
Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Environment and Highways Committee held on
14th October 2019

Present Jane Hartley (Chair), Claire Andersen and Pat Sutlieff

Apologies

Absent Daljit Ryatt

87/19 OPEN FORUM Roanna Collis attended the meeting ahead of official co-optation at the next Full Council meeting. Sam Akhtar of Charvil Matters attended to explain what they were doing. Launched in the summer, he has a growing mailing list of environmentally concerned residents who help to take part in litter picks, trips away, help residents with gardening etc. There was a discussion on how the Parish Council and his volunteers could help each other in terms of pulling the community together to help each other, maybe do something like the initiative in Twyford to help recycle plastics that are not collected by the Borough etc. Other suggestions were around helping with planting wildflowers, speed-watch, providing support in times of flooding etc. It was agreed that each party would keep the other informed to encourage common working. The Chair thanked Sam and he left at 8.30pm

88/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ANY WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CLERK –
There were no interests declared

89/19 The Minutes of the Meeting on 9th September 2019 were approved.

90/19 Highways

The central reservation on the A4 remains uncut but is supposed to be seen to this month (October). The Speed Indicator Device was loaned to Swallowfield Parish Council for two weeks, who were very grateful, and it is now back near Chiltern Drive. The clerk is trying to arrange a meeting between the Council and the Speed-watch co-ordinator at Thames Valley Police to see how best to carry out a speed check which would help inform what could be done, if anything, to improve safety in the village. The Committee considered the request to suggest a name for the new road off Park Lane on the Hicks' development, and they decided upon Canberra Lake Way, and this is what has been passed to the Borough for consideration.

91/19 Environment

Cllr. Andersen informed the Committee of the progress of the Veteran Tree Survey. There are 133 veteran trees in the village, up from the 102 identified in 2008. 90% are oak trees, and the largest is on the edge of Charvil Meadows, which is 400 years old. There are also three commemorative trees that have been identified, a silver jubilee tree, a golden jubilee tree and one planted by Theresa May when the vegetable plots were opened. Following the visit of Sam Akhtar, it was decided that the clerk should offer to advertise any specific events he is organising on our notice boards etc.

92/19 Planning

a) **The following Applications were discussed (237):**

192227 Application for proposed first floor side extension and partial garage conversion, plus internal alterations and changes to fenestration at 104 The Hawthorns – no Parish Council comments

- 192528 Application for the proposed erection of an attached garage to the side of the dwelling and conversion of existing integral garage. (Part retrospective) at 1a Milestone Crescent
The clerk was asked to comment as follows:
Charvil Parish Council would like to object to this application for the following reasons:
- 1. This dwelling was eventually approved in 2015 (152510), after a previous application (142375) was refused and an appeal failed on the grounds that the Borough's parking concerns were valid. The approved plan allowed for three car parking spaces for this property, with easy vehicular access to the garage.*
 - 2. A condition of approval was that the garage was to be retained as such and should always be available for vehicular use, and not used for habitation. This was to reduce the likelihood of on-street parking on a bend. Allowing the approved garage to be turned into habitable accommodation and replaced by a garage to the side of the dwelling is in direct contravention of this condition.*
 - 3. The replacement garage (that has already been built) is narrow, and vehicular access would be difficult; if the landscaping that has been approved, had been completed, it would almost certainly be impossible. While the Parish Council accepts that there is space to park two cars, they would be one in front of the other, which in practice, would mean one usually ending up parked on the street. Neither the Planning Inspector nor WBC's Highways department were happy with anything that would encourage on-street parking at this site, and neither is the Parish Council.*
 - 4. If the Borough is minded to approve this retrospective application, the Parish Council would like double yellow lines on the corner of this road to discourage on-street parking on a road that is part of a national cycleway and also a route to school for many local children.*

192334 Householder application for the erection of a proposed two storey side and single storey rear extension at 47 Chiltern Drive – no Parish Council Comment

b) **Planning Applications Approved** – The following was noted

191908 Application for the proposed conversion of roof space of detached garage into habitable accommodation, insertion of front and rear dormers, internal alterations and changes to fenestration at 16, The Hawthorns

c) **Tree Preservation Order** – the following was noted

192573 APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO PROTECTED TREE(S) TPO 1137/2006, T3 at 66 Park View Drive North T3, Beech - Dead wood removal and epicormic growth thinning within the crown (c.20%). Crown balancing to even up lopsided growth by raising the height of the crown by around 4ft one side only. Reduction in crown of around 1.8m from sides only, leaving crown diameter of 12.4m. No intended reduction in crown height.

Any other Planning business at the discretion of the Chairman

Items for Consideration

93/19 To Update the Objectives Paper

The Chair ran through the objectives paper and reviewed where we are. She had added that Council should do energy surveys of the buildings to inform any future changes. It was also suggested that CPC should investigate replicating the Twyford initiative to recycle the plastics that are not collected by the borough. It was also suggested that the committee should investigate completing the initiative to erect maps of the lakes and paths in the Country park in the East Park Farm car park. There was also some thought given to identifying other areas for planting wildflowers, and speed-watch was also added to the paper.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm