

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17th December 2018

**Present** Jim Gillett (Chair), Paul Mundy, Adrian Keward, Claire Andersen, James Bell, Jackie Jeffery, Daljit Ryatt, Jane Hartley, Pat Sutlieff and Greg Elphick

### Apologies for Absence

#### Absent

7165/18 **Open Forum** – No residents attended

7166/18 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Bell declared a personal interest in the subject of junior football as did Cllr Mundy. The Chairman noted that the Rotary Club, of which he is a member, are also supporting Sue Ryder

7167/18 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th November 2018** – These minutes were approved by Council.

### FINANCE

7168/18 **Finance Reports** – The Chair of Finance gave a summary of these before it was resolved that the financial reports be approved, which they were unanimously.

7169/18 **Authorisation of Payments** – It was resolved that the Council should approve all the following outstanding payments, which was done unanimously:

£160.08 to Grundon Waste Management Ltd  
£24 to Taurus Elite Security  
£33.62 to British Gas Services Ltd  
£33.34 to Bowak  
£185.50 to the Assistant Clerk  
£51.99 to Cathedral Leasing Ltd  
£112.90 to Everflow Ltd  
£211.52 to the Clerk  
£70.02 to Village Warden  
£957.96 to Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd  
£33.17 to NIC Services Group Ltd  
£85.70 to Viking Payments  
£360.57 to Dual Energy  
£608.28 to Berkshire Pension Fund  
£11.30 to CNG Ltd  
£352.35 to Roger Burns  
£2270 in payroll

7170/18 **To review and check Bank Statements against Reconciliations** – This was deferred

7171/18 **To consider S137 donation requests from Keep Mobile, Twyford, Wargrave and District Volunteer Centre and Sue Ryder Nettlebed** – After some discussion as to why Council had so few applicants, it was agreed that a piece would be included in the next newsletter advertising the grants. In the meantime, it was resolved to give Keep

Mobile £620, Age Concern £511 and Sue Ryder £560, which was approved unanimously.

#### **Reports**

**7172/18 Amenities Committee** – The minutes of the 3rd December were noted.

**7173/18 Planning, Environment and Highways Committee** – The minutes of the meeting on 10th December were noted. The Planning Application for 183348, to erect a single storey side and front extension to 60, Old Bath Road was considered and there was no Parish Council comment.

**Staffing Committee** – The minutes of the Staffing Committee on 26th November were noted.

**7174/18 Report from the Borough Councillor** – The Borough Councillor could not be present but had sent a note saying that she had sought and gained agreement from the owners of the Jubilee Hall site that they would include more space for parking in the plans to be submitted to the Council.

#### **Items for Consideration**

**7175/18 To hear a report back from the Clerk's Society of Local Council Clerks meeting** – The clerk reported that many of the clerks were unhappy with the Berkshire Association of Local Councils (BALC) and felt there was little transparency regarding their arrangement with HALC, and how much it was costing them. The majority felt that without more information, they would find it hard to recommend paying into BALC for the next financial year.

**7176/18 To consider an approach by Jude Whyte (assistant director, customer and localities WBC) to the Chairman to discuss particular priorities for the Parish and how we might achieve these by working with the Borough, and to decide what Council would like the Chairman to bring to the attention of WBC** – After some discussion, it was agreed that the Chairman should raise the topic of more cycle paths, the return of S106 monies spent elsewhere in the Borough, the Country Park, rigour of planning enforcement and the issues of speeding and highways. *Clerk's note: a new pedestrian crossing is likely to be installed with the S106 monies that were raised in Charvil.*

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

**7177/18 To consider and, if agreed, approve the salary recommendations from the Staffing Committee** – It was resolved to approve the salary recommendations unanimously, with each employee moving up one spinal point.

**7178/18 To review the ranking of the football clubs against the scoring system approved at the last meeting** – It was noted that both clubs were of similar size, and that both had provided the financial information as requested. Council was not convinced that cricket would not be impacted because the layout of the pitches for both teams had them very close to the cricket strips. Both teams were marked down because of the possible parking issues, and the main difference between the two teams in terms of scoring came down to the fact that around 1/3 of AFC Charvil's players came from Charvil, compared to only a handful of AFC Reading's. The final scoring, therefore, was 221 to AFC Charvil to 182 for AFC Reading.

**7179/18 To discuss the presentations by each club and to consider the issues for and against each proposal, considering the scoring system** – There followed a long debate regarding the points arising from the presentations. The general feeling from the Councillors was that both clubs showed a commitment to meeting the financial commitment, but that there were serious doubts about the long-term sustainability of both clubs, although it was suggested that by having such a close proximity to the school, it may increase player numbers, making it more viable. It was also felt that both teams took their community responsibilities seriously in terms of involvement, but that neither had really found a solution for the parking issues that were likely to arise. The issue of pitch wear and tear was discussed, and there was some argument about its likely effect, although it was noted that the grounds maintenance team had estimated an additional annual cost of £659 plus VAT, and the assistant clerk stated that the hall part

of the pavilion would have to be professionally cleaned after the proposed use of a café and this could have implications for bookings later in the weekend if cleaners cannot be found. Cllr. Jeffery felt that the existing teams should be consulted about whether they could match the commitments of the junior clubs. Cllr. Mundy stated two points from the original plan when taking on the management of the East Park Farm facility, one being it should not be a financial drain on the community, and the other being that the objective was to increase community use. Cllr. Jeffery understood this but felt that Council also had a responsibility to the wider community to ensure there were not problems surrounding parking where there is no problem now. The assistant clerk was also concerned that this change of use was setting a precedent for other Council run facilities and it was agreed it would be the case.

**7180/18 To decide whether either club has provided satisfactory evidence for a sustainable model in terms of both community and financial management, and to be non-loss-making for the foreseeable future (such that CPC can be assured of a long-term plan which does not have the potential to be loss-making for CPC). If so, then to select the winning club** – The vote was then taken on this motion, and it was decided, by a majority of seven to two, with one abstention, that neither club had provided satisfactory evidence.

**7181/18 If neither club can demonstrate long-term financial viability at EPF, plus an acceptable position with the community (e.g. parking), to decide whether Council wishes to invoke its right to remain with adult football** – The vote was taken on this point and it was decided, by a majority of eight to one, with one abstention, that Council would invoke its right to remain with adult football.

**There being no further business the open meeting closed at 9.25pm**

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