

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2016 AT THE FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH, FINCHAMPSTEAD

PRESENT: Cllr Cundy, Chair. Cllr Markham, Vice Chair.
Cllrs Bowers, Bromley, Cornish, Mrs Driver, Mrs Jennings-Frisby, Mrs Hartwell,
Marshallsay, May, Pearce, Pittock, Rampton, Veitch, Weeks, Woof, Mrs Yorke.

Mrs Dagnall, Clerk.
Mrs Kent, Assistant to the Clerk.

469/2016 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Cllrs were present.

470/2016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

471/2016 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2016 were signed as a true and correct record.

472/2016 YOUTH WORK ACTIVITIES

Representatives from the Finchampstead Baptist Church gave a presentation on youth work activities run for local children and young people, supported by funding from the Parish Council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were present.

473/2016 CHAIRMANS REPORT

- **448/2016 COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEMBERSHIP**
Further to discussion at the previous meeting, Cllr Markham will not now be leaving the Council in December and will therefore be continuing as Vice Chair of the Council, and Vice Chair of the Finance & General Purposes Committee. Other changes agreed will remain in place, with Cllr Bowers becoming Vice Chair of the Amenities Committee, Cllr Weeks the Council's representative on the Finchampstead Park Management Committee, and Cllr May a Council representative on the Village Club Board of Trustees.
- Cllr Cundy attended the Wokingham District Association of Local Councils (WDALC) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 30 November 2016. A letter will be sent to the Chairs of WDALC and the Berkshire Association of Local Councils (BALC) expressing concerns about the Organisations and seeking clarification on various points raised at the meeting. The majority of Member Councils have expressed the view that WDALC should be disbanded, but this is being resisted by a small number of individuals.
- The Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) Asset Review is progressing slowly. The full report is expected this month.
- Cllrs Cundy and May visited Miss Vaughan –Morgan, former Chair of the Council, on her 100th birthday on 26 November and presented flowers on behalf of the Council.

474/2016 COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Veitch reported on the meeting held on 7 December 2016, minutes have been circulated.

Applications

18 applications were considered. Objections were lodged against the application at:

- Hogwood Meadows Mobile Home Park.

There was no objection to the development at 280 Nine Mile Ride provided this would not become a separate dwelling, or to the development at 2 Kiln Ride, although the comments of a local resident were supported.

Decisions

Decisions were in line with WBC decisions, with the exception of:

- Isere, Heath Ride FPC objected WBC approved

Comments were submitted on an application for a certificate of existing lawful development at Silverstock Manor, Sandhurst Road. The application was refused by WBC.

Other matters

- There are new Appeals at 24 Radical Ride, 145 Nashgrove Lane, Landmark House Jubilee Road, and Broughton, Heath Ride.
- Appeals at 78 Reading Road, 162c Nine Mile Ride and Pickeridge House, Sandhurst Road have been allowed.
- There were 3 new enforcement issues, with 2 issues closed.

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Cllr Woof reported on current matters.

Financial position

- Unity Trust Bank £64,432.60
- CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund account £70,773.38

The schedule of payments totaling £5099.34 (gross) was circulated to all Cllrs. All payments were approved and Cllrs Bromley and Woof agreed to authorise the electronic payments.

Other matters

- The draft budget for 2017/18 is currently being prepared for consideration by the Finance & General Purposes Committee at its January meeting.
- Cllrs Cundy, Woof and the Clerk met to discuss the Local Council Award Scheme. This will be discussed further by the Finance & General Purposes Committee at its January meeting.

Community Infrastructure Levy

- The Working Group met on 22 November 2017.
- In accordance with the agreement signed with WBC, WBC has suggested 3 projects which the Council may consider contributing some of all of the CIL funds recently received by the Council to.
Green Way AR3 – the project was supported in principle subject to further information being provided.
Footway and cycleway improvements on Nine Mile Ride – the proposal was declined as this should be funded from other sources.

Play area works at the Gorse Ride Playing Fields – the Group supported a contribution of £5000 towards the project. This was unanimously approved by the Council.

The Consultation Working Group met on 14 December 2016 and will now be known as the Communications and Consultation Working Group. A consultation involving all households in the Parish is proposed for 2017, focusing on priorities for projects to be funded through CIL receipts expected over the next year.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Cllr Mrs Driver advised that there were no matters to report.

RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

Cllr Woof reported on current matters.

- The second circular walk starting from Simon's Wood is now fully waymarked.
- Cllr Weeks provided photographs of new paths being created on the Fleet Hill Farm site which is currently being restored by Cemex UK Ltd. following mineral extraction.
- WBC requested informal comments on its proposal to issue a Traffic Regulation Order for the closure of BOAT 18 to vehicular traffic between Hogwood Lane and Sheerlands Road. Confirmation of the Council's full support for this has been forwarded to WBC.
- WBC expects to have a detailed design for Green Way route AR3 from Commonfield Lane to Gorse Ride North in place this month, with construction starting in April 2017 at the earliest. Cllr Woof is in contact with WBC Officers over the route of the Green Way through California Country Park.
- WBC has completed the ditch clearance on BP4, the Footpath Warden will be carrying out some additional work. The local Wildlife Trust had agreed to clear the ditch on its land adjacent to the bridleway and the Clerk will follow this up.
- The potential for reinstating a link between BP34 and BP26 is being followed up with a local landowner.
- The gate on FP13 will be reinstated as soon as possible.
- Dogs in the grounds of High Barn are causing issues for people using FP9. The Clerk will write to the property owner and will copy in the WBC Dog Warden.

ROADS & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Cllr Bromley reported on current matters.

- WBC will be replacing lanterns on street light columns in the Parish over the next 2 months, including some of the Council owned columns. Replacement of columns will take place in 2017/18.
- A response has been submitted to the WBC Local Transport Plan consultation.
- A meeting has been arranged with a tarmac contractor to assess and quote for works required at the Church Lane / White Horse Lane junction.
- Following recent complaints about speeding on the Reading Road the Speed Data Recorders (SDR) were placed at either end of the Road and traffic speed and volume has been monitored over 7 days. Reports do not show a significant speeding issue but a Speed Indicator Device (SID) session will be included in the next rota. Comparisons with historic data show that the traffic volume has reduced.
- Recent SID sessions have recorded 35 vehicles travelling over the speed limit on Nine Mile Ride near Kingsclere, and 36 on Nine Mile Ride near Manor Park Drive.
- Recent SID sessions have confirmed the value of photographic evidence in certain cases where information may have been recorded incorrectly. Cllr Bromley suggested that a dashcam could be purchased by the Council for use at SID sessions, and this was approved by the Council to a maximum budget of £100.

475/2016 WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN UPDATE 'CALL FOR SITES'

WBC invited the Council to submit comments on the sites put forward through the 'Call for Sites' for potential development in Finchampstead Parish and areas immediately adjacent to it.

Cllrs Cundy, Marshallsay, Veitch and Weeks met on 24 November 2017 and collated comments on each of the 42 sites put forward, and 7 further sites adjacent to the Parish. These comments have been circulated to all Cllrs.

It was proposed that these comments were accepted and submitted to WBC and this was agreed by a majority vote. Cllr May and Cllr Mrs Driver wished their objections to the comments supporting potential development of Greenacres Farm, Nine Mile Ride for housing to be recorded.

It was noted that WBC will be accepting sites until February 2017. Two additional sites have already been put forward for Finchampstead and these will be considered by the Planning Committee at its meeting on 5 January 2017.

Following this WBC itself will undertake a full assessment of the sites put forward, and a public consultation on the WBC preferred sites will take place in June 2017.

476/2016 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Gorse Ride Community Forum

Cllr Bowers reported that Inspector Donachy of Thames Valley Police had spoken at the recent meeting.

Finchampstead Neighbourhood Action Group

Cllr Weeks reported on meeting held on 13 December 2016, also attended by Cllrs Bromley, Rampton and Woof. The meeting was very well attended with a number of new residents and representatives from the Church and Gorse Ride School, putting the Group in a strong position going forward.

Finchampstead Village Club

Cllr Cundy advised that the Village Club Trustees met on 14 December 2016. Cllrs Cundy and May are now the Council representatives on the Board of Trustees, along with representatives from the Parochial Church Council and the 1st Finchampstead Scout Group.

Finchampstead Emergency Response (FER)

Cllr Cundy advised that the FER Working Group will be meeting on 19 December 2016.

477/2016 ARBORFIELD STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT LOCATION (SDL)

- The Community Liaison Forum met on 5 December 2016. Cllr Pearce attended the Forum and notes have been circulated.
- The Steering Group met on 6 December 2016, Cllrs Bromley and Veitch attended. The Marino Family Trust legal agreements are still not finalised. The northern part of Nine Mile Ride Extension from the A327 Reading Road to the Bohunt School will be completed and handed over to WBC around May 2017. A consultation on the footway / cycleway plans for Nine Mile Ride is expected in Spring 2017, the route needs to be in place by September 2017. The new Bohunt School building will be completed and handed over prior to the start of the School year in September 2017.
- Crest has issued a Winter 2016 Newsletter to residents. WBC has improved the information on its SDL web pages with new interactive up to date maps.

<http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/major-developments/arborfield-progress-map/>

- The Shinfield Relief Road should open shortly after Christmas.

478/2016 COMMUNICATIONS

An update on Council Communications was circulated.

As noted under 474/ 2016 Committee Reports – Finance & General Purposes Committee above the Consultation Working Group met on 14 December 2016, and that the Group has been renamed the Communications and Consultation Working Group.

479/2016 CORRESPONDENCE

- Dr Phillip Lee MP newsletter.
- Letter and certificate from Me2 Club re grant awarded.

Items circulated by email over previous month:

- NALC newsletters and bulletins.
- WBC news/media releases including Wokingham Town Centre improvements; Christmas recycling campaigns; new partnership for Public Protection; free Christmas parking on Saturdays.
- WBC Strategic Development Location updates.
- WBC Leisure Strategy Consultation.
- WBC Libraries information.
- Thames Valley Police alerts.
- Virgin Media network upgrades.

480/2016 FORUM

No matters were raised.

481/2016 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 19 January 2016 at 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall.

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the Council.