

**FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL HELD**  
**AT 7.30 PM ON THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2010**  
**AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, THE VILLAGE,**  
**FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKSHIRE**

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**PRESENT:** Cllr R Cundy, Chairman, Mrs Driver, Mrs Jennings Frisby, Mrs Newcombe  
Cllrs R Black, S Bromley, E Cox, J May, K Mayne, M Macey, S Weeks, R Woof  
Cllr W Chapman (arrived 8.45pm)

2 candidates for Co-option to Parish Councillor vacancy

Mrs Jane Holloway, Clerk

Cllr Cundy closed the meeting to address the members under Part 2.  
The meeting commenced at 7.40pm

**121/2010 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs G Markham, A Pearce, G Veitch

**122/2010- MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Main Council meeting on 18 March 2010 were amended on page 34 item 62/2010 - Litter Pick to add Cllr Weeks name and to delete Cllrs Mrs Driver and R Black; page 36 Gorse Ride School Travel Count to read ' Several Councillors recently carried out....' and then signed as a true record.

**123/2010 - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON THE MINUTES**

90/2010 - Finchampstead Sports Club - Leas Field - Public Right of Way

- It was noted that a representative from the Hellenic League is due to inspect the Leas Field for its suitability for the League's requirements for football matches.
- The Clerk has been handed DMMO forms and Cllr Weeks will advise the Clerk on the next part of the procedure.

90/2010 - Playbuilders Funding - Gorse Ride Playing Fields

Cllr Weeks advised that work has now commenced and is due to finish by end of May. It was agreed this will be a fantastic addition to the new Centre site.

90/2010 - Allotment Working Group Report

- SLCC 'Setting Up and Managing Allotments' Workshop cancelled and re-arranged for 12 April - Cllr Mrs Driver reported that the workshop was very useful and informative and the full details will be discussed by the Group. Membership of National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) is seen as a pre-requisite and it was AGREED to apply for Annual Membership at a cost of £55 per annum. Once the land is available, the NSALG will help form an Allotment Society which will be able to apply for various funding not available to Parish Councils.
- The Clerk wrote to both Cemex and WBC to formally request release of the identified plots - no response yet received from WBC but email from Cemex - to be passed to the Allotment Working Group.

90/2010 -Discussion on Traffic Accidents at the War Memorial Junction

To be discussed at next Roads meeting

90/2010 - Wokingham Area Housing Society - Proposal To Nominate A Parish Council

Representative To The Society's Board Of Members

This will be added to the list of organisations at the next Annual Meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> 2010.

90/2010 - Proposal that the FPC donate the sum of £4000 to the Blackwater Valley Countryside Park in 2010-11

To be discussed at the next Finance meeting on 27 April

91/2010 - WBC Master Plan - Supplementary Planning Documents - Comments Due On 23 March

Final document was submitted by Tuesday 23 March 2010 as required.

94/2010 - Proposal to Agree To Sign the Rental Agreement with the FBC for the New Parish Office

The Solicitor is still negotiating terms with the other party - to be discussed at Finance on 27<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Cundy has agreed to meet with Baptist Church to discuss outstanding issues. BT still has to install the fibre optic system for telephone and broadband services.

95/2010 - Co-Option of Parish Councillor

Co-option cancelled - see Item 5 on Agenda

97/2010 - Annual Gathering - 25 March 2020

Cllr Cundy thanked all those councillors who attended and the Chairmen for their reports to the meeting. It was agreed the format, the venue and the evening as a whole was a great success.

#### PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Closed at 7.50 pm to allow public to address the meeting and re-opened at 8.10pm

Cllr Cundy brought forward the Agenda Item

#### **124/2010 - PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY - FINCHAMPSTEAD NORTH WARD BY ELECTION**

Cllr Cundy advised the co-option candidates of the differences in the procedure for an election and that they can put their names forward as a nominee for the vacancy. Full details of the timetable will be published by WBC and forwarded to them in due course.

#### **125/2010 - COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PLANNING** - Cllr Mrs Newcombe reported on the meeting held on 24 March 2010 - Minutes distributed. Ms Jeni Jackson has been invited to attend the meeting on 19 May.

**Enforcement Actions** - to be progressed with Ms Jackson

**Applications** - 12 applications considered and the committee had objections to none.

#### **WBC Decisions.**

89 Kiln Ride: FPC objections on bulk and mass; refused by WBC as inappropriate design.

Little Moor: FPC objections as inappropriate development and Thames Basin Heath; refused by

Park Lane WBC Cllr Weeks advised that WBC stated seven strong reasons for refusal, including loss of BAP priority habitat; impact on flooding.

