

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 8.00 PM BY ZOOM

ATTENDANCE: Cllrs Mr S. Cope, Mr N Harris, Mrs V. Smith, Mrs K. Cheshire, Mr N. Timberlake,

In attendance: Mrs S Henson - Clerk

Buckinghamshire Cllr Darren Hayday

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Mr R. Seymour, Mr P. Brown

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS BY MEMBERS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – Cllr Cope declared a personal interest in the Allotment Competition.

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
The Minutes for the January Parish Council meeting were agreed by those Councillors present and will be signed by the Chairman outside the meeting.

CLERKS REPORT

1. The gullies from Chorley Road junction to the Pedestal roundabout still have not been jetted as far as we are aware – one or two nearer the Pedestal do seem to be cleaner. Clerk has left two messages with the TfB manager but to date have not had a return phone call. An email has been sent asking for clarification of the situation.
2. The phone changeover took place on 8th February – 01494 448048 will continue to be the contact number for the Parish Council.
3. Clerk has written to the Lease Owners of Rosemary Close asking them to cut back their boundary on the Pelican Crossing side.
4. Clerk attended the Transport Focus Group meeting.
5. Clerk attended the Clerks Forum for our area.
6. Clerk attended the Town and Parish Charter Working Group meeting.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
MEETING REOPENED

281.1 Correspondence Received from 14th January – 11th February 2021

1. Website analysis for January – emailed.
2. Buckinghamshire Council daily and weekly updates and press releases – links put on website.
3. Notification that the S137 figure for 2021/2022 - £8.41 per head based on the Electoral Roll.
4. Information for the elections which are currently planned to take place on 6th May.
Clerk will issue all documents in March. We go into the process on 22nd March and that is when purdah starts.
5. Buckinghamshire Council Planning and Environment Newsletter – emailed
6. ICO Data Protection renewal notification for March.
7. Notification of webinar on Local Nature Recovery Strategy – emailed.
8. WDALC Minutes of the December meeting – emailed.
9. Buckinghamshire Council Town and Parish Council Charter consultation

281.2 Planning Applications & decisions:

20/08493/FUL-484 West Wycombe Road High Wycombe Householder application for construction of single storey rear extension – no objection

21/05101/Ful – 14 Bradenham Road, West Wycombe – Householder application for construction of front porch and single storey rear extension following removal of existing ground floor extension – no objection.

Decisions

20/08437/CTREE-Land Rear of St Pauls Church, High Street, West Wycombe-Thin crowns by 10% to contain remove hung up branch and stems supported on split union x 3 Norway Maple (G6), remove faulted limb over footpath x 1 Horse Chestnut (T1208), remove x 2 Ash, fell to ground level x 1 Goat Willow (T1210) and crown thin reduce by 33% x 1 Prunus (T1211) – not to make a TPO.

20/08363/PNP3R-Chorley Farm, Bottom Road, West Wycombe -Prior Notification (Part 3, Class R) for change of use of part of existing building from agricultural use to flexible commercial use - withdrawn.

20/08326/TPO-West Wycombe Park, West Wycombe-Reduce canopy by up to 4m to contain to form smaller more compact crown and reduce weight to alleviate strain on potential weak unions in upper canopy x 1 Horse Chestnut (T2) – permit

20/08337/FUL-Wyeside, Park Farm Road, High Wycombe -Householder application for construction of roof extension incorporating habitable space within loft, including rear & side dormers and additional roof lights, part single storey, part two storey rear extension and fenestration alterations (alternative scheme to pp 19/06975/FUL) – permit.

20/07236/FUL-Chorley Farm House, Bottom Road West Wycombe-Internal works to the barn including installation of a new ground floor window to east elevation & alterations to the dining room of the main dwelling with the installation of 2 x roof lights to the west elevation and a porthole style window in the south elevation – permit.

20/07237/LBC -Chorley Farm House, Bottom Road West Wycombe-Listed Building application for internal works to the barn including installation of a new ground floor window to east elevation & alterations to the dining room of the main dwelling with the installation of 2 x roof lights to the west elevation and a porthole style window in the south elevation –permit.

281.3 To modify the Parish Council's Standing Orders

Extract from Standing Orders modified in May 2018 - Behaviour of Members - item 24

' h. A Councillor who does not attend for six consecutive Parish Council meetings ceases automatically to be a member of the Council unless either he has a 'statutory excuse' or his failure to attend is due to a reason approved by the council e.g., ill health; attendance at WDC/BCC meetings.'

We need to amend this to WDALC and Buckinghamshire County meetings and add annual holiday and work commitments.

It was resolved to make the modifications.

281.4 To consider the Buckinghamshire Town and Parish Charter

The Draft Parish Charter has been emailed to all Councillors and a hard copy with a Survey for each Councillor to complete has been issued. This is the document 10 Clerks, and Buckinghamshire Council have been working on since the Secretary of State made the Unitary decision. As an ex WDC parish it was agreed to make comment about the centre of Wycombe District's residents not being represented and able to have the same expectations for mutual working arrangements and support. It was also agreed to highlight the importance of the Rural Forum. Councillors to complete the surveys and get them back to the Clerk by 1st March. The closing date for responses, which has to be online, is 7th March. Councillors can respond individually online but a single response will be sent from the Parish Council.

281.5 To discuss the replacement of the toddler swings

With Easter at the beginning of April – Good Friday April 2nd – we need to make a decision and place an order for the baby cradle swing or other options. Clerk to arrange a site visit with two companies and quotations in time for the March meeting. It may need a longer frame to accommodate a toddler seat and dual seat swing. We must replace the actual seats to comply with the Play Inspection. It was agreed that we should also look at having a different surface installed under the three swing elements as this is continually wearing out and being commented on in the play inspection report.

It was agreed that we would inspect the small stile from the Pedestal Playing Field which exits onto Cookshall Lane.

281.6 To discuss the use of litter bins and use of the reserved parking bays

We are aware that some residents are using the litter bins for their domestic rubbish. The National Trust has been asked to write to their tenants on this and residents parking in the reserved bays however they do not have the staff to do this at the moment. West Wycombe Estate has written on the subject to their tenants. It was agreed that we undertake a letter drop to the High Street and Church Lane. The letter will also remind everyone that the reserved parking areas are for the benefit of visitors to the shops and the village and not for resident parking. We know that more people who work in the community are parking in the High Street as they are not prepared to pay the parking charges; they are also parking in the Pedestal Car Park for the same reason, but these are usually 'walkers'. The parking issue will be a permanent problem. A parking warden has been out and about.

281.7 To report any highways issues

Clerk has written to the Lease Owners of Rosemary Close asking them to cut back their boundary on the Pelican Crossing side.

Light 20 in the High Street has been reported as have lights 1 and 10 in Bradenham Road and 26 Chorley Road. The order was place on 14th January for the lights outside the school to be repaired/converted.

Damage around a drain near The Malt House has been reported.

The potholes and grip issues in Towerage Lane have been reported but we have had answer saying that the lane was jet patched and the grips were dug out last year and we will have to wait for work to be undertaken.

Cobbles under the arch by The Church Room are loose. TfB would probably just repair with tarmac and we need a sympathetic repair. It was agreed we would ask if the National Trust would undertake the work and charge us.

Cllr Hayday has put in a bid for resurfacing of roads and pavements within our parish.

The Church Lane side garden has been pruned and tidied.

Clerk has taken photographs of the top of Church Lane where it needs siding out and will submit to TfB.

The Clerk has asked Cllr Hayday to inspect the pavement from Portway Drive to the Pedestal Roundabout and consider having it put on the maintenance list.

281.8 To discuss burial ground fees

It as agreed not to make any changes at the current time. It would be helpful if the gravedigger could compact the earth more when refilling the graves.

281.9 To discuss the Allotment Competition for 2021

An allotment tenant has been talking with other tenants and had submitted ideas for this year's competition. Councillors agreed to set the criteria for the competition in time to advise tenants at the beginning of Spring.

281.10 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.

281.11 To approve the accounts for February 2021 – appendix 2

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

281.12 Members questions

Cllr Cope has reported to Network Rail the inadequate fencing and the clearance of the undergrowth making access to the track very easy by the railway bridge along the West Wycombe Road.

He also reported all the graffiti to Network Rail.

Cllr Timberlake asked when Cllr Mrs Smith would be awarded the British Empire Medal. No further information at the current time.

Cllr Harris reported that the National Trust will be cutting the ash trees on top of West Wycombe Hill.

Cllr Timberlake reminded Councillors that the Queen will be celebrating her Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

281.13 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 8pm on Thursday 11th March 2021 via Zoom.

Payments to be made in February 2021

Castle Water (dd)	18.66	Allotment water 11/12
Giff gaff (debit card)	6.00	Monthly charge for mobile
Smart Numbers (dd)	40.78	Service charge for February and March phone
Mrs S Henson	597.42	December salary
Bucks CC	221.30	January pension
HMRC - online	86.00	Tax
Acorn Landscaping	488.14	10/12 highway grass, 11/12 burial ground, Pedestal strimming 10/12
TBS Hygiene	144.00	January collections
Chiltern Society	220.08	Footpath clearance for 2020

David Stocks	380.00	Fence repairs to burial ground boundary
Southern Electric (dd)	75.48	Streetlight energy
BT	98.84	Phone
Total	2376.70	

Statement of Account as at 1st February 2021

Opening balance – 1 st January	40038.03
Less January payments	5360.28
Plus burial fee	190.00
Total	34867.75