

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 PM ON 21 JUNE 2017 AT THE FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH, FINCHAMPSTEAD

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

Mrs Dagnall, Clerk.

244/2017 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cornish, Mrs Eyle, Pittock and Mrs Yorke.

245/2017 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received.

246/2017 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 25 May 2017 were signed as a true and correct record.

247/2017 CHAIRMANS REPORT

- Cllr Cundy confirmed that following the By Election on 8 June 2017 Becky Eyle was elected and has now signed the Acceptance of Office.

As noted at the previous meeting the Parish Council was not permitted to disseminate any information to the electorate about the nominated candidates. This is being looked into to see if the Council can assist in raising awareness of the candidates at any future election.

- The Finchampstead Scout Group will be meeting Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) on 26 June 2017 - WBC is expected to put a proposal to the Group about their future occupancy of the Hut in the California Country Park.
- The Borough Parish Liaison Forum will be meeting on 3 July 2017. The draft agenda includes items on the WBC 21st Century programme and community resilience. No further items were suggested.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were present.

248/2017 COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Veitch reported on the meeting held on 14 June 2017. Minutes of the meeting have been circulated.

Applications

13 applications were considered. Objections were lodged against the following applications:

- 211 Nine Mile Ride.
- 215 Nine Mile Ride
- 3 sites at Pine Copse, Nine Mile Ride (adjoining Parish consultation- Wokingham Without)

There were no objections to proposals at Rhododendrons, Wellingtonia Avenue but details of the proposed fencing have been requested.

Decisions

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

- Pine Lodge, Lower Wokingham Road FPC no objections WBC refused
- Landmark House, Jubilee Road FPC no objections WBC refused

Other matters

- Cllr Marshallsay attended the informal hearing on 1 June 2017 on the Appeal relating to land at Church Farm.
- There is a new Appeal relating to The Cabin at the rear of 85 Kiln Ride.
- The Appeal at Broughton, Heath Ride has been dismissed.
- The Appeal at Pineridge Park Homes, Nine Mile Ride was withdrawn.
- The Appeal at 140 Nashgrove Lane was allowed.

Further to discussion at the previous Council meeting regarding invitations to private meetings with Developers prior to any public consultation or a planning application being submitted, the Committee reviewed this in the light of guidance which has come forward. The Committee proposed that in future Developers or their representatives requesting a meeting would be asked to attend prior to a Planning Committee meeting, and guidance would be provided on how the meeting would be conducted. The Council's Planning Guidelines would be amended to reflect this. This was agreed by the Council.

FINANCE AND GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Woof reported on the financial position of the Council and current matters.

Financial position

- Unity Trust Bank £49,568.76
Including £24,859 CIL receipts.
- CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund account £100,864.28

The schedule of payments totalling £6938.99 (gross) was circulated to all Cllrs. A payment for Insurance cover for the Village Club Trustees was included on the schedule – this donation was approved along with all other payments. Cllrs Bromley and Woof agreed to authorise the electronic payments.

Other matters

- Cllr Veitch is now an authorised signatory on the Council's bank account.
- The Annual Return has now been signed off by the Internal Auditor and sent to the External Auditor. The Council's 2016/17 accounts are now available for public inspection.
- A meeting was held on 14 June 2017 to discuss the format and content of the current Forward Plan which runs to 2018. Small scale amendments are proposed, and work will then start on the development of a new plan for 2018 onwards. A 'visioning' session for around 10 Cllrs is proposed, facilitated by a trainer from the Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC). Any Cllrs not already involved with the process who are interested in joining the session should contact the Clerk.
- The next meeting of the Committee is on 26 June 2017.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Cllr Mrs Driver reported on current matters.

- Noticeboards - consultation has taken place on whether 3 noticeboards (2 on Kiln Ride and at the Tally Ho) are required. There has been no response and the boards will therefore be

removed – 2 will be donated to the Allotment Association.

- War Memorial – a contractor has been secured and the grass has now been cut and will be maintained regularly throughout the season.
- The frontages of Cresswells Garage and the Red Oak Stores are not being maintained, and the Council's planters are surrounded by weeds / long grass. Cllr Bromley advised that he has visited the owners and has been assured that the areas will be tidied up.

The lamp columns at the Crossroads will be replaced during the week commencing 3 July 2017 so the hanging basket brackets and the baskets will be removed temporarily.

- The California Crossroads defibrillator ceased to function in early April and is beyond repair due to corrosion damage caused by water ingress to the cabinet. This is still under investigation.

The Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator at the Memorial Hall is fully operational.

- St Mary & St John's Church organised a litter pick on the Gorse Ride Estate and also reported fly tipping which has now been cleared by WBC. Cllr Bowers will contact WBC regarding the poor condition of the alleyways on the Estate.
- The Jubilee seat near St James' Church will be cleaned now that the overhanging branches have been pruned back.
- Cllr Veitch and the Clerk visited the allotment site on 20 June 2017 for the annual inspection. The site is in very good order and no issues were raised.

The Allotment Association is currently fundraising to extend the track and car park into the southern part of the site between the newly created plots. When further information is available this will be presented to the Council for discussion over a potential contribution.

RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

Cllr Woof reported on current matters.

- The construction of Green Way AR3 running from Commonfield Lane through the California Country Park to Gorse Ride North is progressing and is due for completion in September 2017. WBC has still not provided details of how the route will join the FBC Centre / Gorse Ride North, or the report from the public consultation.

The Clerk will contact WBC regarding delivery lorries using Carolina Place and surrounding roads.

- A meeting is being arranged with the WBC Rights of Way Team to discuss various matters including adoption of the future rights of way on the Fleet Hill and Manor Farm sites, surface and drainage issues on a number of paths and the increasing misuse of paths by cyclists.

ROADS & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Cllr Bromley reported on current matters.

- A number of residents have been in contact with queries or issues over road traffic matters and / or parking, including on Nashgrove Lane, St James' Road and surrounding roads, and The Village.

- There has been no further progress with the Avery Corner Car Park improvement project, WBC has still not provided a costed plan for approval.
- A demonstration of a pole mounted Speed Indicator Device is being arranged.

249/2017 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cleaner and Greener Environment – 15 June 2017

Cllr May attended the meeting which included presentations on grounds maintenance and the move to create additional wildflower meadows, and on waste and recycling. Re3, the local recycling contractor, is keen to hold a 'roadshow' in the Parish. The Community Fun Day on 8 August 2017 was suggested – the Clerk will pass the contact details to Cllr May.

The additional charges brought in recently for waste disposal have not apparently led to any increase in flytipping. Cllr May reported the increase in the litter collected in the Parish but no suggestions were made for alleviating this.

Gorse Ride Estate

Cllr Bowers advised that the Community Development Worker has been seconded to an alternative post but that WBC is seeking to fill the vacant post. In the interim the Community House is closed and several activities have stopped.

Correspondence has been circulated about the Gorse Ride Project Group which has caused some confusion amongst residents. There is a general concern about the lack of information being provided about the future redevelopment of the Estate.

Finchampstead Neighbourhood Action Group - 20 June 2017

Cllr Weeks advised that that no major issues were raised at the meeting. Antisocial behaviour is at a lower level than during last year.

PC Roberts is now the Thames Valley Police Neighbourhood Supervisor for East Wokingham, including Finchampstead.

The new Green Way running from Gorse Ride North to Commonfield Lane will have measures to prevent access/ misuse by motorbikes and mini mokes but this will be monitored when the route is open.

Finchampstead Park Management Committee – 19 June 2017

Cllr Weeks represented the Council at the meeting. Cllrs Bromley and Cundy also attended representing the California Ratepayers Association and Finchampstead School respectively.

Members of the Committee have consulted residents over options to resolve the issue of parking on the verge outside the Hall and as a result the Committee is looking into installing a knee rail along the length of the verge. This will be subject to WBC granting permission for the work.

The Committee has also agreed that the car park should be marked out to maximise the use of the space. Cllr Cundy will be seeking a second quotation for the work.

The Pre School proposed works to improve access to the Park but this was refused by the Committee.

Village Club Trustees – 21 June 2017

Cllrs Cundy and May reported on the meeting.

The Scout Group would like to consolidate their activities and equipment to one base in the California Country Park, but this is subject to securing a long term lease or other agreement with WBC. Should

this happen the Scout Group would need 18 – 24 months to make the required improvements to the Hut in the Country Park, and to relocate equipment from the Village Club.

A local resident has offered to purchase the Village Club site to add to their garden. The sale of the site is a complex matter given the Charitable Status and the terms of the Charity Scheme, but Cllr May will be making initial enquiries into the value of and potential for the site.

250/2017 ARBORFIELD STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT LOCATION (SDL)

- The June meeting of the Steering Group was cancelled, the next meeting is on 4 July 2017.
- Crest Nicholson held a public exhibition on plans for Parcel Q on 22 May 2017. The Parcel is adjacent to the District Centre and proposals include 112 homes for private rental. An application is expected shortly.
- WBC has provided information about the proposals for the pedestrian route to the Bohunt School. This has been circulated to all Cllrs. The proposed route is along four sections being Byway 18 (also known as Hogwood Lane), Hogwood Lane, Park Lane and Nine Mile Ride. Various works will be taking place in each section and will be completed by September 2017. Cllr Bromley has discussed aspects of the proposals with the WBC Project Manager.
- WBC is currently consulting on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order reducing the speed limit on sections of Nine Mile Ride and Park Lane to 30mph. The Clerk has responded confirming the Council's support for the proposal.
- Public exhibitions on proposals for the Arborfield Relief Road were held on 13, 14 and 17 June 2017 at Henry Street Garden Centre.
- Cllr Veitch and the Clerk will be attending a meeting with WBC and neighbouring Parish Councils on 28 June 2017 to discuss the future management of new allotment sites on the Arborfield development.
- An invitation to a 'Picnic on the Green' at Arborfield Green on 22 July 2017 will be circulated.

251/2017 FINCHAMPSTEAD VILLAGE FETE

The Fete will be held on Saturday 8 July 2017 from 12 noon to 4pm at the Memorial Park. A stall has been booked and information will be based around rights of way and circular walks.

The school and youth group bids for funds provided by Mr & Mrs Hicks in memory of David Hicks will also be displayed on the stall.

Promotional items have been ordered and should be available for the event.

The Clerk will circulate a rota. Cllr Bromley will provide a gazebo.

252/2017 CORRESPONDENCE

- Review of Citizens Advice Service for Finchampstead 2016/17
- Invitation to Wokingham Job Support Service AGM on 20 July 2017 at 6.30pm in Wokingham.

Items circulated by email over previous month:

- NALC newsletters and bulletins.
- CCB Action for All e bulletin and annual review.
- WBC news/media releases
- WBC Traffic management updates.
- Thames Valley Police alerts.

- Arborfield SDL information and newsletters.
- CPRE campaigns update.
- Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership Strategy 2017-22

253/2017 FORUM

- Former Cllr Miss Isobel Vaughan – Morgan passed away recently at the age of 100. Cllr May will provide details of her relatives to the Clerk so that a card can be sent on behalf of the Council.
- Cllr Bromley reminded Cllrs that their personal email addresses should not be used for Council business.
- Cllr May advised that the Robinson Crusoe Caravan Park Committee had been in contact with concerns over drainage connected with the future development of the Marino Family Trust site. Cllr May has assured the Committee that this will be monitored.
- Cllr May advised that the Nine Mile Ride Primary School academy plans are progressing and should be formalised in November 2017.
- Cllr Weeks advised that changes to the definitions used for the Gypsy and Traveller Community may mean that WBC has a greater supply of sites and will therefore be able to apply stricter controls over applications for new sites.

254/2017 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 20 July 2017 at 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall.

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

UNITY TRUST BANK ACCOUNT 09/06/17			£49,568.76	
INCLUDING CIL RECEIPTS TOTAL £24,859				
CCLA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 31/05/17			£100,864.28	
TOTAL FUNDS			£150,433.04	
Outstanding cheques yet to be cleared	NET	VAT	TOTAL	
PARISH ONLINE MAPPING SUB	182.00	36.40	218.40	65540088
NATIONAL ALLOTMENT SOCIETY SUB	55.00	11.00	66.00	CH 300218
HALC SUBSCRIPTION	710.00	142.00	852.00	200594910
TOTAL CHEQUES OUTSTANDING			£1,136.40	
Payments already approved and paid				
BT TELEPHONE/BROADBAND	63.48	12.69	76.17	DD
M FOUR PROMOTIONS	1,320.00	264.00	1584.00	246178666
PAYMENTS JUNE 2017				
Staff costs			5788.50	
Other costs				
WBC - PRINTING	30.00	0.00	30.00	494817491
OFFICE DEPOT - INK/STATIONERY/CUTTER	113.05	22.62	135.67	132217520
HALC - REFERENCE BOOKS	16.50	0.00	16.50	983832489
Allotment costs				
MAINTENANCE CONTRIBUTION + 5 X SUBS	565.00	0.00	565.00	775282325
Grants and contributions - subject to final approval by Council where appropriate				
READIBUS - COMMUNITY TRIPS	82.00	0.00	82.00	847455955
CAME & CO - VILLAGE CLUB INSURANCE	321.32	0.00	321.32	76645129
TOTAL JUNE 2017 PAYMENTS		£22.62	£6,938.99	
TOTAL REMAINING			£142,357.65	
JUNE PETTY CASH / CARD PAYMENTS				
<i>Total petty cash payments</i>	2.08	0.00	2.08	
<i>Total Card payments (Clerk)</i>	44.10	8.82	52.92	
<i>Total Card payments (Footpath Warden)</i>	10.00	2.00	12.00	
TOTAL	56.18	10.82	£67.00	