

**FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL HELD
AT 7.30 PM ON THURSDAY 18TH JUNE 2009
AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, THE VILLAGE
FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKSHIRE**

PRESENT: Cllr R Cundy, Chairman, Cllr G Markham, Vice Chairman
Cllrs Mrs Jennings Frisby, Mrs L Newcombe, S Bromley
Cllrs W Chapman, E Cox, I Gordon, J May, M Macey, K Mayne,
Cllrs A Pearce, G Veitch, S Weeks, R Woof.

Jim Gallagher, Baptist Church

Mrs Jane Holloway, Clerk.

235/2009 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE -

Cllrs Mrs Driver, Roger Black.

236/2009- MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Main Council meeting on 21st May 2009, were signed as a true record.

237/2009 - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON THE MINUTES

178/2009 - Correspondence - Flooding Park Lane/Reading Road

Cllr Cundy recently spoke to Helen Gan who is no longer the contact as she has moved from the area. Cllr Weeks confirmed the new contact to be Alison Payne.

178/2009 - Thames Water Pumping Station, Longwater Road - fly tipping

The Clerk is waiting for an update from Beverley Warman at WBC who is liaising with Thames Water.

178/2009 - Newsletter

The Editorial Group will meet during the August recess so that the Newsletter can be produced for distribution with the WBC Autumn Newsletter.

178/2009 - Finchampstead Sports Club - Leas Field - Public Right of Way

Cllr Weeks advised that there is no further progress to report - to be carried forward.

182/2009 - Parish Council Insurance

The Clerk sent the cheque for the new Insurance Policy and the Policy Documents will be filed when received.

183/2009 - Parish Council Pension Fund - RBWM Service Level Agreement

Signed Agreement returned to RBWM.

184/2009 - Summer Fete 4th July at Memorial Park

The Clerk contacted Mrs Sampson, as advised by Cllr Mrs Driver, who has agreed that the public announcement be made around 3pm. The Clerk will contact both Mr Harle and Mrs Long to let them know of the timing.

Cllrs Cundy, May and Woof will set up the gazebo in the morning ready for the opening time at 2pm. Cllrs Mrs Newcombe, Bromley, Cox, Chapman, Gordon, Macey, Mayne and Weeks have volunteered to help during the day.

Cllr Cundy closed the meeting at 7.45pm for Public Question Time to allow Jim Gallagher to address the members. The meeting re-opened at 8.10pm.

238/2009 - COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING - Cllr Mrs Newcombe reported on the meeting held on 15TH June 2009 (double booking at California Hall, so meeting moved to Memorial Hall). The minutes are not yet available and Cllr Mrs Newcombe gave an update.

Moor Farm Park Lane - Enforcement Action - The Enforcement Officer is monitoring the situation on a regular basis.

The Stables/Jovike - Enforcement Notice in effect from 24th May with a six month compliance period and the assistant Clerk has advised the neighbouring property owners. It was noted the property may be up for sale.

Applications

1, Meadowside, Park Lane & Hogwood Meadows, Park Lane - proposed change of use to include additional gypsy pitches with utility day room buildings and hard standing - **Objection** overdevelopment in countryside, intensification of site, currently permission for 2 caravans in total on Meadowside 1 and 2; Thames Basin Heath.

Cllr Weeds advised that other gypsy sites are up for sale, one including an area of woodland with road frontage, which if developed, would result in significant intensification.

81 Barkham Ride - replacement detached 2 storey double garage + accommodation - **Objection** - creation of separate dwelling not sufficiently tied in to main property.

335 Nine Mile Ride - Proposed raising of roof to provide 1st floor accommodation, side entry and front porch, conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation+ erection of new double garage - **Objection** - overdevelopment and new garage will be in front of the building line.

WBC Decisions

2 Burchett Coppice - Refused, would reduce the private rear garden to an unacceptable level, overdevelopment. FPC no objections

3 Burchett Coppice - Refused will reduce rear garden to an unacceptable level, overdevelopment. FPC no objections

Groves, The Ridges - Refused, no bat survey included. FPC no objections.

New Appeals

The Paddock, Longwater Lane - date of Public Inquiry awaited

Appeal Decision - none received

Other Business

166 Nine Mile Ride (land adjacent) - there will be a public hearing on the application but date and venue not yet known.

SEB substation, Barkham Ride - the SEB are sending an inspector to visit site

S106 Monies - meeting with Mr Cupit, WBC - Mr Cupit is yet to agree a date for this meeting.

