

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15th March 2021 Via Zoom

**Present** Jim Gillett, Paul Mundy, Pat Sutlieff, Claire Andersen, Mike Heath, Hilary Jones, Roanna Collis, Neil Jackson, Narinder Ryatt, and Jane Hartley

**Apologies for Absence**

**Absent**

**21/7595 Open Forum**

No residents present.

**21/7596 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

**21/7597 Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 22nd of February held via Zoom**

The minutes were approved by Council.

**Finance**

**21/7580 Finance Reports** – It was resolved to approve these which was done unanimously.

**21/7581 Authorisation of Payments** – It was resolved to approve the following payments, including the S137 payments agreed in December, which was done unanimously:

£51.26 to Grundon Waste Management Ltd

£53.12 to Assistant Clerk

£37.34 to British Gas Services Ltd

£6 to Village Warden

£878.87 to Berkshire Pension Fund

-£77.82 to Everflow

£18 to Heart Facilities Ltd

£486.50 to HTC

£45 to Open Spaces

£61.94 to Aquacare

£157.89 to Dual Energy (Smartest Energy)

£28.75 to SSE

£94.59 to Clerk

£1010.92 to Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd

£107.14 to Tivoli Group Ltd

£1500 to Twyford and District Youth and Community Centre

£2613.77 in Payroll

**21/7582 Planning, Environment and Highways Committee (PEH)**

The minutes of the PEH meeting on 1st March were noted. The issue of speeding was discussed, and the Committee is going to investigate the idea of bollards that

resemble children. There was a brief discussion about electric charging points and that there are various grants available for homes and workplaces. Residents in The Hawthorns and Park Lane have been leafleted to see if they are happy about a Community Orchard in the park behind The Hawthorns. So far the project has received overwhelming support.

The following Planning Applications were discussed

210617 - Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension with 3no. rooflights and a first-floor side extension and a front extension to form a dormer to existing dwelling and internal alterations 9 Park Lane – no Parish Council comment

210690 - Application for proposed part conversion of existing double garage to create habitable accommodation, single storey rear extension including the insertion of 2no. rooflights, plus changes to fenestration at 135, The Hawthorns – no Parish Council comment

#### **21/7583 Amenities Committee**

The minutes of the Amenities meeting on 8th March were noted.

The price increase of 2% for all Parish Amenities was noted.

There was a proposal to allow a mobile food and drink van in the East Park Farm car park to test the viability of a café in the area. This was complicated by the fact that a particular proposal for a van by the pavilion had been received by the Council, and after much discussion, it was agreed that the matter be deferred to the next Amenities meeting where the principle could be discussed in more detail, and a recommendation brought back to the Full Council in April. Only at that point, if the recommendation were positive, the specific proposal would be considered. The clerk reported that she had a conversation with Ian Gough regarding the proposals for improving the energy efficiency of the hall, and it was agreed that the Council would work with the Borough on these projects, although there were some concerns that the Council should not commit until the idea of a hall extension is completely off the table.

#### **21/7588 Report from the Borough Councillor**

In the absence of the Borough Councillor, there was no report.

#### **Items for Consideration**

**21/7589 To hear an update on the Neighbourhood Plan Progress** - Councillor Heath reviewed the activity tracker. The questionnaire has been the main priority, and this is not far from completion to then be reviewed by the Neighbourhood Plan team at Wokingham. The next priority is to get the website live. The clerk reported that any unspent grant by the end of March would have to be returned and a fresh grant applied for.

**21/7590 To hear any update on the May election process** – Most councillors intend to get their paperwork checked by WBC ahead of time, and Councillor Hartley has offered to take the completed forms to Shute End. The clerk will provide electoral roll numbers where appropriate. Councillor Mundy has decided not to stand for re-election.

**21/7591 To consider progress on the change of lease for East Park Farm and to approve the approach so far** – The Chairman explained that a group of councillors had a positive meeting with Bernie Pich of the Wokingham Property Services and Justin Turvey from the Planning Department. They advised that the Council needs legal representation to draw up a new lease. There was no enthusiasm for re-engaging Shared Legal Services, and it was agreed that the clerk would ask her contacts amongst the clerks to see if they could recommend anyone.

**21/7592 To consider how to hold the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Council** – It was agreed that numbers would be limited, there would be no

refreshments, and minutes, reports and agenda will be added to the website rather than issuing papers.

**21/7593 To note the proposed date of the fete and to hear an update on progress** – the fete has been arranged for 4th July. It will be quite low key, with music, food, a bar and perhaps some children's activities. There would be a parish Council stall and it could be a good opportunity to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan and other issues with residents.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.46pm**

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

Chairman's Initials.....

Date.....