

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 11th November 2020, at 7.00pm
Zoom Meeting Reference: <https://zoom.us/j/96903925058>
Meeting ID: 969 0392 5058

Present: WPC Cllrs Sir Beville Stanier Bt (Chairman), Graham Hain, Hazel Hedges, Helen Hickman, Peter Lemagnen, Graham Stewart.

Members of the Public: None

Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

1. PUBLIC SESSION

None present

2. APOLOGIES

Cllrs John Chilver, Llew Monger, Sue Renshall, Derek White

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Stewart declared an interest in planning application 19/03666/AOP Rear of Freshfields, Stock Lane

4. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes for the previous meeting were adopted and signed.

Cllr Stewart asked if any information had been received from the Community Board regarding infrastructure funding and it was agreed this would be followed up by the Clerk.

5. UPDATE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AND WQ

a. Administration

- i. The Clerk presented an update on administrative matters which was reviewed by Cllrs.
- ii. The Clerk reported two new joint editors had been appointed for WQ and a November edition successfully printed and issued.
- iii. Budget and Precept. Cllrs discussed and approved budgeted expenditure of £34,071.00 for FY 2021/22 and set the precept at £30,000. Proposed by Cllr Hain, seconded by Cllr Lemagnen. Votes for: Five. One abstention.

b. Highways

- i. Cllrs were provided with MVAS data showing traffic levels returning to pre Calverton Lane/CV19 levels. Average speed and 85% of traffic reported as travelling at or below the 30mph speed limit.
- ii. It was agreed that the MVAS maintenance agreement would be the 'Gold' option which included a programmed maintenance visit, and included full safety checks to ensure the equipment was safe and well maintained. Cllr Lemagnen queried the longevity of the unit with a view to planning for a replacement when needed, as the data collected was crucial, and it was agreed to investigate.
- iii. Cllrs reviewed progress on replacing street lights and it was agreed to go ahead and replace the final five units that could not be repaired due to lack of availability of spares. Remaining units should be upgraded over the next few years as funds allow. Clerk to progress revisions to the Unmetered Supply Certificate to reflect the new units and implement savings to running costs as soon as possible.

- c. Property
- i. Constable's Plot. No items.
 - ii. Recreation Ground. The Clerk reported that new CV19 safety signage had been installed successfully and the new lockdown requirements had not required the area to be reclosed. A new ownership/ICE notice had been installed in accordance with inspection requirements, showing ownership and 'What3Words' location information for emergencies. Kompan had issued a safety chain kit for the Nest Swing, and arrangements were in hand to get it fitted. Utilisation had declined in line with cooler weather and children returning to school, and there were no issues at the moment.
 - iii. Allotments. The Clerk reported that the allotment lease agreement had been updated and revised to bring it in line with current needs, and lease renewals/invoices issued to 14 tenants leasing 15 plots. Good progress had been made on installing water tanks and the Gardening Club had completed a great deal of improvement work. Work on hedge reduction and strimming had been completed successfully, revealing the state and condition of overgrown areas and allowing assessment and future planning for improvements. Cllrs debated next steps regarding improvements, including access and drainage, and it was agreed to meet at the allotments to review condition and progress on 16th November at 9am.
 - iv. Bus Shelter. The Clerk reported that the Bus Stop Swap Shop continued to be well used and no issues noted.
- d. Finance
- i. The Clerk advised that Lloyds bank was still not accepting new accounts to enable BACS payments. Service at Metro Bank continues to decline.
 - ii. The Clerk presented income and payments for approval, as follows:

FINANCE

Income

The following payments have been received:

29/9/20	Bucks Council – 2 nd Half Precept	£10,500.00
1/10/20	D Taylor – Rent Constable's Plot	£150.00
23/10/20	K Ambler – allotment rent	£25.00
30/10/20	Centennial LLP – hedge cutting	£50.00
Various	Allotment rents – micro plots – C, A, D,E, B, H	£27.00
Various	Interest	£1.15
	Total	£10,753.15

Expenditure

The following invoices have been received for approval:

263	Eon Electric Street Lights	£422.60
264	Eon Energy Solutions – new street lights	£2,868.00
265	Bruce Macrae – grant for administration oil syndicate administration	£60.72
266	F Hayward – litter picking	£34.88
267	D Taylor – Covid signs, allotment hedging	£1,240.00
268	Swarco Traffic Ltd – Gold annual maintenance contract	£344.98
269	Eon Street Light Maintenance	£125.10
270	Tim Jenkins – Technical assistance email setups	£50.00
271	CPRE – annual donation	£36.00
272	S J Lindsey – Admin Sep/Oct 2020 68.25hrs	£1,088.74
273	S J Lindsey – Expenses Sep/Oct (incl. membrane, signs, zoom/email etc.)	£377.23

274	CPA Horticulture – wood chips - replacement for chq 254 lost in mail	£1,294.80
	Total	£7,943.05

Bank Balances as at 12/11/20

Metro Bank Account – current	£8,782.69
Metro Bank Account – deposit	£18,236.97
	£27,019.66

6. PLANNING

a. Cllr Stewart reviewed the planning report he issued prior to the meeting.

- i. Salden Chase (SWMK). Cllr Stewart reviewed progress, stating that despite three chasing letters no response from BC had been received regarding proof of evidence or Whaddon's missing of traffic data. The deadline for consultation had been extended to 20th November. Concern was expressed about BC's suggestion to extend a MK grid road through Shenley Park development, which could only be detrimental to traffic problems on the A421 and future rat-running through Whaddon. It was agreed that Cllrs would review information and make any comments for inclusion in WPC response by 20th November.
- ii. VALP. Concern was expressed that a Planning Policy Specialist for BC appeared not to have key information in relating to Salden Chase despite it being key to VALP. Cllr Stewart stated there appeared to be no timeline for the plan's production. Once final documentation has been forwarded to the Inspector and publication allowed, a decision on next stages of VALP and whether the inquiry will be reopened to discuss the merits or otherwise of Shenley Park should be forthcoming. WPC strongly supports this position.
- iii. Newton Leys West. Cllr Stewart advised that Newton Longville do not support this development due to concerns about traffic through the village, and lack of a bypass. Whilst Wallis Dawson had offered funding for roads for the south section, the section in the middle remained unfunded and represented unacceptable traffic levels. Salden Chase were only offering a route, but no money.
- iv. MK Futures. Cllr Stewart advised that MKC are expected to publish a revised strategy for MK2050 shortly. No further public consultation is expected.
- v. New and Outstanding Planning Applications. Cllr Stewart reviewed progress on current applications. It was agreed there would be no objection to 20/03558/APP extensions and modifications for Jubilee Hall. Cllrs reviewed CM/0033/20 land re-contouring Park Hill Farm, and agreed with the refusal to grant this application. Cllr Stewart reported that the planning appeal for conversion of a barn into four dwellings at The Oaks had been dismissed.
- vi. SGN Gas Depot 20/03539/APP. Cllr Stewart reviewed this application for a biogas tanker offloading facility, located very close to residential and populated areas in Newton Longville. Tanker traffic/HGV movements were stated as 40 per day on 24/7 basis. It was agreed that while WPC is not directly involved, heavy traffic would be an issue for Whaddon, and it was agreed that WPC should write in support of Newton Longville's objections to traffic movements.
- vii. Allotments. Cllrs discussed a suggestion from a nearby resident that the front area of the allotments should be turned into car parking for allotment holders and the nearby cottages that had no off-street parking. It was agreed that should Shenley Park go ahead it might be possible to relocate Whaddon's allotments to this area, at which point alternative uses for the

- allotment land might be considered subject to BC agreement and allotment conditions. Cllr Stanier agreed to discuss this with the nearby resident.
- viii. Pavement Parking. Cllrs discussed responses received from Parishioners giving their views on pavement parking; 'option 3' to ban all pavement parking was preferred by all but two respondents. It was agreed to prepare and submit a response for WPC. The Clerk was requested to issue reminders via Facebook and Email to encourage Parishioners to submit their preferences via the online government portal.

7. OTHER PARISH MATTERS

- a. Cllrs discussed moving to a monthly meeting. Concern was expressed that tight timing on planning applications and the ability to 'call them in' could mean that these could not be discussed, agreed and responded to quickly enough. It was agreed that the bi-monthly schedule would be retained, with the option to call an extraordinary meeting should it be required. It was noted that meeting date conflict with Little Howard Parish Council had been resolved. Cllrs agreed to continue with the 7pm start time, but this might reviewed should circumstances change.
- b. Overhanging Trees. Cllr Stanier reported that work to reduce the trees was in hand.
- c. Cllrs agreed a donation to the North Bucks Oil Syndicate towards administrative costs. It was agreed that data on the number of members and their location would be requested.
- d. Cllr Hickman and Cllr Lemagnen advised that individuals interested in becoming Parish Councillors had approached them. It was agreed that they should contact the Clerk if they wished to put themselves forward. It was agreed that election in May 2021 rather than co-option would be the preferred route if feasible.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will be at 7pm; 12th November 2020, 14th January 2021, 11th March 2021.