

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021 AT 8.00 PM BY ZOOM

## ATTENDANCE:

Cllrs Mr S. Cope, Mr N Harris, Mrs V. Smith, Mrs K. Cheshire, Mr N. Timberlake, Mr P. Brown

In attendance: Mrs S Henson - Clerk

APOLOGIES: Cllr Mr R. Seymour, Buckinghamshire Cllr Darren Hayday

Two members of the public

Cllr Cope acknowledged the recent death of HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh by announcing a minute's silence, and advising everyone present that Buckinghamshire Council are to hold a service on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April, and that the link has been put on our website and issued to other groups.

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS BY MEMBERS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – None declared.

## CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Minutes for the March Parish Council meeting were agreed by those Councillors present and will be signed by the Chairman outside the meeting.

## CLERK'S REPORT

1. Clerk has asked for an update on tree works from Complete Tree Services – the allotment work has been undertaken and the burial ground work and Park Farm tree will be completed in June.
2. Clerk has had two site visits with suppliers for the toddler swing.
3. The Clerk has submitted the Parish Charter response after consultation with the Chairman.
4. Clerk has submitted an article for the May issue of *Contact* after consultation with the Chairman.
5. Walkers are occasionally trying to cross the crops field and railway instead of using the diversion for footpath WWY10 created in 2011. Clerk has raised concerns with appropriate authorities and the RoW map needs modifying.
6. Clerk is querying electricity bill as it has doubled when it should have been reduced – this has now been resolved.
7. The Clerk, after consultation with the Chairman has purchased a Garden Scheme Gift Voucher for Kent Murray who is moving to Norfolk and has been a tremendous help and support on the allotments.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME  
MEETING REOPENED

## 283.1 Correspondence received 12<sup>th</sup> March – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021

1. Website analysis for March – emailed.
2. Buckinghamshire Council daily and weekly updates and press releases – links put on website.
3. Minutes of the North West Chilterns Community Board – forwarded to Cllr Cope.
4. Email from a resident of Bradenham Road over footpath WWY10.
5. The Devolved Services grant of £2,033.62 from Buckinghamshire Council has been received.
6. Came and Company asking review questions before submitting new quotations for renewal.
7. PJK Littlejohn, external auditors, notification of the audit to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> July and that we are part of the random 5% selected for an intermediate review.
8. Notification of an appeal against Buckinghamshire Council on the non-determination of the planning permission for Bledlow Recycling Centre – written representations must be issued by 21<sup>st</sup> April.
9. Email from a local resident with concerns over a Planning Application in Park Farm Road.
10. Notification of a review after one year's existence of the Community Board. Clerk has booked a space and Chairman is trying to as the list was full, but an extra meeting has been planned.

11. SLCC and BAMKLC are asking for written evidence to present to the government over their decision to cease virtual meetings after 6<sup>th</sup> May.
12. Suggested ideas for the creation of a Community Orchard by Chiltern Rangers.
13. Electricity unmetered supply certificate from Southern Electric for the heritage light conversion to LED – should now have a further reduction in our bill.
14. Notification from an allotment tenant that they will be terminating their tenancy by the end of April.
15. Buckinghamshire Council notification that all taxi licences will be issued under Buckinghamshire Council's name and not the old District Councils.
16. Emails from several residents of Park Farm Road concerned about the planning application and building works at Wyeseide.
17. Quotation from Playdale for cradle swing and wet pour.
18. Quotation from Wicksteed for cradle swing and wet pour and a second one to allow for wet pour under the other two swings.
19. Correspondence with the Chiltern Society over footpath WWY10; they have written to Ordnance Survey over some of the maps showing the footpath.
20. Notification that we will have an election – 8 nominations for 7 places.
21. The VAT refund of £3,502.23 has been paid into the bank by HMRC.
22. Notification that a Court Appeal has been set for 21<sup>st</sup> April relating to the continuation of virtual meetings.

