

**Wokingham Without Parish Council  
Minutes of the Council Meeting  
Held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020**

**Via Zoom Video Conference**

Commencing 7:30pm and concluding at 9:04pm

- Present:** Councillors J Cannon, D Dye, L Foxwell, D Latimer, N Martin, K Newland, A Plume, J Rogers, P Stephens and S Turtle. Katy Hughes - Clerk, Sharon Way – Assistant Clerk.  
Borough Cllr A Ross.
- Apologies:** Councillors R Fenny, B Gough and C Lancaster. Borough Councillors C Bowring and P Helliars-Symons.

**At the time of this meeting both NALC and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) have asked local councils to stop holding any physical meetings or gatherings. This includes full council, committee meetings, annual parish or council meetings. In order to comply with NALC guidance, this meeting was undertaken using Zoom video conferencing.**

**In line with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meeting) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, Part 2, item 5: 5.—(1) A reference in any enactment to a meeting of a local authority is not limited to a meeting of persons all of whom, or any of whom, are present in the same place and any reference to a “place” where a meeting is held, or to be held, includes reference to more than one place including electronic, digital or virtual locations such as internet locations, web addresses or conference call telephone numbers.**

**20/49 WELCOME**

Cllr Newland welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**20/50 ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Fenny, Gough and Lancaster. Borough Cllrs Bowring and Helliars-Symons.

**20/51 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**20/52 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- a) Cllr Newland invited comments on the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 6th July 2020. No comments were made.

Following a proposal from Cllr Plume and seconded by Cllr Cannon it was:

**RESOLVED: Minutes of Monday 6th July were AGREED**

- b) Matters arising from the minutes of the above meeting.

Regarding anti-social behaviour at Bigshotte Park, the Clerk stated that the police are gradually returning to normal duties and are therefore better able to deal with this issue.

The Clerk stated that the cycle shelter has arrived on site and an installation date is currently being awaited. Cllr Foxwell suggested that large pieces could be stored in the gang show building.

The playground reopened on 11th July. The Clerk reported that an incident occurred on Thursday 30th July involving a swing in the toddler play area. The Clerk has been in contact with the manufacturer in relation to the issue. Cllr Foxwell stated that the photographs of the damaged equipment should be sent to RoSPA for information. Following discussion, Cllrs Turtle and Stephens noted that the bark needs to be replaced / increased in depth.

The first of two park benches has been installed by the pond and two picnic benches should be installed this week.

Regarding the pond area, Cllr Dye asked why the flowering plants had been removed by grounds staff. Cllr Newland requested that this be raised with the Working Group and for the Clerk to bring this to the attention of the grounds staff.

## **20/53 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

None

## **20/54 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS BRIEFING**

Cllr Ross stated that he was delighted that WWPC had agreed to fund Health Lake car park resurfacing.

Cllr Ross reported that WBC planning committee meetings were still virtual, but that steps were being taken to hold a physical meeting in September.

Cllr Newland thanked Cllr Ross for his work on the antisocial behaviour problem at Bigshotte Park.

Cllr Dye requested information on resurfacing work on Nine Mile Ride. Cllr Ross agreed to obtain an update and inform the Clerk.

## **20/55 CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk has organised for the main hall of the Memorial Hall to be re-painted this week.

The Clerk is representing the local Clerks on the Voluntary Sector Strategy group working with WBC and partner organisations, working to build on some of the community initiatives that have come out of the coronavirus pandemic.

Regarding the budget, a meeting of the Finance Working Group will be held to look at the budget implications for 2020-21 and the likely impact on reserves. The Clerk has requested a meeting with our accountant to look at whether any expenditure from 2019-20 could legitimately be reassigned to CIL, to relieve pressure on the general reserves.

The Clerk reported that the upgraded website is now live and WWPC now meets the website accessibility requirements. The Clerk requested that members send the Office any photos, ideas, feedback, information etc for the new website.

Regarding Pinewood Hall, a site visit has been arranged for Wednesday 12th August to review upgrade works required.

## **20/56 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE / OTHER MEETINGS**

- A) WBC Climate meeting – 14th July. Cllr Foxwell reported that a lot of work has been done on the plan. A separate group is looking at air quality, so this issue is not being ignored. There is an intention to double public transport provision by 2030, from the 2019 baseline level. Wokingham Without is currently missing from the public transport plan, and Cllr

Foxwell has requested that it be added. Cllr Foxwell reported to the group that the lack of information on Greys Farm is hampering planning of green routes and that this issue was raised at the meeting.

- B) Public Spaces and Amenities Working Group – 28th July. Cllr Plume directed members to the meeting notes appended to the agenda.

#### **20/57 MEMBER ITEMS**

- A) Fly tipping update. Cllr Martin reported that the WBC CEM group did a good job removing fly tipping from the front of a parishioner's home.
  
- B) Update on the pond on Honey Hill. Mark Hall will do the work soon, subject to wildlife, and Cllr Martin plans to meet him in August for an update. Cllr Plume noted that the pond in question is currently dry.

#### **20/58 PINWOOD RENTAL – QUARTER 2 2020-21: SEPTEMBER 2020**

The Clerk discussed the proposal paper, Appendix 10 of the agenda. Following discussion it was agreed that the onus should be on the clubs to contact the Clerk if they have any concerns over the reintroduction of rent charges. Cllr Plume supported the paper as a good starting point. Cllr Rogers noted that some clubs are carrying on as normal, while others are unable to operate at all.

The Clerk noted that WBC had not been willing to waive the rent charges for the parish, despite WWPC waiving the pinewood rents.

Following a proposal from Cllr Plume and seconded by Cllr Turtle it was:

**RESOLVED: The Pinewood Rent Proposal Paper, appendix 10 of the agenda, was agreed.**

#### **20/59 PLAYGROUND FENCING**

Cllr Newland referenced the Decision Paper, appendix 11 of the agenda, and asked whether the contingency could include the new planting. Cllr Stephens stated that the contingency was to cover unforeseen issues during construction.

A discussion followed regarding the replacement of hedging removed during installation of the fencing. Cllr Dye asked why it was necessary to remove all the small conifers and stated that they could be left until it was established that it was necessary to remove them. Cllr Plume directed everyone to the notes of the working group meeting (distributed with the agenda) held on 28<sup>th</sup> July, where members had agreed the content of the Decision Paper. Cllr Newland stated that greenery would not be removed unless it was necessary to do so to install the fencing.

Following a proposal from Cllr Stephens and seconded by Cllr Turtle it was:

**RESOLVED: The Playground Fencing Decision Paper, appendix 11 of the agenda, was AGREED, by a majority vote.**

One member voted against the Decision Paper due to concerns over the potential removal of the plants.

#### **20/60 TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT – CIRCLE HILL AND WALTERS REC**

The proposal to appoint Cllr Cannon as Trustee to the Circle Hill and Walters Rec charity was agreed.

## **20/61 HIGHWAYS – SPEEDING AND TRAFFIC NOISE – RESIDENT CONSULTATION**

Cllr Stephens discussed the issues with speeding and antisocial behaviour of motorists on the Old Wokingham Road (OWR) and discussed the proposal to write a letter to residents (appendix 13 of the agenda) publicising an email address for residents' feedback on this issue. This will consolidate opinions which can then be raised with the responsible bodies.

Cllr Newland asked Cllr Stephens to clarify whether the intention was to run a pilot scheme along OWR. This was confirmed by Cllr Stephens.

Cllr Turtle queried whether WWPC should be undertaking this activity as OWR is not within the parish.

The Clerk noted that the parish council could gather residents' opinions – but a decision would then be required regarding what to do with the information gathered. The trial along OWR would provide information on the types of responses that are likely to be generated.

Cllr Plume proposed that the letter is published on the WWPC website and other channels.

Cllr Newland stated that if the letter is distributed on the Bracknell Council side of the road, CPC should be informed of the plans.

Following a show of hands, the proposal was **AGREED**.

## **20/62 RE-OPENING COMMUNITY HALLS**

The Clerk referenced risk assessments for the Memorial Hall and Pinewood Hall, supplementary conditions of hire, and the responses of the hall hirer questionnaire (appendix 14 of the agenda).

The Clerk noted that there was little appetite amongst existing hirers to open the halls before September. It is not possible to know the exact level of demand for the halls in September, but the intention is to send hirers a selection of documents confirming the likely requirements when they return.

Following a proposal from Cllr Cannon and seconded by Cllr Foxwell it was:  
**RESOLVED: The proposed documents, appendix 14 of the agenda, were AGREED.**

**It was also agreed that the Clerk has the authority to update the documents in line with any changes in Government guidelines associated with community hall re-opening (Covid).**

## **20/63 PLANNING**

Cllr Stephens requested an update regarding Pine Copse, and this was provided by the Clerk.

## **20/64 FINANCIAL TRANSFER**

The Clerk requested that the transfer to the WWPC current account be increased due to approval of several projects.

Following a proposal from Cllr Turtle and seconded by Cllr Foxwell it was:  
**RESOLVED: A financial transfer of £75,000 was AGREED.**

## **20/65 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Cllr Newland gave an update on the current situation with regard to the subleases. Following discussion it was agreed that a Zoom meeting would be called within the next two weeks to review this issue.

**20/66 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS:**

None.

**20/67 MEETING CLOSED AT 9:04 PM**

**Date of next meeting** – Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**Signed:** .....

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020