

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 27 November 2023

Chairman: Councillor Mr J Pugh
Councillors: Councillor Mr G Chater, Councillor Ms E Farrell, Councillor Mrs M Lawrence, Councillor Mr P Robinson, Councillor Dr J Walmsley, Councillor A Barlow Councillor S Davidson
Apologies: Councillors Farrell, Barlow & Lawrence
Clerk: Mrs J Flanders
Attendance: Councillor Blamires
Parishioners: 5

1. Apologies for absences

Councillors Lawrence, Barlow and Farrell sent in their apologies. There were no other apologies received.

2. Reports from Buckinghamshire Council Councillor and the Police

The Clerk reported that the Police had requested a note of next year's Parish Council meeting dates so they could collate and send more data to the meetings and the Clerk agreed she would do so.

Councillor Blamires reported that Bucks Council was 75% towards their emissions target and good progress had been made with planting trees in the County. She confirmed that the budget for the Community Board would be cut next year but applications were welcome and advised getting them in before Christmas if possible.

Councillor Blamires also confirmed that progress was hopefully being made with eCom and the MP was trying to help.

In Councillor Cooper's absence Councillor Pugh read out a report from Councillor Cooper as follows:

- He was disappointed by the stance taken by Bucks Council as to the request for 20mph outside schools and urged Parish Councils to continue to pressure the Council to re-consider.
- Whilst Enforcement had been successful on the site at A418 there was now a revised planning application on the land for a Wormery. The Clerk confirmed this would be discussed in the December meeting. He also confirmed that the Police had been involved in a dispute between the various plot owners and farmer which was on-going.
- He confirmed that a grass verge in Rowsham was being maintained by a resident as a sustainable verge and wished this to be noted.
- He expressed concern for the proposed cycleway between Wing and Aylesbury due to pressures on the next budget and also feared for other projects due to cuts in budgets.
- He was involved in promoting the installation of defibrillators throughout the County and whilst Wingrave was well served he was aware that some residents may wish to have training on their use and he was happy to provide this.

3. Disclosure of interest on items in agenda

No Councillors present needed to disclose for any item on the agenda.

4. Sign off Parish Council Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as an accurate account of the meeting held on 24 October 2023 and were signed by the Chairman.

5. Planning Applications:

5.1 23/03319/APP 1 Parsonage Farm Wingrave - single storey rear extension and part garage conversion (Amendment to Ref 22/02762/APP). Councillor Pugh introduced and outlined the proposed application. The Councillors had no objections to the proposal but wished it to be noted that the application failed to disclose the property was within the vicinity of a pond and therefore possible crested newts. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Application unanimously.

5.2 **23/03362/APP 1** Twelve Leys Wingrave - garage conversion to annex with roof alterations. Councillor Pugh outlined the application. Councillors Robinson and Chater both pointed out the unusual roofline of the proposed extension and were concerned it might impact the street scene but it was agreed to approve the application.

It was RESOLVED to approve the Application unanimously.

6. Update on new Pavilion & Bowls Clubhouse.

Councillor Chater confirmed the tender documents were anticipated by 4 December, Building Regulations had been applied for and it was hoped to for the formal tender process early December with an end date of end January 2024. It was hoped subject to funding that the build could take place Summer 2024. The Community Ownership Fund had progressed to the next stage and a result was expected in December 2023. Councillor Chater wished to thank all those involved in the process.

7. Grant for approvals:

7.1 WCA - £5000 towards Communique costs. Councillor Chater had observed from the accounts provided that the WCA had had increased costs and advertising income had reduced as predicted. The Councillors all agreed the Communique was important and valued by residents and there was merit to keep a printed paper copy and anticipate that the WCA will look into reducing production costs in the future. It was also suggested that as this grant represents 10% of the Budget for the Parish Council that it may need to be reduced in future years to keep the Council Tax increase at a minimum. It was agreed this was for future years and that the current request would be agreed.

7.2 Heritage Association - £636 towards storage costs. As these had not increased and the HA provide a valuable service it was agreed to approve this Grant.

7.3 United Reform Church - £350 towards grounds maintenance. It was acknowledged that URC keep the cemetery area in good order and that may be in future years they could request a higher grant as costs of have increased over the years. The Councillors agreed to approve this Grant.

It was RESOLVED to approve all Grants as requested unanimously.

