

# MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

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Held: Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024, at 7.00pm  
at The Chapel School Room, Stock Lane, Whaddon, MK17 0LS

Present: Cllrs Sir Beville Stanier Bt (Chairman), Helen Hickman (Vice Chairman), Jane Herriman, Graham Stewart, Derek White.

Members of the Public: Two  
Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

## 56/23 Public Forum

Two members of the public attended to find out more about councillor vacancies.

## 57/23 Apologies

Cllr John Chilver.

## 58/23 Declarations of Interest

None

## 59/23 Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Cllrs approved the minutes which were signed by the Chairman.

## 60/23 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

## 61/23 Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillor(s)

Cllr Stanier (Chairman) noted that there were continuing concerns about balancing the budget in the light of high levels of expenditure on social care, and staff cuts were expected. A grant for £5 million to support highway repairs had been received.

## 62/23 Planning

- a. To receive an update on Shenley Park Planning Applications 23/02180/AOP (BC) and 23/0161/OUT (MKCC). Cllr Stewart referred to his planning report. He noted that a recent legal opinion stated that due to the close association MK must consider the whole planning application, not simply access points, and agree a way forward, with BC, in order that both authorities can agree jointly before determining the application. Much more work on highways would be needed, and results not expected until the end of the year. Crest Nicholson was expected to reapply for planning permission at this point in line with the new approved SPD. The findings of the A421 study were not expected in time. PPA meetings were in progress, from which WPC was excluded from participating, but it was hoped to inspect the heads of terms. Responses from the NHS and National Highways to the application were noted. Cllr Stewart referred to outstanding queries on S106 monies for which clarification was being sought, and referred to a meeting with Shenley Brook End and Shenley Church End PCs at which much common ground was identified and future cooperation agreed.
- b. BC Response on SPD Issues. Cllr Stewart noted that the SPD was approved on 13<sup>th</sup> February and paper copies of the final document had been requested. A full response from BC to WPCs 18-point clarification letter still has outstanding answers.

This is being chased. Any judicial review would have three months window and none was expected. Cllr Stewart advised that the new CN application would be reviewed when received and every effort would be made to mitigate the bad points.

- c. Update on Plan MK, WEA Expansion. Cllr Stewart referred to the plan provided showing two possible local expansion sites of 14 indicative sites providing circa 80,000 new homes in MK (sites for some 35,000 are needed). There will be a public consultation in the late summer on the preferred sites, at the next stage of the PlanMK 2050 production. By chance a landscape survey initiated by MK had been identified, and the Calverton Plateau – the land ‘over the Shenley Ridge’ into the Whaddon Valley – was where two of the possible expansion sites were located, so it was agreed that WPC would respond and encourage residents to do the same.
- d. Valued Landscape Strategy - See above
- e. To review 22/000221/APP and 21/04926/APP Thrift Farm. Cllr Stewart noted that no progress had been made.
- f. A421 Study. Cllr Stewart had nothing further to report, and nothing was expected until the summer.
- g. To review local planning applications. Cllr Stewart noted that the application for a solar park had been delayed and the developer had cancelled attending this meeting. The reason for the delay was not known. An application, 24/00808/APP 29 Stock Lane for a wrap-around two-storey extension, to replace the existing old garage and rear utility room was reviewed. Cllrs agreed some comments on scale and proximity to adjacent property’s boundaries would be noted but as the plan appeared to conform to the recently adopted new design SPD no objection would be made.

#### 63/23 Clerk’s Update

- a. Administration and Whaddon Quarterly
  - i. General Activities. The Clerk referred to the Activities Update provided. The Clerk confirmed that the precept request had been submitted, VAT return had been submitted and refund received, the agreed mobile phone and PO Box had been implemented. An order had been placed for the King’s official portrait.
  - ii. The Clerk reported on her recent research around the implications of parish expansion in forthcoming years. It was agreed to look into improving data handling and document security by acquiring a second WPC laptop for the planning function. It was agreed that a Parish logo could be investigated. It was agreed to continue to research the implications and processes expected to take place as the parish expanded.
  - iii. Whaddon Quarterly. The Clerk reported that the handover to the new editor had gone well and cllrs expressed their thanks and gratitude for the high quality of the first edition. Cllr White noted that some residents found smaller fonts hard to read and it was agreed that the editor would be asked to bear this in mind.
- b. Highways
  - i. Minor highway issues. The Clerk advised that damage to the salt bin, various potholes and flytipping incidents had been reported .
  - ii. Cllrs reviewed MVAS traffic data.
- c. Property
  - i. Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that the summer play session had been booked, the grant application for the hill climber was delayed to FY 2024/25, and risk assessment had been updated. An accident form and event log had been implemented. First grass mow had taken place.

- ii. Allotments. The Clerk advised that outstanding rents had been resolved. The padlock code had been changed to increase security. Vacant allotments would be advertised.
- iii. Constable's Plot – no items.

d. Finance

- i. Payments were approved. It was noted that £1000 payment to BC for match funding for the yellow lines project would be held pending receipt of a firm installation date.

Income

The following payments have been received:

31/1/24	VAT refund	£1,267.28
02/02/24	M Cameron Allotment Rent inv. 1327	£25.68
	Total	£1,292.96

Expenditure

The following payments have been made since the last meeting:

15/1/24	DD	Npower – electric for streetlights	£96.80
15/1/24	BACS	Winslow Bus	£100.00
15/1/24	BACS	S J Lindsey – salary and expenses	£1,350.43
15/1/24	BACS	B Macrae – IT expenses	£61.20
15/1/24	BACS	Harlequin Press – WQ Printing	£320.00
15/1/24	BACS	D Taylor – Christmas Tree	£250.00
15/1/24	BACS	Anglian Water – allotment water	£10.75
15/1/24	BACS	Eon Energy – street light maintenance	£57.60
24/1/24	DD	Hugo Fox – website maintenance	£11.99
7/2/24	SO	Freethought – email services	£9.50
8/2/24	BACS	Freethought – domain name renewal	£120.00
13/2/24	DD	Npower – electric for streetlights	£101.81
19/2/24	DD	Nest pension	£14.31
22/2/24	DD	EE mobile phone	£27.25
26/2/24	DD	Hugo Fox – website maintenance	£11.99
7/3/24	SO	Freethought – email services	£9.50
			£2,553.13

The following future payments require approval:

BACS	Buckinghamshire Council – dog waste bins	£201.77
BACS	Harlequin Press – WQ Printing	£305.00
BACS	S J Lindsey – Salary and expenses Jan-Feb 2024	£1,781.04
BACS	D Taylor – Grass cutting	£203.50
BACS	Wave – allotment water supply Jan-Feb 2024	£11.42
BACS	Buckinghamshire Council – match funding £1000.00 *****HELD*****	£0.00
DD	Npower electric streetlights December due 15/3/24	£88.80
	Total	£2,591.53

Bank Balances as at 14/3/24

Unity Bank – deposit	£53,108.48
Unity Bank – current	£3,503.24

#### 64/23 Other Parish Matters

- a. Cllrs proposed thanks to Cllr Geddes for her service and support to the Council. A gift voucher of £25 was approved as a gesture of thanks.
- b. Cllrs considered Mr N Nagpal and Mr J Allard’s expressions of interest in joining the council as new councillors. Cllrs voted unanimously for their appointment. Proposed by Cllr Stanier (Chairman) and seconded by Cllr Hickman (Vice Chairman).
- c. D-Day Celebration. Cllrs Hickman and Herriman reviewed progress on the arrangements. Cllr Hickman expressed regret that due to personal circumstances she had to limit her involvement going forward to just the organisation of the beacon. She reported that arrangements with the tenant and for the beacon were progressing well; the position of a sand area for the beacon to be agreed.
- d. Cllrs considered the funding request from a resident for financial support for korfbal, and regretted that no funds were available for this type of expenditure.
- e. Traffic/signage for Whaddon School traffic problems. The Clerk reported that information and offers of help had been forwarded to the school but no further information or instructions had been received from the governors.
- f. Cllr White noted that the area around the traffic calming in Stratford Rd had been subjected to bad flooding during wet weather. The Clerk advised that some repairs had been done, and this had been reported.
- g. Progress on yellow lines. See 63/23 d.i. above. No installation date available.
- h. Planning enforcement cases. No new information available. Enforcement of planning breaches continues to be a major issue. Cllr Stanier to pursue answers.
- i. Benches and Planters for Village Green. It was agreed to await the completion of the yellow lines and to proceed with this project.
- j. Salden Chase sec. 106 contribution. No further update.

#### 65/23 Other correspondence requiring a decision before the next meeting.

- a. Cllr Hickman noted that the road surface at the A421 Whaddon Roundabout was in a dangerous condition and it was agreed to report this.

#### 66/23 Date of Next Meetings

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will be at 7pm; 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (AGM), 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

Signed:

Chairman

Date: