



Widdersh Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIDDERSH PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.45pm ON TUESDAY 9th OCTOBER 2018 IN THE SINDLESHAM ROOM

PRESENT: Cllrs G Harper (Chairman), P Bray, F Breedlove, P Fishwick, S Hanna, R Holdstock, D Hunt, B Krauze, F Obileye, R Shepherd-DuBey, J Southgate, C Taylor and L Wooldridge.

In attendance: Louise Steele (WPC Locum Clerk)
Philip Houldsworth (Wokingham Borough Councillor)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 There were no apologies for absence all members of the Council being present.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 The minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 11th SEPTEMBER 2018 were **AGREED** and the Parish Council **RESOLVED** that the Chairman should sign them as a true record.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Cllr Harper declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 11, the Recreation & Amenities Committee item on allotments, on the grounds that he is an allotment holder. Cllr Harper announced that it was not his intention to participate in any discussion of the new allotments.

4 MATTERS ARISING

4.1 The Locum Clerk reported on progress on the two action points from the last meeting; the budget report from 18 July 2018 had been appended to the record minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting of the same date. An action to get rid of the community centre shed had not yet been completed.

5 PUBLIC SESSION

- 5.1** There were no members of the public present and therefore no questions to be taken.
- 5.2** Two volunteers (Kirsty Ross and Alex Caston) considering co-option to the Council each made a brief presentation to the Council about why they wished to join.

6 CO-OPTION TO THE COUNCIL

- 6.1** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Alex Caston and Kirsty Ross should be co-opted on to the Winnersh Parish Council. The Chairman welcomed both new Councillors.
- 6.2** Alex Caston and Kirsty Ross each made their Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took a seat at the table.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1** A list of correspondence received was tabled at the meeting – this list may be found at Appendix 1 below.
- 7.2** The Locum Clerk drew attention to the first item, a request for a letting of the Community Centre and surrounding area for a large community event on 25 May 2019 and the meeting discussed the additional terms and conditions necessary to facilitate such an event. It was agreed that the following additional terms and conditions be applied:
- The damages deposit to be banked in advance of the event;
 - The external part of the event to finish before sunset to facilitate litter picking;
 - Litter picking to be arranged throughout the event and either undertaken by the hirer or WPC's costs reimbursed by the hirer; and
 - The costs of an additional site clearance rubbish collection to be covered by the hirer (and the collection to be booked in advance).

8 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

- 8.1** Borough Cllr Houldsworth gave an oral report. The Winnersh Relief Road goes to a WBC Planning Committee on 10th October and Cllr Houldsworth indicated that he is likely to speak in favour of it as being an essential part of infrastructure and for the better good of the Borough, not just Winnersh.
- 8.2** Cllr Houldsworth continued with reference to progress with the 21st Century Council and the fact that parts of the Local Plan are being updated.
- 8.3** Cllr Houldsworth referred to a community liaison meeting between Bovis and residents which was attended by himself and Cllr Shepherd-DuBey, however, no residents had attended. Cllr Bray added additional information at this point which was that residents withdrew from the meeting because they had wished for a larger group of them to attend but this request had not been granted.

- 8.4 Cllr Shepherd-DuBey continued the oral report saying that Bovis will shortly deliver the NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play – aimed at the under 6's) because the development has got to the point where it has triggered S106. The Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) will be delivered later. The development includes swales as part of flood protection and the drainage of these needs to be improved #, currently these have some standing water. Bovis will be surrounding the swales with chicken wire fencing to ensure the safety of children.
- 8.5 Cllr Shepherd-DuBey gave her view of the relief road – which was that WBC Councillors have worked hard to get the best scheme they can and have got a bigger green area than they were expecting. If all goes well work will start in the spring. To create the M4 Smart Motorway trees are being cleared to stabilise the bank and to build refuges.
- 8.6 Councillor Bray added her observations about the WBC new planning system which is “one step forward, one step back” at the moment. Further that the Liberal Democrat Group on WBC has written to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government about the financial risk to WBC caused by reductions in Government Funding, the pressure created by the costs of adult social care and the dangerously low level of reserves.

9 PARISH COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS

- 9.1 There were no questions from Parish Councillors

10 PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

- 10.1 Cllr Taylor reported briefly that the meeting of 18 September had been inquorate; but that the Locum Clerk had forwarded Councillors' comments on the Winnersh Relief Road to WBC. Cllr Fishwick will speak for the Parish Council at WBC's planning meeting on 10th October 2018

11 RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

- 11.1 The meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee scheduled for 4th October 2018 had not taken place because ill health had rendered it inquorate. Three items were included on this agenda from the agenda for that meeting:

Allotments – the Locum Clerk reported that 38 forms had been returned from current allotment holders wanting to transfer to the new allotments. The Locum Clerk had undertaken an initial allocation of new allotments based on the preferences expressed and the criteria agreed by the Committee, she now sought, and was granted, permission to contact those allotment holders who had responded making them an offer of a new allotment. The Locum Clerk will also write to all allotment holders who have not responded giving them a chance to select one of the remaining allotments.

ACTION: Clerk

Christmas Lights – it was agreed to move the date of the event to Friday 14 December with all action points previously agreed resting with the Locum Clerk.

Creation of a New Youth Centre – Cllr Harper reported on progress towards creating a new Youth Centre, which has temporarily stalled over the extent of the Parish Council's involvement. WPC being prepared to facilitate the creation of a Youth Centre and to provide some funding.

11.2 Cllr Hanna explained that he had asked for an update from WBC about whether a contractor had been selected to prepare the new allotments but that there was no further information.

11.3 Cllr Breedlove reported about the successful completion of works to the guttering of the Community Centre and informed Council that the contractor had identified additional work that needed to be completed, being concrete surrounds for the bottom of downpipes damaged by strimming; three leaf guards on downpipes on the Allnatt Pavilion; and repairs to the gable end of Pavilion House all at a total cost of £1,490. It was **RESOLVED** To accept the quotes and instruct the contractor to proceed with the funds coming from virement from the internal redecorations budget.

ACTION: Clerk

12 FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES (F&GP) COMMITTEE MEETING

12.1 Councillor Breedlove updated Council on progress towards changing the financial reports etc. One action remains outstanding and that is to get Sage to produce a quarterly budget monitoring report and that action is in progress.

13 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

13.1 Cllr Bray reported that she had attended the Citizens Advice AGM and the Volunteer Centre AGM and that both had mentioned funding from WPC. Both organisations have quite tight finances. The Volunteer Centre is about to launch a new website to help better match volunteers to opportunities.

13.2 Cllr Harper reported in his capacity as a trustee of Hurst Charities about the fact that work has started on three new almshouses.

14 ACCOUNTS

14.1 A schedule of payments for payment in October 2018 was considered. Upon the proposal of Cllr Krauze seconded by Cllr Breedlove the Parish Council **RESOLVED** to make payments totalling £9,884.38 and those payments are detailed in an attachment to the record minutes.

15 ANY OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

15.1 The Chairman reminded Members that the copy deadline for the winter edition of Winnersh Matters was the end of October 2018.

16 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

16.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 13th November 2018 at 7.45 p.m. in the Sindlesham Room.

Confidential Session

The meeting **RESOLVED** in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for discussion of the following personnel or confidential matters where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.

17 STAFFING MATTERS

17.1 The matters discussed at this item are recorded in a confidential minute.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.46pm

Appendix 1 Correspondence

Correspondence received prior to the Meeting 9 October 2018

18 September 2018 – Email re Hall Hire Saturday 25 May 2019

21 September 2018 – NALC Chief Executive's bulletin

24 September 2018 – Press Release from Re3 - Re3 launches re3cyclopedia mobile app

27 September 2018 – The Wokingham Volunteer Centre Impact Report 2017-18

28 September 2018 – NALC Chief Executive's bulletin

1 October 2018 – BALC October Newsletter

3 October 2018 – BALC AGM Agenda (14 Nov 2018)

5 October 2018 – NALC Chief Executive's bulletin