Rubec Cottage - the owners have yet to comply with the demolition order on the old building.

Core Strategy - New Housing Event - 20 June - Cllr Mrs Newcombe will attend the all day masterplanning meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

Planning for Gypsies Report - Cllr Mrs Newcombe to read and report.

The Clerk received the missing application for Hansom Cabin redevelopment and, in view of the response time, the Planning committee will meet after Main Council to make a decision.

FINANCE

Cllr Markham reported that the Finance Committee met on 17 June to discuss the Year End Accounts which were inspected and agreed by the Internal Auditor. The Clerk has distributed the Annual Return and figures for all members. See separate Agenda item.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

- NATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT Account closed
 - CLYDESDALE BANK £39679.71
 - HALIFAX ASSET RESERVE (at 31st May 09) £83652.83
- It was AGREED to keep both accounts open as the interest rates for both accounts are similar. The Finance Committee will discuss alternative investment at its next meeting.
- CHEQUE LIST - JUN/09 APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 22ND July 2009 re 1st quarter figures

AMENITIES - Cllr Markham reported on meeting held on 3rd June - minutes distributed

- Allotments. Cllr Markham has still not received the Soil Report from Cemex and Cllr Veitch stressed the importance of the Working Party meeting in the interim to outline its actions for the project. Cllr Markham will arrange a suitable date.
- Notice boards Cllr Mrs Driver met the manager of Blubeckers and agreed a location for the new board - Cllr Markham will chase John Fruin to arrange installation.
- Bus Stop, Finchampstead Road. The Clerk wrote to ask WBC for permission to install a bench, to be provided by the Parish Council, and to be located close to the bus stop for waiting passengers, in lieu of their refusal to install a bus shelter. AGREED.
- The Clerk was thanked for her hard work in arranging the flowering baskets which will be delivered to site on Saturday 20th June. Cllrs Cundy, Bromley and May will take delivery and commission the water bowser, stored at Cresswells. A cheque for £241.50 was APPROVED for the Pudding Lane Nursery invoice.

Cllr Cundy reported that the BBC One Show have launched a Village SOS project which might be worth applying for. The Clerk will find out more details and circulate.

FOOTPATHS

Cllr Chapman reported on meeting held on 10th June - minutes distributed. Due to family illness, the warden's time is currently limited, although he continues to clear the most used paths.

Wick Hill - WBC still waiting for clarification from Land Registry - hope to finalise their report by mid July to enable the change in classification to bridleway. Cllr Chapman will speak to Miss Vaughan-Morgan.

Primrose Cottage - the hedge continues to impede the footpath at the side of the property and the Clerk is contacting WBC to ask them to write once again to the owner.

Permissive Path from the War Memorial down to Lower Sandhurst Road - Cllr Veitch reports it is badly overgrown at either end

Footpath 5 - Cllr Pearce reported this is getting overgrown in places.

Cllr Chapman will contact the warden about these reports.

Moor Green car park - The excess surfacing materials will be removed by WBC

Heath Ride Bridleway - Cllr Mayne reported that the entrance at Wellingtonia Avenue now has vehicle stops at the entrance which will improve the surface and prevent fly tipping.

The next meeting will be held on Weds 16th September 2009.

ROADS & ROAD SAFETY

Cllr Mayne reported on matters arising since the last meeting.

S106 Monies - Sandhurst Road footpath.

This project went ahead. FPC did not object formally because we were told that otherwise money would be lost but we did express reservations about the scheme being unnecessary and the funds should be better spent on extending a cycle path. Cllr Cox was away at the time and has since advised WBC that the land in question belongs to his property and has not been asked for permission. Cllr Mayne will draft a response to WBC to re-iterate its concerns and to re-inforce Cllr Cox's position.

School Patrol Crossing Consultation - NMR

Cllr Weeks advised he has already sent objections to the scheme as being inadequate and Cllr Mayne will prepare a response in support.

Gorse Ride Healthy Streets Initiative - There has been limited work in this area but Cllr Mayne has met the schools to support them developing new School Travel Plans. Cllr Mayne will now renew dialogue with WBC about options for the area.

SID Sessions - Finchampstead - Cllr Macey advised that the number of volunteers has dwindled over recent weeks and urged any councillors to assist during the coming months. The Clerk will forward the dates again.

239/2009 - OTHER REPORTS

FPMC - Next meeting end June. Cllr Markham advised there have been two meetings of the Agency Agreement Group and another scheduled. The findings will have to be further discussed with all FPMC members. It was noted that the Charity Commission rules will have a bearing on any decisions made and Cllr Mayne will discuss these further with Cllr Markham before the June meeting.

FinchNag - Cllr Pearce attended and his report is distributed. The Questionnaire results will be publicised on the Parish noticeboards - the top three issues for respondents were Speeding, Dangerous driving and Litter.

Village Youth Report - Cllr Cox attended and his report is distributed. Louise Morris will attend the next Main Council meeting.

Gorse Ride Residents Assoc. / MAG Report - Cllr Mrs Jennings Frisby attended and her report is distributed. An application for £250 for Gorse Ride in Bloom competition - 21st July 2009 was submitted. AGREED. Cllr Chapman agreed to help with the judging.

Playbuilders' Briefing Report - Cllr Mrs Newcombe attended the meeting held on 15th June at Shute end and her report was distributed. The Programme aims to deliver 22 play sites before 2011 and to be suitable for both able and disabled children. Funding will be split over two years and a Project Manager will be appointed to identify sites.

240/2009 - NEW BAPTIST COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Cundy thanked Mr Gallagher for attending and advising the Parish Council how the project is progressing and that all is on schedule for completion by the end of the year. It was agreed that Cllrs Cundy, Markham and the Clerk visit the site to discuss outstanding issues - Parish Office and its facilities; Library; Youth Loft; Cyber Café; Police; Play Area; Multi Games Area; Terms of Reference for the Management Advisory Board.

A date will be arranged during the August recess and the Amenities Committee will discuss the matter at its meeting on 2nd September to be attended by Wendy Crosson-Smith of Neighbourhood Services.

241/2009 -AUDIT RETURN - 2008-09

Cllr Markham reported that Auditor verified the figures, then discussed by the Finance Committee and now recommended to the Main Council for Approval. Cllr Weeks proposed, Cllr May seconded the proposal. AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.

242/2009 - APPROVAL OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

243/2009 - APPROVAL OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

244/2009 - APPROVAL OF BALANCE SHEET

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

The Attachment 3(ii) - 'Notice of appointment of date for the exercise of electors' rights' has been completed by the Clerk and will be publicised on the Parish Noticeboards from 20 July to 14 August 2009.

245/2009 - WOKINGHAM VOLUNTEER SERVICE - HOSPITAL TRANSPORT SCHEME

WVC advise that WBC has now authorised the use of Bus Passes for Medical Journeys which will cover this cost usually borne by the Parish Council. It was agreed that WBC pay for these journeys until such time as funding is withdrawn by them.

246/2009 - STATEMENT OF INTENT ON FUTURE TRAINING NEEDS FOR COUNCILLORS AND CLERK

Cllr Cundy and the Clerk will complete the Assessment Questionnaire and Statement. It was agreed that the Clerk and Councillors would attend those courses suitable in content to benefit the council as a whole.

247/2009 - CORRESPONDENCE LIST - JUNE 18 MEETING

- WBC Armed Forces Day Celebrations 22nd June 10.30am to 12.40 - Cllr Cox to attend as the Parish Council representative
- WDALC - Thursday 2nd July 2009, 7.30pm Civic Offices, Shute End - Cllr Cox to attend.
- CCB's Annual Conference 2009 - Tuesday 14 July 11-4pm at The Berkshire Stand, Newbury Racecourse.
- Thames Valley Adventure Playground - Open Days July 11, 18 & 25
- Thames Valley Primary Care Agency - Determination of Rurality under Reg. 31 of NHS Regulations 2005, as amended in respect of Finchampstead. *'Having considered the factors NHS Berkshire West has determined that Finchampstead is 'Urban' in nature within one mile radius of California Crossroads, otherwise rural'* This is the same classification as previous dated 1993. Right of Appeal for providers of primary medical services, chemists etc. by 4th July 2009.
- CAB Wokingham AGM & Annual Public Meeting 12pm Friday 31st July at Wokingham Baptist Church followed by lunch. Guest Speaker: Susan Law, Ch.Exec., WBC. RSVP required.

FOLDER CONTENTS - The folder is available from 7.30 pm on the night of the meeting and will be held in the Parish Office for the month following. If any councillor wishes to take an item, please advise the Clerk.

Forum - no further items.

248/2009 - DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Main Council 7.30 pm Thursday 16 July 2009 at the Memorial Hall, Finchampstead
Meeting closed at 10.00 pm.