

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015

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

**.Apologies for absence** John Davies and Liz Black

**6342/15 Open Forum** – Carl Emerson from Charvil Tennis Club attended to brief Council on development since they were given a grant in 2013. The club has continued to grow over the last two years, and is hoping to work with the school to develop more activities, such as after school sessions and holiday clubs. To ensure long term sustainability, they need to increase membership to at least 20 active members per court. They would like to improve facilities by providing on-court benches and wind breakers, as well as put paving down to prevent weeds around the courts, floodlighting and find a way of having a clubhouse. Ultimately they would like to competitive juniors, and may consider working toward “Tennismark”, a Sport England award for good standards in tennis. Carl was asked if Wokingham had been supportive, but since completion of the new courts, they have been uncommunicative. When asked what they used the pavilion for, he replied the club used it for storage, shelter and toilets. When asked about court maintenance, he thought they would need re-painting after about 10 years. The Chairman thanked him for coming and he left at around 8.10pm.

**6343/15 Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest.

**6344/15 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015** –The minutes were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.

**6345/15 Matters Arising from the above Minutes** – There were no matters arising

**6346/15 PLANNING** (ref 182)

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

2725 Proposed erection of a single storey rear extension plus replacing existing flat roof over the garage and utility room at 70, Park View Drive North – no Parish Council comment

2712 Proposed erection of two storey side extension at 5, Park Lane – no Parish Council comment

**b) Planning Applications Approved** – the following approvals were noted

1644 Proposed erection of replacement agricultural barn at Newlands Farm, Loddon Drive

2649 Proposed conversion of existing garage to additional habitable accommodation at 21, Thornbers Way

2146 Proposed erection of first floor side extension at 12, Gingells Farm Road

2248 Proposed erection of a slipway and dinghy storage on land adjoining Chilterns, Thames Drive

2072 Proposed erection of a detached dwelling at 111, Old Bath Road

- 2712 Proposed erection of single storey side extension to form replacement garage, enclosure of front porch and side passageway area, plus conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation at 15, Strathmore Drive
- c) **Planning Application Rejected** – The following rejection was noted
- 0551 Proposed erection of first floor side extension and single storey front porch extension at 19a Charvil House Road
- d) **Appeal** – The following appeal was noted.
- 1917 Proposed erection of a detached house on land to the rear of 6, Phillips Close, Woodley
- e) **Appeal dismissed** – The following decision was noted
- 0921 Proposed change of use of a storage building to fast food takeaway at 36, Park View Drive
- f) **To consider the draft Local Planning Enforcement Plan** – Council decided not to comment.

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

### **FINANCE**

- 6347/15 **Finance Reports** – It was resolved that the Reports be approved which they were unanimously.
- 6348/15 **Authorisation of Payments** – It was resolved that the Council should approve all outstanding payments, including £1031.50 to NIC Services Group. All these were unanimously approved.
- 6349/15 **To approve the appointment of David Weller as internal auditor for 2015**
- 6350/15 **To appoint a councillor to conduct the internal audit of the village hall procedures for 2015** – It was resolved that Cllr. Bell will do this once the assistant clerk is back at work.
- 6351/15 **To review the Risk Management policy** – This was deferred until Cllr. Bell had looked at it.
- 6352/15 **To consider whether to change contractors for the grass cutting at St. Patricks** – it was resolved that Council would offer the contract to SCS Landscapes.
- 6353/15 **To consider whether to change contractors at the Village Hall, and whether it would be a good idea to change the contract to an all round maintenance arrangement** - It was resolved that it would be preferable to try the all-round maintenance contract offered by SCS Landscapes as this would improve the appearance of the hall.
- 6354/15 **To choose a provider for the new website** – It was resolved to offer Silkiskills the contract to develop the new website at a cost of £1609.

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

### **REPORTS**

- 6355/15 **Village Hall Management Committee** – The minutes of the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> February were noted.
- The clerk reported that there had been an incident in the car park where a car had hit a lamppost and run over one of the small trees. The clerk was asked to write to the address given by police reserving the right to claim the costs of repair/replacement.
- 6356/15 **Amenities Committee** – The minutes of the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> February were noted.
- To consider and agree remedial works required to and around the play equipment at St. Patrick's Recreation Ground, and the staining of the benches – this was deferred.
- Notice boards – it was resolved not to replace the existing board on Beggars Hill Road, nor purchase a new one for Gingells Farm Road.
- Cllr. Gillett reported that Thames Water are having difficulty getting permission from Waingels College to purchase a small plot of land on which to site the necessary

pumping station. There was to be a meeting the next day in the hope of resolving this issue.

- 6357/15 Staffing Committee** – Cllr Hobson reported that the committee held its first meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> February, and that they had approved the policy for pensions which will need to go to full council for approval in March. It also needed to have the terms of reference for the committee ratified by Council. There is quite a lot of work to do, but ultimately the aim is to be light touch.
- 6358/15 ENVIRONMENT** – Cllr. McCann reported that the Nature trail can be launched but that if Council would like to work with Piggott on the App, then this would probably not be launched until April 2016, to fit in with the school timetable.
- 6359/15 HIGHWAYS** – The Chairman attended the Highway Maintenance Efficiency Programme Peer review which was a review of Wokingham’s performance by two other councils. They suggested that parishes might like to push for a Parish Charter, and this idea may well be taken up by the Borough Parish working Group.
- 6360/15 To consider any progress on the East Park Farm discussions** – Cllrs Mundy, Hobson, Drew and the clerk attended a meeting with Wokingham on 30<sup>th</sup> January. Wokingham seemed positive regarding the proposals put forward by Charvil, and the next steps were for Wokingham to double check the figures, and do the condition survey of the pavilion. There is still an issue of the rates, but there has been a precedent set for Wokingham to pick up the rates bill as in the case of the Twyford Youth Centre. One idea was to try to encourage weekday usage of the pavilion, and to this end Cllr. Hobbs has been negotiating with some pre-schools to see if they would be interested in using the building.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm**

**Chairman’s Signature .....**