



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14th December 2020 Via Zoom

Present Jim Gillett, Paul Mundy, Pat Sutlieff, Claire Andersen, Mike Heath, Hilary Jones, and Neil Jackson

Apologies for Absence Narinder Ryatt, Roanna Collis and Jane Hartley,

Absent

7528/20 Open Forum – No residents present

7529/20 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest

7530/20 Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 16th November held via Zoom – the minutes were approved by Council.

FINANCE

7531/20 Finance Reports – It was resolved to approve these which was done unanimously.

7532/20 Authorisation of Payments – It was resolved to approve the following payments which was done unanimously:

£89.60 to Grundon Waste Management Ltd

£62.49 to HTC Services Ltd

£37.34 to British Gas Services Ltd

£45 to A1 Locksmiths (Berkshire) Ltd

£878.87 to Berkshire Pension Fund

£123.88 to Aquacare

£150.58 to the Clerk

£663.56 to MKR Electrical Services Ltd

£39.28 to the Litter Picker

£35 to CCB

£109.32 to Dual Energy

£29.54 to SSE

£271.68 to Loddon Door Services Ltd

£1774.08 to Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd

£107.14 to Tivoli Group Ltd

£2613.77 in Payroll

7533/20 To consider the grants requests for S137 funds from Home-start Wokingham, Twyford, Wargrave and District Volunteer Centre, Berkshire Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre, Berkshire Vision, Cruse Bereavement Care and The Link Visiting Scheme - It was resolved not to award Cruse anything as the policy for grant funding discourages grants to national organisations. It was also resolved to award £400 to Link, £300 to Home-Start Wokingham, £300 to the Volunteer Centre and £160 to Berkshire Multiple Sclerosis. This was passed unanimously.

7534/20 To approve the transfer of £63,000 from our Instant Savings Account to our NS & I account and the setting up of a one-year Nationwide saving account in place of the Barclays Savings Account up to £85,000 – It was resolved to approve the transfer of £63,000 to the NS & I account and to close the Barclays account, as this would

reduce the risk that presently exists with the clerk being able to be a sole signatory. The clerk was asked to see if there was a two-year deal available as it will be some time before the Council will be able to spend its funds. *Clerk's note: there is only a one year on offer*

7535/20 Planning, Environment and Highways Committee – The minutes of the meeting via Zoom on 30th November were noted.

To consider Planning Application No. 203072, to vary conditions 2-3 and 4 of planning consent 181175 for the Full application for the proposed conversion of existing residential units, associated parking and amenity space. Condition 2 refers to approved details. Condition 3 to Landscaping and Condition 4 to parking and turning space and the variation is to retain the detached garage at 36, Park View Drive South – The clerk was asked to comment as follows:

Charvil Parish Council would like to object to this variation because if the local parking concerns.

This site has been the subject of numerous planning applications in the past 11 years, and one consistent concern from neighbours on Park View Drive South has been the issue of parking.

When planning permission was sought for the garage in 2010 (application 101990), the Highways officers said that a shop of this size should have a maximum of five spaces - it currently has four.

All the spaces that should have been provided for the flat conversions have been provided, but unfortunately, no provision was made for a parking space for the proprietor of the shop.

So, the four spaces at the front have to provide for customers and the shop, when a property of this size should have up to five purely customer spaces.

Because of this factor, the Council feels the variation to retain the garage should be refused, and extra parking for the shop should be provided.

To hear a verbal update on the proposed improvements to the maintenance of cycle ways and pavements – The clerk reported that Highways and Cleaner and Greener are working together to identify paths and cycle tracks that have suffered from neglect over the years and will prioritise those that are used most heavily. The clerk has asked for a copy of this list once it is complete, to manage local expectations.

The clerk was asked to contact Richard Bissett about the missing bin on Chiltern Drive and whether one could be installed on East Park Farm Drive near to the cut-through with Pennine Way. *Clerk's note: Localities have decided the bin on Chiltern Drive was surplus to requirements and have removed it. The clerk is waiting to hear back as to whether a new one could be installed on East Park farm Drive.*

7536/20 Amenities Committee – The meetings of 7th December via Zoom were noted.

A decision on tree work at East Park farm was deferred as not all quotes had been received.

7537/20 Staffing Committee – The Minutes of a meeting of the Staffing Committee held via Zoom on 23rd November were noted.

The WhatsApp group for closing the gates seems to be working. The Chairman is to countersign all the contracts.

7538/20 Report from the Borough Councillor – There was no report from the Borough Councillor, but she had reported to the clerk that Milestone Avenue would now be tarmacked in January.

Items for Consideration

7539/20 To hear an update on the Neighbourhood Plan – The group is contacting businesses and other organisations to inform them we are developing a plan, and to see whether any of them wish to be involved. Cllr. Sutlieff put out a request for marketing help, and Selena Durrant from Twyford has come forward to offer us her assistance free of charge. She is currently helping with a banner design, flyer and Facebook header. Cllr. Heath has developed a timeline to try to stop the plan drifting.

7540/20 **To consider The Piggott School Consultation on admissions Arrangements for 2022/23** – This had come about over an issue with Crazies Hill School and did not seem to impact on Charvil very much so there was no comment

7541/20 **To Consider a Public Consultation for a new joint Health and Well-Being Strategy for Reading, West Berks and Wokingham** – The clerk was asked to forward the information so that councillors can attend the virtual consultation meeting before the Council completes at the next meeting.

7542/20 **To Approve the dates for next year’s meetings** – These were approved

7543/20 **To Review the EPF Pavilion Project specifically agreeing that:**

1) The Structure of the document is suitable to allow a decision to be made on one of the three options put forward

2) Section “Current Situation” is discussed, agreed and finalised

3) The Case for Change is discussed, agreed and finalised

4) The Financial Constraint below is agreed:

“The financial constraint for the project is that the revenues must cover the costs without resorting to increasing the precept⁶. The public works loan will be for 50 years and that will be paid back before 20 years by using the current and future CIL”

Council were happy with the structure of the document produced by Cllr. Heath, and were happy with the description of the current situation. Cllr Ryatt had said at the previous meeting that the estimated cost of a hall extension would be £180k but for a new shower/toilet block at East Park Farm as well, this would mean the cost would be £360k. This compares to £820k for Option one, to redevelop on the present pavilion site and £900k for Option two to build on the present tennis court site and relocate the courts to where the pavilion is currently. There seemed to be agreement that the case for change is sufficiently strong that it is more a question of which option, rather than whether to change at all. It was agreed that Option two is stronger in many ways than Option one because it is closer to the car park, which should increase footfall at any café included, and would be more appealing to many potential users. Consequently, it was agreed that it would be better to choose between option 2 and option 7. Cllr. Andersen is concerned about the environmental impact and felt a new building would be more effective from a climate change point of view than an extension to the hall which needs major modifications to reduce its carbon footprint. It was also accepted that, for Option 2 to succeed, there would have to be an anchor tenant like a pre-school. The clerk was asked to investigate whether there are chains of pre-schools that may be interested, as this may be a way of exploring the viability of the plan. Cllr. Heath will send out the document exploring the finances for approval at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm

Chairman’s Signature