8. Rose & Crown Pub – Discussion of future options as it is a Community Asset.

Councillor Pugh confirmed he had been approached by some residents as to the importance of the pub remaining open for the village and it was generally acknowledged that the pub remained an important asset to the village. He suggested that it might be appropriate to create a Working Group with at least one Councillor in the group to investigate the various options to promote the re-opening of the pub. A member of the public also advised that it was important to make the Brewery Owner aware that the Parish Council own part the seating area and bank and that future publicans need to be made aware of this. The Clerk pointed out that the bins remain full and there is general waste around the pub building. It was suggested that the Clerk should write to the Brewery setting out the ownership boundaries and the need to tidy up the pub area. Discussion then took place as to the funding of The Stag in Mentmore in Community Ownership and the Queenshead in Wing and the wish for that pub to become a Community Pub. It was thought that may be the Brewery should be asked about their thoughts on the future of the Rose & Crown.

9. Thames Water – Wingrave Sewage Works – Update – Phil Lees.

Following Mr Phil Lees' letter to the CEO of Thames Water he had been promised a visit to the works and he thought his data was being taken seriously albeit the sewage discharges were still occurring and the records were not always accurate. He confirmed he would continue to pester the Environment Agency to take action and continue with the testing. Councillor Walmsley asked if he had considered going to the media and Mr Lees confirmed he did not think this would help at the present time and would prefer to keep the pressure on to without distraction or annoying Thames Water. He also confirmed he had given a talk to the WI about the Sewage Works and had received £50 from the WI which he would put towards further testing costs.

10. WRAG – Update on survey.

Councillor Farrell had forwarded a brief report confirming that the survey was not underway and that reminders would be sent out to residents frequently until the close date of 10 December 2023 and to date

she had received 81 completed surveys. She would be analysing the results in January with a view to reporting in full in February 2024.

11. Revised Dates for Next Year's Parish Meetings – approve

The Clerk explained that there had been some double bookings of the Community Centre for 2024 and presented a revised timetable for approval. This was approved unanimously.

12. Confirmed Remembrance Sunday attended on 12 November 2023.

The Clerk confirmed that Councillor Farrell had attended and presented the Parish Council's wreath at the War Memorial and thanked her for doing so. It was also noted that there had been a very good attendance.

13. Footpaths:

13.1 Update – forms for residents in response to CA17 Notice to apply to create Public Footpaths on the Definitive Map.

Councillor Walmsley confirmed she had met with Rob Honan, the Estate Manager of the Ascott Estate, and thought progress was good. Ascott Estate would prefer certain footpaths to be diverted so that the path does not traverse crops but goes along the field hedgerows/fences and it was agreed this seemed to make sense. He also offered to make some permissive paths which are not official Public Footpaths and such permission can be revoked in the future. It was suggested that the Parish Council would seek some assurances that the Estate would not close these paths. However, it was thought there was still a need to apply for other paths to be added to the Definitive Map and create legal Public Footpaths. General discussion took place and it was agreed that Councillor Walmsley should go back to the Ascott Estate to confirm Paths A, D and E on the plan (Annexe A) should definitely go ahead to become Definitive Paths, Paths B & C should be diverted. Also Paths D & E would be permissive. It was also agreed that evidence should be gathered from residents for as many paths as possible for the time being to protect the generally used paths for the future and then only make certain applications once agreement is reached with the Ascott Estate.

13.2 Footpath Booklet – approve printing costs & distribution.

Councillor Walmsley confirmed that she had costings for the leaflet and map. Office Innovation had quoted £250 for leaflet & map set up; to print 50 would be £79 and for 100 £109 plus VAT. To produce a large PVC map to be put in the Noticeboard at The Green carpark would be £75. Councillor Robinson offered to help with the setting up and design of the leaflet incorporating pictures. To cover the costs it was thought to apply to the Community Board but in the event that this was not forthcoming it was agreed to approve upto £500 towards costs. It was thought selling the leaflets at £2 each from the shop was feasible. It was RESOLVED to approve costs of £500 toward production of leaflets and map.

14. Clerks Pay approval.

It was confirmed that a few points needed clarifying with regards tax and NI in relation to the current budget and future and once these were confirmed the proposed Clerks Pay would be circulated to the Councillors and then approved at a later meeting. The Clerk was happy with this.

16.Finance -

16.1 Clerk Update on balances.

Community Current Account £55598.83

Kirby Fund £59860.41

Reserve Fund £65408.68.

The Clerk agreed to investigate interest rates on other Barclays accounts.

Meeting Closed 2108 hours

Annexe A
Footpath Map

