

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15th July 2013

Present Alice Wilkinson (Chairman), Paul Mundy, Chris Drew, James Bell, Jackie Jeffery, John Davies, Liz Black, Piran Trezise and Borough Councillor Nick Ray.

Apologies for absence Jim Gillett and Lauren McCann

5981/13 Open Forum – No members of the public were present.

5982/13 Declaration of Interest – None

5983/13 Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th June 2013 – The minutes were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising from the above Minutes – There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda

5984/13 PLANNING (ref 163)

a) New Applications for Information and Comment:

0909 Application for the erection of detached storage building in rear garden at 36, Park View Drive South (retrospective application) – No parish Council comment

1152 Proposed erection of a part two storey/part single storey rear extension to dwelling, following removal of conservatory at 63 Park View Drive North – No Parish Council comment

1264 Proposed erection of a single storey side and rear extension to 7, Kilowna Close - No Parish Council comment

b) Planning Applications Approved – The following approvals were noted

0756 Proposed conversion of existing integral garage into habitable accommodation at 5, Gingells Farm Road

0710 Notification of Approval of Certificate of Lawful Development for the erection of a pitched roof side dormer extension and insertion of front and rear roof lights at 34, Old Bath Road

c) Enforcement

194 Closure of Investigation into 50, Old Bath Road, Charvil because Site cannot be seen from a public viewpoint

218 Alleged breach: Unauthorised occupation of annexe in rear garden of 12, Chiltern Drive

d) Appeal Dismissed

2296 Appeal for a first floor side extension at 6, Kilowna Close was noted

e) Works to existing Telecommunications base Station on Milestone Avenue – The clerk was asked to liaise with Cllr. Trezise to fashion a reply asking for various points to be clarified.

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

FINANCE

5985/13 Finance Reports – Reports were unanimously approved.

5986/13 Authorisation of Payments – Council unanimously approved payments including a £200 donation to the Milestone Avenue and Thames Drive Residents' Association, £200 to Twyford, Wargrave and District Volunteer Centre and £1000 to Charvil Community Tennis Club.

5987/13 Donations – to consider donation requests from Wokingham Citizen's Advice Bureau - It was unanimously approved to give a donation of £300 to them. A thank you from the Link Visiting Scheme was also noted.

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

REPORTS

5988/13 Village Hall Management Committee – The Minutes of a meeting held on 3rd July were noted.

It was noted that the vandalism repairs to the roof cost £255, but that it wasn't worth claiming on the insurance as the excess was £200. The assistant clerk is considering repainting the pipes with anti-climb paint. There has also been a major leak at the water meter. The clerk is to complete a leak allowance form to claim back the cost of the wasted water.

5989/13 Amenities Committee – The Minutes of a meeting held on 3rd July were noted.

The clerk reported that she had a request from the plot holders for running water, and she has asked Thames Water for a quotation to find out how much this would cost. If the plot-holders are willing for their rent to be held at £40 until the cost has been covered and if they are willing to take on the water bill themselves, then the Parish council may effectively loan them the money. If it is decided that the cost is prohibitive, then the rents will be reduced to £30 for next year. *Clerk's note: The cost would be £3500 inclusive of VAT and the plot holders have been informed.*

5990/13 Borough Councillor's Report – Apart from progress on the school (see below), Cllr. Ray informed Council that a detailed investigation into the old tip underneath Strathmore Drive and Kilowna Close, to find out whether there is any contamination and how severe.

5991/13 ENVIRONMENT – Nothing to report

5992/13 HIGHWAYS - The road under the railway bridge on Park Lane is due to be resurfaced on the nights of 26-27 July, and Beggars Hill Road is to be resurfaced this week, to be completed in early August. Wokingham is to write to Network Rail and to Mr. Hicks about cutting back bushes on Park Lane and Waingels Road. The clerk has been asked to inform Wokingham that the flashing speed sign on the A4 is obscured by bushes. Council has been asked whether they would support an application by the village shop for a road sign from Old Bath Road. They would in principle providing the parking is adequately dealt with. The ford signs seem to be flashing even though the water levels are now low – Cllr. Ray agreed to take this up with Wokingham.

5993/13 Update on the Primary School – Cllr. Ray and the Chairman met with Tim Searle and it was agreed that the present MUGA would stay where it is and the school would have a new one. There would be an external gate to the school MUGA to allow the tennis club to use it if they can come to an agreement with the school. They were shown samples of the brickwork which matches East Park Farm. It was confirmed that ducting will be laid to the new tennis courts and a decision would be made about laying a base for a tennis hut to be added in the future. It was felt that some of the lorries have been going too fast through the ford. *Clerk's note: The drivers have been asked to take more care in future.*

- 5994/13 Twyford Youth Centre** – To consider becoming a stakeholder in a possible Company limited by Guarantee to run it in future and to approve paying the £1500 streetworker budget to the said company to help keep the youth centre open
Cllr. Drew said that the figures presented from Wokingham did not add up, but there did appear to be a shortfall of £6000 on the building's running costs. However, rates seemed excessively high, amongst other things. The aim would be to run a youth service for nine hours a week, but the cost of this is unclear at present. A company limited by guarantee would not put any of the council's assets at risk, and the liabilities would be limited to the stake the Council puts in. Council was concerned that there may be more pleas for extra funds if the company is not going very well, and that Council's liabilities could increase as a result. Council agreed to support the venture subject to more clarity on liabilities, and to redirect the streetworker money to this new body.
Clerk's note: The liabilities would be limited to £250 "seed" money and £1 if the venture were to fold. Directors cannot take any money out of the company, and the company should have the relevant insurance to protect the stakeholders from any further liabilities. There would be no further funds directed toward the company but there would be a commitment to provide funds for youth work as there is at present.
- 5995/13 Thank you from Fete Committee** – This was noted
- 5996/13 Changes to the dates of the 2013 canvas and elections in 2014** – These changes were noted

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Any Other Business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm