

Minutes of the Meeting

Warfield Parish Council

21 March 2007

Present: Councillors: Menon (Chairman), Barnard, Fitzwilliams, Gates, Harrison, Ms Healy, Mrs Ingham, M Jones, N Jones, Mrs Leftly, Parks, Taylor and Towle.

1. Apologies for absence there were none.

2. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of a personal or prejudicial interest in respect of any matter to be considered at the meeting.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2007

It was RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct and accurate record and signed by the Chairman subject to the following correction, Councillor Parks had previously apologised for his absence.

4. Matters arising from this meeting

- a. **Minute 4a Reassignment of Brownlow Hall Lease** – ongoing.
- b. **Minute 4b Leisure scheme proposals for Section 106 funding** – a response is awaited.
- c. **Minute 6 Traffic surveys** – a specimen report from Count on Us Limited was considered. It was agreed to proceed with the surveys.
- d. **Minute 9 Priory Field** – the site is managed by Borough Rangers and they have no knowledge of the yellow dots on the oak trees. With regard to the problem of dog walkers' misuse of the area, it was noted that the Rangers plan to erect signs to discourage dog walkers from using the pitches. *Post meeting note: the Borough Transport Department had identified that the oak tree is in poor condition, felling was delayed as it was being used by nesting bats.*
- e. **Minute 10 Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members** – a request for a minor change to definition of personal interests has been submitted.

5. Parish Award

A number of nominations were considered. Following discussion Councillor N Jones, seconded by Councillor Barnard proposed Miss I D Langton. Councillor Ms Healy, seconded by Councillor M Jones proposed Mr E Taylor. A vote recorded seven votes in favour of Mr Taylor and five for Miss Langton. Councillor Taylor abstained. It was also proposed to initiate a discretionary Chairman's Award in 2007.

5. Parish Award continued

This award would be presented to a person or group demonstrating a specific, possibly short term but significant contribution to the parish. Following discussion it was proposed that Warfield Action Group would be the first recipient in recognition of their efforts to raise awareness and lobby against the Borough's proposal to build 2500 houses in Warfield.

6. The Brownlow Memorial Hall

It was noted that the reassignment of the Lease is planned for 31 March 2007. A new management committee and terms of reference for the committee will be required. It was agreed to seek views from the existing Trustees as to the future composition of the committee and suggested terms of reference. Following discussion it was agreed that the Trustees of Warfield Community Facilities Charity should continue until a new committee and terms of reference are agreed. It is hoped to adopt the proposals at the Annual Meeting.

7. Planning

- a. **Bracknell Forest Borough Local Development Framework Core Strategy Site Specific Representations** – The Chairman of Planning advised that comments have been submitted with regard to the sites proposed at the Limes, Hayley Green and land north of Herschel Grange suggesting that the inclusion of the land would be inadmissible as it is site specific contrary to Planning Policy Statement 12. With regard to the land north of Whitegrove and Quelm Park the opposite reason has been proposed. 'This area is not site specific as it is a significant development area which may be defined as a broad location for delivering housing and other strategic needs in compliance with Planning Policy Statement 12'.
- b. **Speedwatch Campaign** – An article in the February issue of the Wren seeking volunteers concerned about speeding traffic had elicited a mixed response. Two residents have offered their help with the campaign. However, an open letter from Mr N Herd has been received. Mr Herd's objection to the Parish Council's involvement with the scheme was noted.
- c. **All Saints Rise** – A request to reduce the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph made by concerned residents at the March Parish/Borough Councillor surgery was brought to the attention of Members. It was noted that Harvest Ride Ward Councillors have already asked for a review. Following discussion it was agreed to contact Mr Freer and write in support of the Borough Councillors' request and seek a reduction in the speed limit.

8. Accounts

- a. The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 19 March had been previously circulated. Councillor N Jones proposed, seconded by Councillor Barnard that the minutes be formally adopted, all agreed.

8. Accounts continued

- c. Councillor N Jones seconded by Councillor Taylor proposed that the following cheques be authorised for payment, all agreed.

Suds Window Cleaning	Office windows	11.75
J G Harding	Reimbursement Clerk's expenses	70.10
Bracknell Forest Borough Council	Printing Wren & Loan repayment	4016.40
ARD Ltd	Play area inspections	120.26
Inland Revenue	Tax & NI	322.45
Tesco Stores Ltd	Insurance Oct 05 - September 07	413.06

For information: standing order payable to Tesco Stores Ltd for rent £2496.88

- c. The budget sheet had been previously circulated, there were no questions.

9. Representative Reports

Brockhill – Councillor Fitzwilliams advised that Thames Water and the Environment Agency are both working in this area to try and resolve a problem with flooding and pollution.

Footpaths – Councillor Fitzwilliams advised that work in Snipes Lane, Hogoak Lane and Bottle Lane - Buckle Lane is in hand to improve surfaces which have become muddy. It was noted that work to improve the surface in Hawthorne Lane is scheduled for the summer.

CPRE – Councillor Harrison has joined the Committee of the Bracknell & Ascot district branch. The Chairman, Mrs Utting has asked that a letter written by the Berkshire branch chairman to his MP concerning Kate Barker's review of Land Use Planning be brought to the attention of Members. It was agreed that the Planning Committee would consider the document as other groups are being urged to contact their MPs regarding this subject.

Heritage Forum – Councillor Towle had attended a recent meeting and had mentioned the heritage leaflets published by this Parish Council.

Cultural Partnership – Councillor Towle had visited Blackbird Leys, Oxford a centre promoting community enhancement.

Standards – Several Councillors had attended the presentation on the revised Code of Conduct for Members given by the Borough Solicitor. It was noted that the revision still requires Members to declare gifts or hospitality worth £25 or more. Concern that the £25 threshold is too low and that these should be entered on the register of Members interests for a period of five years was expressed.

9. Representative Reports continued

Borough Councillor - Councillor Barnard updated the Council and set out his position on a number of issues. This year the Government's grant to Bracknell Forest Borough Council was increased by only 1.7% yet the Borough has the third lowest council tax rate in the country. No objections have been lodged to the planning permission for the redevelopment of Bracknell Town Centre. He explained that should the project overrun the developer holds the financial risk. There will be no staffing issues for the Borough Council as a result of the increased work load of the Town Centre development. The police have agreed to monitor the Toucan crossing in County Lane with regard to Tesco's lorries parking in the vicinity. The possibility of underground facilities for glass recycling at Tesco's is to be considered. It was noted that residents recycling rates are still increasing. There should be sufficient primary places for all Warfield children attending school this year. The status of Garth Hill College has improved and the school is now oversubscribed. Council house tenants will be voting on the transfer of their homes to a housing association.

10. Correspondence

Correspondence was available for inspection, the following items were noted:

- a. Notice of Pre-Examination Meeting Thursday 12 April 2.00 pm Easthampstead House.
- b. Bracknell Forest Partnership, request for themes for future meetings
- c. Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service 5 year Plan for consultation
- d. Regional Housing Strategy Review 2007 consultation

11. Date of next meeting

This was confirmed as Wednesday, 18 April 2007.

12. Closure of the meeting

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.55 pm.