

TILEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on-line on 8 September 2020

An audio recording was taken of this Meeting, in order to overcome potential technical difficulties, but will be deleted as soon as the Minutes are approved in the Meeting due to be held in October.

Present:

Councillors - Mr K Page (Chair), Mr G Dennis, Ms A Foster, Mrs J Lane,
Mr L Marino (arrived late), Mr T Marino (arrived late), Mrs R Reynolds

District Councillors - Mr A Williamson, Mr T Linden (arrived late), Mr T Marino

Public - Two

Note: As Mr L Marino and Mr T Marino arrived late for the meeting (having previously advised the Clerk that they would do so), meaning the meeting was not quorate, District Councillor Williamson was asked to present his report at this point, so as to enable the meeting to continue when sufficient members were present.

Mr Williamson asked the Clerk if she had received the monthly report from District Councillor Jo Stewart, which was confirmed, and advised that he had nothing further to add.

The Clerk advised Mr Williamson that, having already e-mailed a list of suggestions for Members' Bids to the District Councillors, she would let them know what the parish preferred options would be. Mr Williamson advised that the closing date for bids to be received is the 21 January 2021.

Ms Foster asked Mr Williamson if there is a summary available showing the effect of Covid-19 on care homes, especially up to date guidelines on visiting. Mr Williamson advised that as the situation is constantly changing, it would be best to contact the individual care home involved.

As Mr T Marino has now joined, the formal meeting can commence.

20/120 Open Forum:

a) Members of the public - The Clerk was asked what the current capacity is for using the Cornwell Centre. She advised that at present it is 25, or less if a physical activity is taking place. However, the Council can allow up to 30 if the numbers include 5 non-mobile babies.

b) Councillors – There were no issues raised.

20/121 Apologies for absence: Apologies for absence were received from parish councillors Mr C Taylor and Mr L Marino who advised he would be late arriving; and from district councillors Ms J Stewart, Mr R Somner, Mr R Jones, and Mr T Linden who advised he would be late arriving.

20/122 Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest relevant to the Agenda.

20/123 Approval and Adoption of Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11 August 2020, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read. They will be signed by the Chairman in due course.

20/124 Matters arising: There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

20/125 Clerk's Report:

a) On the evening of Friday 28 August 2020, the wooden gazebo at the Calcot recreation ground was deliberately set on fire. The fire brigade was in attendance and the fire was put out relatively quickly, which meant that the structure wasn't damaged. The internal table has had to be removed but the seating doesn't appear to be too badly affected. The area has been fenced off and will remain so until we are able to carry out the necessary clearance works and repairs.

The Police were advised of the incident and the Clerk has been liaising with them over the CCTV footage which is available.

Note: The police have now requested copies of the CCTV footage for this incident.

b) On 13 August 2020 it was discovered that there had been a fire in the field adjacent to Turnhams Farm recreation ground. The area was severely burnt but fortunately it didn't spread to the recreation ground.

c) The Clerk continues to receive complaints with regards to anti-social behaviour and littering within the recreation grounds. Every effort is being made to keep the recreation grounds tidy and safe for all resident to use.

d) A number of used needles and drugs paraphernalia are being discovered, on a regular basis, at the Calcot recreation ground. This is being cleared away as and when discovered and the Clerk continues to liaise with the Police on matters such as this.

e) Notification has been received from West Berkshire Council advising that Long Lane, Tilehurst will be closed between the hours of 09.30 and 15.30 on the 15 September 2020. The closure will be between the junction with Sulham Hill and its junction with Vicarage Wood Way.

The alternative route for all vehicles affected is via Dark Lane, Overdown Road, Lower Elmstone Drive, Chapel Hill, Sulham Hill and vice versa. The purpose is to enable works to take place on or near the highway, namely for BT to access overhead cabling.

Residential access will be maintained throughout.

f) A Planning White Paper (August 2020) and Associated Changes Briefing Note has recently been received by the Clerk. This document, along with a copy of the presentation given to members of West Berkshire District Council, has been forwarded to members of this Council.

Contained within the briefing paper is notification of a consultation, which has a deadline for submissions of 11.45 pm on Thursday 29 October 2020.

Due to the nature of the report, this consultation will be added to the agenda for discussion at the next Full Council Meeting, ahead of a response being formulated and returned to West Berkshire Council.

g) The Clerk has been advised by West Berkshire Council that the business rate relief which had been received by the parish in respect of the Cornwell Centre and Turnhams Farm Hall had been given in error. The parish has now received a demand for the full amount.

h) The first draft of the new Lease for the Pupil Referral Unit has been received from the parish Solicitor, and has been e-mailed to Members for perusal, before forwarding to West Berkshire Council for their comments.

20/126 Planning:

a) Eastern Area - Members will be advised if there is anything on the Agendas relevant to the parish for the Eastern Area Planning Meetings due to be held on the 16 September and the 7 October, in order that the parish can be represented.

b) Appeals - There have been two Appeals:

i) 133 Halls Road: 19/01826/HOUSE – New carport and store over existing parking spaces to the front garden of the existing property. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of WBC to refuse planning permission. This Council had no objection to the proposal.

ii) Land north of Theobald Drive: 19/01511/FUL – Development of 7 detached dwellings with car parking, access and all associated landscaping and ancillary works. Following an appeal that had been lodged in respect of proposal, a virtual hearing will be held on the 22 September 2020 to decide the appeal. As this appeal is proceeding under the Householder Appeals Service, there is no opportunity for this Council to submit further comments. Any previous comments made by this Council will be taken into consideration. This Council objected to the proposal.

c) Decisions - See Appendix A

d) New applications - See Appendix B

e) Tree in City Road - Correspondence has been received from a resident concerning a tree in her parents' garden in City Road, which an insurance company has requested be felled because it is causing subsidence in a property situated at the rear in Foxcombe Drive. She is requesting that the parish becomes involved to prevent this happening. This is something that West Berkshire Council deals with and in which the parish does not normally have any input. However, after discussing the matter, Members agreed to contact the WBC Tree Officer to make the following comments:

i) Have alternative solutions been considered e.g. cutting back the tree roots.

ii) If the tree is felled, will there be an obligation to plant another tree in its place.

20/127 District Councillors' Reports:

Mr T Linden, having now joined the meeting, made the following comments, in addition to referring to the Monthly Report sent by Ms Stewart which can be viewed on the parish website under 'This Council', 'Meetings, Agendas and Minutes' -

- i) The White Paper on the new planning proposals will be discussed at the next Full Council Meeting.
- ii) A motion against the use of fireworks by individuals, in private homes, will be proposed by Mr Somner, which Mr Linden will be supporting.
- iii) A motion will be proposed by Ms Stewart to promote equality and diversity, which Mr Linden will also be supporting.

Mr Williamson has now left the Meeting.

Mr T Marino had nothing further to add.

20/128 Maintenance Report: A maintenance report, detailing some of the work which have been carried out by the parish maintenance officer over the last few months, has been forwarded to Members prior to the Meeting. A copy of this can be viewed on the parish website under 'This Council', 'Meetings, Agendas and Minutes'.

Mr L Marino has now joined the Meeting.

20/129 Updated guidance from the Football Association: The Clerk has forwarded to Members a copy of updated guidance that has been issued by the Football Association, in order to reconsider the allocation of a football pitch. As the Council's Standing Orders state that any discussion which has taken place at Full Council cannot be revisited within six months of the original discussion, all Members must be in agreement to any matter being discussed again within the six month timescale. Members agreed that they were willing to reconsider the allocation of a pitch in light of the updated guidance, and this will be discussed in Part 11.

20/130 Financial Information: Members reviewed the expenditure for August, which was retrospectively noted.

20/131 Chairman's Remarks: Mr Page thanked everyone for joining the Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13 October 2020

Chairman

PART 11

20/132 Allocation of a football pitch: One of the local football teams who were refused a pitch for the 2020/21 season due to the strict guidelines around the storing and using of equipment has requested that the Council reconsider their request.

Having looked at the updated guidelines issued by the Football Association, and taken into consideration the layout/accessibility of the football store, Members were unanimous in recommending that the original decision is adhered to, and that the team concerned are advised that they will not be allocated a pitch for the 2020/21 season. They are welcome to apply again next year, when any request will be considered taking into account the situation at that time.

20/133 Calcot Community Association: The Clerk advised that the current Chairman of the CCA has returned all keys to the parish office, thereby relinquishing possession of the building and bringing an end to the rental agreement in place. Some of their equipment has been removed, and stock cleared.

Before the building is used again, some redecoration and updating will be required.

20/134 Staffing Matters: The Clerk updated Members with the situation regarding the staff member who has been on long term sickness leave.

APPENDIX A - DECISIONS

20/01090/FULMAJ	<u>Pincent's Manor Hotel, Tilehurst</u> Proposed change of use from existing redundant hotel into care facility, proposal to include part demolition of existing hotel function room, retention of existing listed buildings and extensions to provide care home bedrooms, communal facilities, kitchen and back of house operational facilities. Proposals include full landscaping, improvement of existing car park, boundary treatment and internal refurbishment of existing retained elements.	Withdrawn
20/01091/LBC2	<u>Pincent's Manor Hotel, Tilehurst</u> Proposal as above	Withdrawn
20/01259/FUL	<u>Land Adjacent to Stonehams Farm, Long Lane, Tilehurst</u> Proposed garage for plot 1.	Granted
20/00957/HOUSE	<u>Verdant, Greenwood Road, Tilehurst</u> Alter roof structure of side single storey element together with single storey front extension.	Granted
20/01260/HOUSE	<u>Fistral, 13 Longworth Avenue, Tilehurst</u> Replacement front porch, single storey rear extension, first floor rear and side extensions over existing extensions.	Granted
20/01203/HOUSE	<u>9 Cotswold Way, Tilehurst</u> Single storey front with two storey side and rear extensions.	Granted
20/01268/HOUSE	<u>73 Partridge Drive, Tilehurst</u> Proposed single storey front extension to extend lounge and to complete existing partial garage conversion.	Granted
20/01472/HOUSE	<u>9 Gatcombe Close, Calcot</u> Front porch and single storey side extension.	Granted
20/01514/FUL	<u>2 Greenfinch Close, Tilehurst</u> Remove trees and replace with close board fence 1m from the existing chain link fence to extend the residential curtilage.	Refused
20/01042/HOUSE	<u>41 Barton Road, Tilehurst</u> Demolition of car port, two storey side extension and rear single storey extension.	Granted

APPENDIX B - NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

20/01692/HOUSE 7 White Lodge Close, Tilehurst
Proposed garage conversion to form habitable room (gym/games room).

This Council has no objection to the proposed development

20/01521/HOUSE 65 Fairford Road, Tilehurst
First floor extension.

This Council has no objection to the proposed development

20/01713/HOUSE 19 Lucey Close, Tilehurst
Two storey side and single storey rear extension plus removal existing detached garage.

This Council has no objection to the proposed development

20/01721/HOUSE 157 City Road, Tilehurst
Proposed two storey rear extension.

This Council has no objection to the proposed development

20/01570/HOUSE 13 Hartslock Way, Tilehurst
Garage conversion, single storey front extension, two storey rear extension, first floor side extension (above existing garage), pitched roof, replacement of window and french doors (inc. side light) for new bifolding door set.

While this Council has no objection to the proposal, concerns were raised as to whether or not sufficient on-site parking was available given the addition of a fourth bedroom.