal of car wash facility to the rear replacing it with a brickwork store room plus new bollards and staff parking bays at Texaco Garage, New Bath Road, Charvil

c) **Appeal** – the following appeal was noted

160902 Application to erect a single dwelling with a triple garage on land off Waingels Road

d) **Local Plan Potential Sites** – The list of local sites put forward at this stage was noted. It was reported that parishes would not be consulted in the appraisal process of these sites.

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

FINANCE

6701/16 **Finance Reports** – It was resolved that the financial reports be approved, which they were unanimously

6702/16 **Authorisation of Payments** – It was resolved that the Council should approve all outstanding payments including £1038.31 to NIC Services Group Ltd and £736.48 to ISS Facility Services Ltd.

6703/16 **To consider the report on the village hall audit processes** – It was agreed to defer this until the clerk had investigated alternative finance systems. The clerk was asked to thank him for his advice and explain Council would consider fully when alternative systems had been looked at.

6704/16 **To consider the consultation as to whether Parish Precepts should be subject to similar referendum clauses as the Borough if increases are higher than a certain level** – The clerk was asked to object, which was done on the online consultation form.

6705/16 **To consider any extra-ordinary budget items councillors would like to include in next year's budget** – Various items were suggested including the replacement of the fence around the football pitches, improving the exterior of the pavilion, exterior cladding of the pavilion and the installation of a zip wire.

6706/16 **To note the completion of the Annual Return and comments** – This was noted.

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

REPORTS

6707/16 **Amenities Committee**- The Minutes of a meeting on 3rd October were noted. It was noted that the fire alarm was set off by one of the football teams using the pavilion.

There was a discussion about the anti-social behaviour issues at the MUGA. It was agreed it was annoying, but low level.

The committee have asked the assistant clerk to consider the costs and options for replacement fencing around the football pitches.

It was noted that the terms and conditions for pavilion/East Park Farm hire would be considered at a later date.

6708/16 **Staffing Committee** – It was noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday 28th November. Members of the committee were asked to forward any items for consideration to the clerk.

6709/16 **HIGHWAYS**

It was noted that the Chair of Highways has requested new signs for East Park Farm Drive. It was reported that the residents of Pipistrelle Way are trying to get the road adopted, and that since the trees were cut back on the A4, the 40MPH signs are much more visible.

6710/16 **ENVIRONMENT**

Cllr McCann reported that the Forest School was timetabled for once or twice a week. They would like a sign for the site and the clerk was asked to send them an application

form for a grant to help fund this purchase. The school did not like the idea of flags to warn dog walkers.

The crocuses will be planted by the school underneath the lime trees by the school.

- 6711/16 Insurance Claim regarding the picnic bench**- It was noted that a claim had been received by the insurers because a resident had hurt themselves whilst sitting on the broken bench at East Park Farm. The weekly inspection reports indicate there was no negligence on the part of the Council.

- 6712/16 Borough Parish Liaison Group Update** – see above in the local plan discussion.

There being no further business the open meeting closed at 10pm

Chairman's Signature