#### 283.2 Planning Applications & decisions:

##### Applications:

**21/05940/FUL-Wyeseide Park Farm Road High Wycombe** - Householder application for construction of roof extension incorporating habitable space within loft, including rear and side dormers and additional roof lights, part single storey, part two storey rear extension and fenestration alterations (alternative scheme to pp 20/08337/FUL) – We acknowledge that this application is for modification to an existing approved application, to allow more light into the top floor rooms. We continue to object to this overdevelopment of the site and have concerns for the privacy and quality of life for neighbours. We strongly recommend that the Planning Officer and building control carry out a site visit. We are concerned that this property could in the future become a house of multiple occupation or be converted into flats in a small road with family homes.

##### Decisions:

**21/05384/FUL-19 Portway Drive High Wycombe** - Householder application for construction of single storey rear extension – permit.

**21/05335/TPO-West Wycombe Park, West Wycombe** - Fell to ground due to excessive decay at the base x 1 Ash (T3) – permit.

**21/05402/CTREE-West Wycombe Park, West Wycombe** -Remove to ground level due to inappropriate village setting x 1 Conifer Hedge (G2) – not to make a TPO.

#### 283.3 To discuss the appeal for the Bledlow Household Recycling Centre for the continued use of the site

The Parish Council are largely supportive of it re-opening as a household recycling centre as an important service to the residents to the West of Wycombe; however we do have some concerns as to the full intentions of the applicant and would support the need for Buckinghamshire Council to develop an officer report and then determine the application.

#### 283.4 To discuss the replacement of the toddler swings

Quotes have been supplied by Playdale - £7,331.97 plus VAT and Wicksteed - £6,200 plus VAT. The quotes include replacing the grass matting with wet pour under the cradle swing as each year the play inspection comments about the wear and state of the grass matting. It was resolved to proceed with the Wicksteed quote.

#### 283.5 To discuss the creation of a Community Orchard

The Chiltern Rangers have submitted a suggested ground plan, and this was issued to all Councillors. Councillors discussed the proposal. At this stage we do not know if we would be supported by community involvement. We would like the school and pre-school to be involved. We have to consider how much annual maintenance would be required, e.g. pruning of trees, and cutting and collecting the grass, in particular on the wildflower areas. We will be working with local groups who specialise in selecting local species of fruit trees and particularly those which have less demanding maintenance needs. Clerk will consult Sir Edward Dashwood before proceeding

with placing an order for the work with Chiltern Rangers. We will start to talk about it and promote it locally in the June issue of *Contact* as well as on the West Wycombe Facebook pages.

#### 283.6 To discuss the allotment competition

Councillors discussed how they would like to proceed. We are not trying to create a demanding competition, just something for tenants to aim for. It will not be compulsory; tenants will be asked if they would like to enter. There will be two categories, whole plots and half plots and then the following will be judged:

- The number and variety of crops being grown;
- The quality of the produce grown;
- The care, general appearance and use of the plot;
- The use of various growing methods; and
- The use of recycled materials for water storage, compost heap and plant containers.

If a tenant can show that they are growing their crops organically this will be taken into consideration.

Judging will take place on 29<sup>th</sup> August. We will not be bringing in professional judges, and all categories will be marked on a scale of 1 to 10.

#### 283.7 To discuss the A4010 Suggested strategy

The proposed strategy had been issued to all Councillors after it had been presented to the NW Chilterns Community Board. The A4010 has been a topic of conversation for over 20 years – long before Stoke Mandeville became the main hospital and the creation of many more homes, particularly in Aylesbury and Princes Risborough. All vehicles aiming for the M40 or M4 must use the A4010 and cause congestion within the whole length of our parish. Cllr Timberlake to produce a report/response in time to be discussed at the May meeting.

#### 283.8 To report any highways issues including the need for overnight work

1. TfB have still not made contact about gully emptying.
2. Clerk continues to communicate with the National Trust re: the archway cobbles. They asked about specification and insurance and Clerk has responded. A site visit is to be arranged.
3. Clerk has emailed our LAT asking if we need a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to undertake the work on the cobbles – he will produce the TRO as long as we give him two weeks' notice.
4. The LED replacement heritage lights by the school are now installed and working.
5. The lights in Chorley Road starting at column 29 to the allotments in Chorley Road have a temporary repair – it appears that a main cable was cut through.
6. Columns 1 and 10 in Bradenham Road have had their mains supply repaired.
7. Clerk has been removing domestic rubbish from the dog bin by the Pedestal sheep field.
8. Clerk is researching the landowner of the land on the far side of the Bradenham Road railway bridge – the hedge and fence need serious maintenance.
9. The drafts for our application to the HS2 Road Safety Fund have been created to cover: i) traffic calming gateways on the Bradenham Road; ii) improvements to the traffic warning signs and visibility on the A4010 at the Bradenham Road railway bridge and right of way; iii) white edgelines along the whole of the A4010 from West Wycombe. Clerk will undertake completion and submission
10. The owners of Rosemary Close flats have undertaken the work required on their boundary hedges as previously agreed.
11. The broken bollard at the Pedestal has been reported.
12. Thames Water have been undertaking work at Ness Cottage in an attempt to even out the variation in water pressure within the village. The pressure is very high in West Wycombe Park and low in some of the homes. The work has not been completed.
13. Cllr Cope asked whether we could investigate the extension, by 10-20 metres, of the double yellow lines on the brow of Chorley Road hill, as he had witnessed three cars parked in succession on the road at this point. If it had been a single car it would not have been visible soon enough for a motorist to be aware of it before getting to the brow of the hill.

#### 283.9 To consider COVID19 and decisions or actions which may be required

All current information relating to COVID19 and vaccinations has been loaded on our website and placed on our noticeboards. The Parish Council is in a difficult position regarding the venue for its meetings once some of the lockdown rules and government legislation changes. The Church Room is too small to distance Councillors and that does not take into account the presence of any members of the public; the Village Hall has a regular booking every Thursday and most other days, the library is too small, and we are not allowed to meet on licensed premises. It may be necessary to meet in St Paul's Church as 28 socially distanced people

could be present in the building. Clerk is waiting for government guidance about the continuation of virtual meetings, however after the election all Councillors must sign a Declaration of Acceptance. The Clerk will work out how this can be carried out safely. It was resolved to change the date of our May meeting until 20<sup>th</sup> May.

283.10 To approve the accounts for April 2021 – appendix 2

It was resolved to approve the accounts. See end of Minutes.

283.11 Members' questions

Discussions took place about our twice-yearly litter pick. Our regular volunteers have continued to work on their own, keeping the parish as free from litter as possible, but until gatherings of more than 6 are allowed we cannot organise an official litter pick. Hopefully, we might be able to undertake this in September.

282.9 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 8pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Zoom or at a venue depending on government legislation.

**Payments to be made in April 2021**

Cartridge People (debit card)	194.89	Set of black/colour cartridges and box of paper
Giff gaff (debit card)	6.00	Monthly charge for mobile
Capital Gardens	50.00	Voucher for services to the Parish Council
Smart Numbers (dd)	23.99	May service charge
Mrs S Henson	599.42	March salary
Mrs S Henson	14.60	Expenses Jan - March
Bucks CC	221.30	April pension
HMRC - online	84.00	Tax
Acorn Landscaping	488.14	Highway grass, burial ground, Pedestal strimming
TBS Hygiene	115.20	March collections
Rialtas	148.80	Allotment software support
SSE Contracting	3229.81	Conversion of final three heritage lights
SSE Contracting	234.78	Repairs to two lights in Bradenham Road
Complete Tree Services	774.00	Allotment hedges and trees
Southern Electric (dd)	82.36	Streetlight energy (being questioned)
<b>Total</b>	<b>6267.29</b>	

**Statement of Account as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021**

Opening balance – 1 <sup>st</sup> March	32491.05
Less March payments	2959.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>29531.46</b>