

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 11th May 2023, 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, Peter Lemagnen, Graham Stewart, Derek White.

Members of the Public: None
Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

- 1/23 Election of a Chairman and Vice Chairman
Nominations were requested for Chairman and Vice Chairman. Cllr B Stanier and Cllr Helen Hickman were proposed and elected unanimously. Cllrs accepted the nominations, and Declarations of Acceptance were signed.
- 2/23 Public Forum
No Items
- 3/23 Apologies
Cllr Georgina Geddes, Cllr John Chilver
- 4/23 Declarations of Interest
None
- 5/23 Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting
Cllrs approved the minutes which were signed.
- 6/23 Matters Arising from the Minutes
None.
- 7/23 Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors
Cllr Stanier (Chairman) reported that business continued as usual despite financial pressures. Of particular concern were highways problems including potholes and drainage. Balfour Beatty had succeeded Ringway Jacobs as contractor from 1st April. Cllr Lemagen enquired if BC had pulled out of the housing target, and Cllr Stanier (Chairman) agreed to enquire.
- 8/23 Planning
 - a. BC Consultation on Vision and Objectives of the Local Plan and Transport Plan.
Cllr Stewart reported that the formal survey presented by BC provided simple 'tick box' options and the opportunity to prioritise issues which over-simplified this complex situation. It was agreed that Cllr Stewart's suggestion on prioritising, and to submit a supporting letter along with the Council's on-line response. Cllr Hickman emphasised the importance of ongoing dialogue to ensure WPC's views were heard and properly considered.
 - b. Shenley Park update. Cllr Stewart referred to his planning report. He reported that the archaeological investigation had not been completed, and despite

chasing no responses had been received to enquiries to the Archaeological Team. Correspondence with BC was reviewed, and it was agreed that Cllr Stewart would follow up to request further information on traffic survey results and keep up the pressure for WPC to be kept informed and participate in formulating strategies ahead of public consultation in August. Cllr Stewart noted that the previous assumption that 35% of traffic using V1 Snelshall Street from the A421 could be routed onto a spine road in Shenley Park had been challenged, and it was agreed that Cllr Stewart should respond. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) reported that nothing further had been heard about the proposed meeting with Crest Nicholson.

- c. Novus Solar Energy Farm. Cllrs discussed the request by Novus to do a presentation to the Council. It was agreed to invite them to attend the meeting in September and the Clerk instructed to contact them. It would be important to ensure that as many residents as possible were made aware of this presentation.
- d. Update on VALP. Cllr Stewart reported that there were no developments on this. The 'Call for Sites' continued to show only the 1.13 acres of land adjacent to Coddimoor Lane, and not the Shenley Park site, which was incorrectly classified as Kingsmead. Numerous requests for this to be corrected had been ignored, and efforts would continue to get this done.
- e. Update on the A421 Study. Cllr Stewart reported that BC had advised that results of the study were expected in December 2023. It was agreed that WPC should press to attend stakeholder meetings, which had been delayed by the transition to a new highways contractor. The Chairman advised that he and other elected BC members had been invited to a Members' Briefing on this issue, but that Parish Councillors were not invited.

Cllr Stewart reported that the Automatic Traffic Counters (ATCs) laid 27th February-7th March had not had legal consent, but this had now been put in place. While there was no requirement for the instigator (Crest Nicholson) to share the data with WPC it must be shared with BC and inform the Traffic Impact Assessment. WPC would continue to press for access to the data.

- f. NBPPC and S106/CIL. Cllr Stewart reported he continued to monitor this and hoped that the S106 system remained in place for the old AVDC district. It was agreed to keep a watching brief on this situation.
- g. Lorry Parking at Bottlehouse Farm. Cllrs noted that this seemed to be minimal. It was agreed to keep a watching brief on this situation.
- h. Local Planning Applications. Cllr Stewart noted that no further information on the Thrift Farm application had been made available. Applications 23/01338/APP 6 Briary View, and 23/01005/APP 16 High St were discussed and it was agreed to submit 'No Objection' on both, but with some concerns on the latter.

Cllr Hickman expressed concern that burning of rubbish and carcasses continued at Park's Farm creating noxious fumes. The arrangements for the dumping of inert waste for land contouring remained of concern in terms of safe vehicular access to the site, and monitoring compliance to proper standards of the waste.

9/23 Clerk's Update

a. Administration and Whaddon Quarterly

- i. Annual review of Documents. Cllrs reviewed Council policies and documents and agreed no changes were necessary at this time.
- ii. Annual Audit. Cllrs reviewed financial reports and audit documents and approved for submission for external audit.
- iii. The Clerk referred cllrs to the update provided. Cllrs noted that documents emailed ahead of the meeting were often not opening properly, and it was agreed that paper copies would be provided where needed.
- iv. Review of Whaddon Quarterly. The Clerk advised that income and expenditure had begun to fall in line. Advertisers had been invoiced and there were no outstanding payments. An initiative to attract new advertisers had been undertaken, and one new advert secured.

b. Highways

- i. Minor highway issues. The Clerk reported fly-tipping continued to be a problem with six cases reported. Two sign repairs had also been requested. Repair of the traffic buildout in Shenley Rd was still awaited and would be chased. Cllr White asked for two damaged manhole covers to be reported.
- ii. Cllrs reviewed MVAS traffic data. The Clerk reported that the maintenance agreement for the MVAS unit had expired, and it was agreed this should be renewed as a matter of urgency. The Clerk was given authorisation for the expenditure estimated to be around £250.

c. Property

- i. Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that agreement was in process to undertake regular inspections of the area at the rate of £10 per visit. Cllrs agreed with this arrangement. It was noted that litter picking continued and the payrate was based on minimum wage.
- ii. Allotments. The Clerk advised that removal of a dilapidated shed and compost bin, and a tidy-up of the rear area on plot L8 was underway and tenants would be billed for the work. The Clerk advised that Plot R3 had not been cultivated to meet lease requirements, and part of the plot had been reassigned to a new tenant. Unusually high rainfall had caused some temporary flooding.

d. Finance

- i. Cllrs reviewed the current cash position.
- ii. Cllrs reviewed income and approved payments.

Income

The following payments have been received:

Various	WQ Adverts – Invs. 1301,1302,1305,1306,1309,1312,1313,1314,1316.	£618.75
28/3/23	D Taylor – Rent Constable's Plot	£150.00
31/3/23	Interest	£177.69
2/5/23	Allotment Rent inv. 1318	£29.19
	Total	£975.63

Expenditure

The following payments have been made since the last meeting:

13/3/23	DD	Npower - electric	£36.89
13/3/23	BACS	E.On Energy – Street light maintenance	£54.00

13/3/23	BACS	T Jenkins – IT Support	£35.00
13/3/23	BACS	Harlequin Press – WQ Printing	£216.00
13/3/23	BACS	S J Lindsey – Salary & Expenses	£1,227.54
13/3/23	BACS	Bucks Council – dog waste bin services	£231.50
31/3/23	DD	Unity Bank - charges	£18.00
11/4/23	SO	Freethought email services	£9.50
17/4/23	DD	Npower – electric	£40.36
20/4/23	DD	Nest Pensions	£11.97
9/5/23	SO	Freethought email services	£9.50
		Total	£1,890.26

The following future payments require approval:

BACS	S J Lindsey – Salary and Expenses Mar-Apr 2023	£1,308.94
BACS	E.On Street Lighting Maintenance	£54.00
BACS	North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium – membership	£20.00
BACS	F Hayward – litter picking Feb-Mar	£41.68
BACS	BMKALC Annual Subscription	£76.95
BACS	BHIB – general insurance	£638.08
BACS	J Groom – internal audit fee	£75.00
BACS	St Mary’s Church – burial ground maintenance	£100.00
BACS	Jubilee Hall – cleaning grant	£250.00
BACS	D Taylor – Mowing & Strimming Rec/Old Manor Close	£370.00
	Total	£2,934.65

Bank Balances as at 11/3/23

Unity Bank – deposit	£51,141.42
Unity Bank – current	£3,974.38

10/23 Other Parish Matters

- a. Councillors’ Biographical Information for WQ. Photograph and biographical information were gathered for submission to WQ Editor for inclusion in WQ.
- b. Elmer’s Charity Funding for WQ. Cllrs discussed the importance of continuing to provide paper copies of WQ for residents who needed them. It was agreed the Clerk should prepare an application for the Elmer’s Charity for funding.
- c. Yellow Line Project. Cllrs reviewed an update from BC Highways and noted there had been additional procedural steps introduced into the process, and the promised spring completion had been delayed. It was emphasised that BC Highways agreement and funding from Community Board had been secured for this project to ensure it went ahead. It was agreed to monitor progress.
- d. Cllr Herriman reported that Coronation Celebrations had gone well.
- e. The Clerk thanked Cllr Lemagnen for arranging the update of the website to the new domain name.
- f. New Lowndes Arms – no items.
- g. 7 Vicarage Rd. It was reported that the vulnerable adult formerly resident at the property had not returned and the property was on the market.
- h. Benches and Planters for Village Green. It was agreed to await the completion of the yellow lines and to proceed with this project.

11/23 Other Correspondence Requiring a Decision before the Next Meeting

- a. Cllr White proposed that a portrait of King Charles III should be obtained for the Village Hall. Cllrs agreed. The Clerk was asked to investigate, and Cllr Herriman agreed to liaise with the Village Hall Committee.
- b. Cllrs agreed to commence planning and arrangements for the D-Day Celebrations for 2024 at the next meeting.

12/23 Date of Next Meetings

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will be at 7pm; 13th July 2023, 14th September 2023, 9th November 2023, 11th January 2024, 14th March 2024

Signed:

Chairman

Date: