

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Environment and Highways Committee held on 9th September 2019

Present Jane Hartley (Chair), Claire Andersen and Daljit Ryatt

Apologies

Absent

80/19 OPEN FORUM – Sam Akhtar of Charvil Matters was not able to attend this evening but would be invited to attend the meeting in October. The Chairman and Cllr. Sutlieff attended to meet two of the candidates for Co-option, Roanna Collis and Jo Akeju. There followed introductions and an explanation of how the Council works, what the commitment is etc., and reassurance that there would be training to help them settle in if elected. Cllrs Gillett and Sutlieff left before the main meeting, but the two candidates remained for the whole of the meeting.

81/19 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

82/19 The Minutes of the joint meeting on 12th August 2019 were noted and will be approved at Full Council.

83/19 Highways

The central reservation on the A4 remains uncut despite assurances that it was due to be cut on 11th July. The Speed Indicator Device which has been moved to Old Bath Road, before Strathmore Drive, revealed an average speed of 30mph and at least 15% of people significantly breaking the speed limit at the approach to the junction and roundabout. The maximum speed recorded was 74mph. It was suggested that the data be presented on the website and in the Village Newsletter so that residents can see the extent of the problem. It was also suggested that the Council investigate the possibility of trying to work with Thames Valley Police to carry out a speed check, whereby trained volunteers write down the registration plates of offenders and the police warn them that they have been caught speeding. Although this does not carry any penalty, it may have a deterrent effect, and may encourage police action in the future.

84/19 Environment

Council considered the Rights of Way Consultation and wish to respond as follows: The document is well-written, and highlights many positive areas for action, particularly trying to deal with the problem of fragmentation of the network. Council also generally support the development of the greenways between developments and the Loddon long distance path. Council was particularly pleased to see the possibility of a path from Charvil to Twyford Station being considered, although would rather it was Priority one. On the less positive side, it was felt that there needs to be more balancing between the needs for lights, for example, and the issues of light pollution. Also, to ensure all possible user groups are considered – for example, while it is important to highlight those with limited mobility, there needs to be more to encourage the young to keep active – the issue of so many of the Borough's Rights of Way being footpaths is problematic in this respect, as teenagers are often on bikes, inevitably leading to conflict. It was also suggested by Councillors that joint working with the University to improve the use of Apps and mobile information may be an idea – generally, given the

limited funds available, thinking outside the box a little to use supportive volunteers and joint working with sympathetic organisations may allow more to be done. One point raised was a glossary of the acronyms in the Document would be helpful. It was noted that members of the Parish Council walked the public rights of way in Charvil on Mon 22nd July.

85/19 Planning

a) **The following Applications were discussed (236):**

192077 Application for the erection of single storey front, side and rear extensions to dwelling, following demolition of existing bay window, plus erection of detached double garage to front of 38 Park View Drive North – no plans were available on the website so this could not be considered

191925 Application for the proposed erection of a two-storey front extension, first floor rear extension, insertion of two enlarged front dormers, two rear dormers and 9no. rooflights, plus internal alterations and changes to fenestration at 101 Old Bath Road – no Parish Council comments

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

191676 Application for the proposed single storey rear extension following the demolition of existing conservatory and internal alterations to existing dwelling at 18 St Patrick's Avenue

191794 Application for the proposed part single two storey side/rear extension including canopy plus insertion of 2no. rooflights plus first floor gable projection to rear following the removal of existing conservatory, single storey front extension to form porch plus insertion of 1no. rooflight, internal alterations and changes to fenestration to Milton, Milestone Avenue

190800 Application for erection of a single storey side extension also raising the roof height and eaves level with new front facing dormer and rooflights to main roof and two-storey rear extension 3m in depth. Demolition of existing outbuilding at 58 Old Bath Road

Any other Planning business at the discretion of the Chairman

Items for Consideration

86/19 To Update the Objectives Paper

The Chair ran through the objectives paper and reviewed where we are. Community engagement is a concern and should be included in the facilitated session in November. The veteran tree survey is ongoing, and Cllr. Andersen is to investigate how many have been done. The Chair is to complete the Dog Poo signs so that they can go up. It was agreed that the Committee would meet with Sam Akhtar with a view to arranging a meeting with Peter Baveystock as there may be common aims that WBC could work positively with Charvil Matters.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm