

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 6.45 PM ON 21 FEBRUARY 2018 AT THE FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH, FINCHAMPSTEAD

PRESENT: Cllr Cundy, Chair; Cllr Bromley, Vice Chair.
Cllrs Bowers, Cornish, Mrs Driver, Mrs Eytel, Marshallsay, May, Pearce, Pittock,
Rampton, Veitch and Weeks.

Mrs Dagnall, Clerk.
Mrs Kent, Assistant to the Clerk (part).

65/2018 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Mrs Jennings-Frisby and Cllr Woof.

66/2018 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received.

67/2018 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 18 January 2018 were signed as a true and correct record.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were present.

68/2018 CHAIRMANS REPORT

- Cllrs Cundy advised that Mrs Hartwell has resigned from the Council. The Notice of Vacancy was published on 14 February 2018 – if an election is not called by 5 March 2018 the Council will be able to advertise the vacancy for co-option.
- The Annual Gathering is on 7 March 2018 at 7.30pm and will follow the same format as in previous years – with the addition of images to accompany the presentations.

The 2017/18 Annual Report is being prepared for distribution at the event, and for distribution to all households across the Parish in April.

- The Interim Chief Executive of Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) is keen to develop partnership working with the Wokingham Town and Parish Councils and to improve the relationship between the Borough and the Local Councils. The Clerk and the Wokingham Town Council Clerk have been nominated to represent the 17 Town and Parish Councils and to work with WBC to develop this.

69/2018 COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Veitch reported on the meeting held on 7 February 2018 – minutes have been circulated.

Applications

13 applications were considered.

Objections were lodged against the following development applications:

- Xenuk Restaurant, Finchampstead Road
- Land north east of Brambletye, New Mill Road

Decisions

All decisions were in line with WBC decisions.

It was noted that the Reserved Matters application for Parcel Q on the Arborfield Development had been approved by WBC. While the Committee had not objected to the proposals concerns were expressed over the level of parking.

WBC refused the application for 250 dwellings on land east of Finchampstead Road, Wokingham and the separate application for Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANGS). The SANGS application has now been allowed at Appeal. The Parish Council objected to the application for dwellings but did not comment on the SANGS application.

Other matters

- There are new Appeals at Stonehouse, Soldiers Rise and Landmark House, Jubilee Road.
- The Appeals relating to land opposite Warren Lodge, Warren Lane and land adjacent to 357 Nine Mile Ride were dismissed.
- A letter regarding the 5 year land supply issues has been sent to Sir Oliver Letwin MP and copied to the Prime Minister, the Housing Minister and Dr Phillip Lee MP.
- Cllr Weeks advised that WBC can now demonstrate that it has a housing land supply of over the required 5 years which puts it in a strong position for defending Appeals.

FINANCE & GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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

Financial position

- Unity Trust Bank £21,393.07
- CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund account £45,989.35
- CCLA Property Fund £25,000
- Including £4,859 CIL receipts.

The schedule of payments totalling £8177.87 (gross) was circulated to all Cllrs and was unanimously approved. It was agreed that Cllrs Bromley and Cundy would authorise the electronic payments.

Other matters

- **Precept demand**
The precept demand for 2018/19 has been submitted to WBC.
- **Risk Assessments**
The Clerk has drafted risk assessments for various activities / areas of work. These have been sent to the Risk Assessment Working Group for comment.
- **General Data Protection Regulations**
The Clerk has started looking at the impact of the new regulations and the measures that need to be put in place to ensure the Council complies with the regulations. This will be covered at a future meeting of the Council.
- **Paperless working**
Discussion on this is being deferred to the March meeting of the Council.
- **Strategy development**
Cllrs Cundy advised that the priority is to analyse the household consultation responses and the potential actions arising from this. This can then be considered alongside the priorities agreed by the Council at the session in November 2018.

Neighbourhood Development Plans will be discussed at the March meeting to determine if this is something the Council should progress.

A further session for all Councillors will be held in April or May to agree the next stage of the process.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Cllr Mrs Driver reported on the meeting held on 24 January 2018. Minutes of the meeting have been circulated.

- **California Country Park**
Improvements to the car park and access track are underway. WBC is planning to replace the boardwalk – the Clerk will request an update on the plans and proposed timescale.
- **Centenary of the end of World War I – 11 November 2018**
Plans are in place for a concert instead of a service. The Arborfield Military Wives choir has been booked, the concert will start at 6pm and will be relayed to the St James' Church Centre via a video link. The Church bells will be rung and the beacon lit at 7pm.
- **Warren Wood**
Information on the Bell Barrow has been collated and will be published on the website and in a newsletter in due course.
- **Litter**
Litter continues to be an issue. Cllr Mrs Driver will be visiting Nine Mile Ride School and speaking to the children about the need to care for the local environment. The Clerk has posted litter related items on Facebook and included items in the last two newsletters. This includes promotion of the Adopt a Street scheme.

The Community litter pick will take place on Sunday 18 March 2018. Requests for equipment and any queries should be sent to Cllr Rampton who is co-ordinating the event.

The next California Crossroads Tidy Up will be held on Sunday 22 April 2018 from 9.30am. Further details will follow.

- **Defibrillators**
The 5th community accessible defibrillator has now been installed at the St. James' Church Centre. Cllr Pearce has taken over the monitoring of the units.

A training session will be held at the California Ratepayers Hall on Tuesday 27 March 2018 at 7pm. Cllrs should let the Assistant to the Clerk know if they wish to attend

- **Allotments**
Quotations for the car park and water supply extension are due back on 5 March 2018.

The West London Mental Health Trust has advised that the Broadmoor Siren will be removed from the site on 2 March 2018.

- **Household consultation**
Cllrs Mrs Driver and Pearce have started to analyse the responses relating to parks and open spaces, community halls and indoor facilities and outdoor sports facilities.

RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

Cllr Cornish advised that many paths are muddy given the recent weather conditions. The link paths from Chivers Drive and Carolina Place to the new Green Way are a concern – the Clerk has met WBC Officers regarding this and plans are apparently in place to make permanent improvements to these links. Further details have been requested.

The path from Gorse Ride North is also in poor condition – WBC has confirmed that it is not responsible for this path and this is being followed up with the FBC Centre.

ROADS & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Cllr Bromley reported on current matters.

- Traffic monitoring and Speed Indicator Device (SID) sessions
A recent SID session on Nine Mile Ride in the section where the speed limit has been reduced to 30mph recorded 54 vehicles exceeding the speed limit in one hour, with several exceeding 46mph. Thames Valley Police will now be undertaking enforcement in this area.

- The grant application submitted to the Public Protection Community Fund for a camera to assist with SID sessions was unsuccessful. The Neighbourhood Action Group submitted applications for trail cameras and a pole mounted SID but these were also declined.

The next Committee meeting is on 28 February 2018 and the potential purchase of a camera and pole mounted SID will be discussed.

- A scheme has now been agreed for the Avery Car Park including the creation of a school drop off zone. The timing for implementation of the work is subject to confirmation by WBC – this will be either the Easter school holiday, May half term or the summer holiday.
- The California Crossroads railings are due to be replaced / repaired in late February or early March.
- Street cleansing – WBC has requested a list of the roads worst affected by kerbside or footway leaf litter and other debris. Names of roads should be forwarded to the Clerk. This will be discussed further at the Committee meeting on 28 February 2018.
- Plans for the new bus stops on Nine Mile Ride near the California Country Park entrance are being finalised and the shelters should be installed in April.

70/2018 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Borough Parish Liaison Forum – 5 February 2018.

Cllrs Bromley, Rampton and the Clerk attended the Forum. Topics included a presentation by the Leader of WBC on the challenges and opportunities facing the Council, an update on the 21st Century Council programme and an update on the changes to waste and recycling collections focusing on the introduction of collection of a wider range of plastics from February 2018, and of food waste recycling from April 2019.

Finchampstead Neighbourhood Action Group – 6 February 2018

Cllrs Bromley, Rampton and Weeks attended the meeting. Cllr Weeks advised that Inspector Alastair Lloyd attended the meeting. The community litter pick was discussed, as previously noted this will take place on Sunday 18 March 2018 and is being co-ordinated by Cllr Rampton.

The Clerk will circulate minutes of the Finch NAG meetings to all Cllrs in future.

Gorse Ride Estate Regeneration – 24 January and 7 February 2018

Cllrs Bowers advised that the Steering Group met on 24 January specifically to discuss tenancy related matters, and then again on 7 February.

The four bungalows in Vicarage Close will now be retained.

WBC will be holding a Special Executive Meeting on 16 May 2018 to discuss and agree the next phases of the project.

Finchampstead Park Management Committee – 14 February 2018

Cllrs Weeks and Cundy attended the meeting. Works to the hedge have not been completed due to ground conditions and are likely to be delayed further by the bird nesting season; the knee rail project has been agreed but is progressing slowly; a condition survey of certain trees in the Park is being arranged.

Wokingham United Charities launch event – 16 February 2018

Cllrs Bowers, Bromley and Veitch and the Clerk attended. The organisation now has significant funds available to help disadvantaged people living in Wokingham, Finchampstead, Wokingham Without, Hurst and Ruscombe.

Grants are targeted at work to support the most deprived communities, including the Gorse Ride Estate; school based work; addressing isolation and loneliness and preventing homelessness. The Clerk will circulate information.

71/2018 ARBORFIELD STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT LOCATION (SDL)

- Cllrs Veitch and Bromley and the Assistant to the Clerk attended the Steering Group meeting on 6 February 2018.

The Arborfield Relief Road is scheduled to open mid 2020.

Plans for the primary school at Arborfield Green are at pre application stage. The school will open around 2020 with a 2 form entry.

An application has been submitted for 12 executive homes on Parcel K.

Legal and General are progressing plans for the southern part of the SDL and the first reserved matters application for 150 to 200 units is expected this year. This will include modular build affordable homes.

Legal & General may construct the Nine Mile Ride Extension. The Company will be burying the high voltage cables running over the site.

Cllrs Bromley, Mrs Driver, Pittock and Veitch and the Clerk attended a meeting with Crest Nicholson on 11 January 2018 to discuss proposals for the new District Centre at Arborfield Green. The District Centre will include a restaurant, supermarket, additional shops and businesses and residential development around a market square. There will also be a community centre and potential other community facilities. A public exhibition on the proposals was held on 18 January 2018 – medical centre provision was the main area of interest.

Cllr Pittock advised that the Clinical Commissioning Group is now reviewing medical centre provision for the development.

Cllr Weeks advised that the Arborfield Gym is now open to the public at certain times and opening hours will be extended in due course.

- The next Community Liaison Group meeting is on 12 March 2018.

72/2018 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence has been circulated by email.

73/2018 FORUM

- Cllr Mrs Driver queried the extent of the car park at the Doctors Surgery. This is limited by the adjacent woodland and has been extended as far as possible.
- Cllr Rampton queried the land for sale opposite Warren Lodge. Cllr Weeks advised that WBC would not consider purchasing the land, but that the High Court Injunction will be passed on to the new owner.
- Cllr May asked about the Adopt a Street Scheme. The Clerk confirmed that this is being promoted. Cllr May also mentioned the ongoing works at Pye Hill House and the local residents' concerns over this.
- Cllr Bromley reminded Cllrs that Whats App can be used to send in and share images of issues or areas of interest. Cllrs should contact the Assistant to the Clerk regarding joining the FPC Whats App Group.
- Cllr Bromley also advised that the Council has its own cloud for information sharing. The website has recently been moved to a new provider and emails will also have to be moved in due course.

74/2018 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 15 March 2018 at 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall.

PART II

Under the Local Government Act 1972 & Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 the press and public were excluded from agenda item **75/2018** Development Proposal matters.

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

UNITY TRUST BANK ACCOUNT 10/02/18			£21,393.07	
CCLA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 31/01/17			£45,989.35	
CCLA PROPERTY FUND 31/08/17			£25,000.00	
INCLUDING CIL RECEIPTS TOTAL £4,859				
TOTAL FUNDS			£92,382.42	
	NET	VAT	TOTAL	
Outstanding cheques yet to be cleared				
GORSE RIDE SCHOOLS - GRANT	1,000.00	0.00	1000.00	CH300241
TOTAL CHEQUES OUTSTANDING			£1,000.00	
Payments already approved and paid				
BT TELEPHONE/BROADBAND	65.18	13.03	78.21	DD
CONNEX ELECTRICAL - DEFIB CABINETS	450.00	90.00	540.00	94394634
CCB DATA PROTECTION COURSE - AK	29.17	5.83	35.00	583189281
PAYMENTS FEBRUARY 2018				
Staff costs			5032.98	
Other costs				
HEARTWOOD - TREE PLANTING	985.00	197.00	1182.00	431598596
FBC CENTRE - OFFICE RENT / SERVICE CH	1518.89	0.00	1518.89	602424169
ALLOTMENT SOFTWARE SUPPORT CONTRACT	160.00	32.00	192.00	29613262
SLCC DATA PROTECTION WEBINAR - KD	30.00	6.00	36.00	604047015
HALC MINUTES TRAINING - AK	40.00	8.00	48.00	148299021
Allotment costs				
Grants and contributions - subject to final approval by Council where appropriate				
READIBUS - COMMUNITY TRIPS	168.00	0.00	168.00	123936717
TOTAL FEBRUARY 2018 PAYMENTS		£243.00	£8,177.87	
TOTAL REMAINING			£83,204.55	
FEBRUARY PETTY CASH / CARD PAYMENTS				
<i>Total petty cash payments</i>	6.13	0.83	6.96	
<i>Total Card payments (Clerk)</i>	54.06	0.00	54.06	
<i>Total Card payments (Footpath Warden)</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL	60.19	0.83	61.02	