Woodlands: FPC objections to garage too large and in front of building line; WBC refused due  
Lr Wham Rd to size, bulk and mass; loss of vegetation on Green Route

#### **Some differences of opinion between FPC and WBC were noted.**

83 Kiln Ride: FPC no objections; refused by WBC as unacceptable in the countryside

8 Salamanca: FPC no objections; refused by WBC as detrimental impact on Scots pines.

153 NMR: FPC objections as not in keeping with street scene and overdevelopment;  
Approved by WBC.

Ridgeways: FPC no objections; refused by WBC as no tree survey completed; inappropriate design; harmful to area's character.

### New Appeals

Landmark, Jubilee Road - erection of new stable block and machinery store - FPC no objections

### Appeal Decisions

Tintagel Farm - siting of mobile home as living accommodation - Appeal dismissed.

### Other Matters

- Cllr Weeks advised that a new application has been received for a new dwelling at 166 NMR and this will be discussed at the next Planning meeting on 21 April.
- Cllr Cox advised that a new 50m x 10m high plastic sheeting has been erected on the perimeter of Silverstock Farm and that many lorries are visiting the site to dump soil. The matter will be discussed at the next Planning meeting.

### FINANCE

Cllr Markham not present - the next Finance meeting is on Tuesday 27 April, 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, the Village - note change of venue. Cllr Cundy advised:-

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| • CLYDESDALE BANK        | £88144.28            |
| • CHEQUE LIST - APR/2010 | APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY |

### Financial Regulations - Amendment

The revised document was distributed.

AMENITIES - Minutes of meeting held on 30 March distributed - Cllr Mrs Driver reported in the absence of Cllr Markham on the main points:-

- Flowering Baskets The Clerk has received a second quote from Windflowers Ltd for a cost of £108.00 net per basket per annum which covers supply, installation, watering, feeding, replacement of dead flowers. This sum also covers a summer and winter display. It was AGREED this is a more cost effective solution and will relieve Cllr Bromley of the burden of regular watering. The Clerk will investigate further with WBC regarding the three extra baskets on WBC posts at California Crossroads and with the supplier regarding insurance etc.
- Welcome Packs It was noted that the Finchampstead Road surgery is not using the dispenser supplied by FPC and negotiations continue with the doctors and Practice Manager.
- St James' Church Service - 18 July 2010 All councillors are invited to attend as this service recognizes all those who helped during the Restoration.
- Finchampstead Society - Jones Trophy Cllr Mrs Driver advised that nominations for a person who has significantly served the community during the past year should be passed to the Fiona Murray at the Society a.s.a.p.

FOOTPATHS -In the absence of Cllr Chapman, Cllr Weeks reported on matters arising since the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

Footpath 29/33 - two stiles have been illegally removed and recently the wire fence has been cut down - horses and riders have begun to use the path. The Footpath Warden has made some repairs.

Cllr Mayne reported that the surface of Heath Ride close to the Wellingtonia roundabout has been badly affected by heavy traffic; a wooden fence replaced by a 2m high metal one and that fly tipping has also occurred.

## **ROADS & ROAD**

Cllr Mayne reported on matters arising since the last meeting.

- Gorse Ride School Travel Plan is progressing well
- Data Logger Cllr Mayne thanked Cllrs Bromley and Macey for valuable input in setting up the unit which has already been used in a pilot scheme in Nine Mile Ride (near Cresswells and the roundabout). Data was distributed to members which gives the FPC hard evidence of traffic movements, speeds, times and size of vehicles. Of the 8000 traffic movements logged in both directions, the majority were exceeding the 30mph limit. There are some practical limitations in the sites that can be used but a Schedule of approx. 12 standard sites is being compiled to monitor major roads in the Parish. This Schedule will be further discussed at the next Roads meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May and WBC will be advised of the sites.

Cllr Cundy thanked the committee for their hard work and it was agreed the money was a good investment. It was AGREED to purchase more brackets and batteries.

Thanks to Cllr Bromley for attending a WBC meeting on behalf of the FPC

## **126/2010 - OTHER REPORTS**

**FPMC** - No meeting to report - AGM 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010 - Cllr Markham will remain as the nominated FPC representative.

**Gorse Ride Residents Assoc. / MAG Report** - Cllr Mrs Jennings-Frisby reported that the last meeting of the GRRRA had wound up the Association but smaller individual groups will continue at the Community House. The Kidz Club will close due to lack of funds. The MAG meeting has been postponed.

**FinchNag** - Cllr Woof reported on the last meeting in Cllr Pearce's absence.

- Members welcomed the use of the Data Logger and the police are very enthusiastic - their Safety Officer would like to receive copies of the data as and when available.
- FinchNag were very pleased by the successful Litter Pick
- Parking problems are not high on the Police agenda but WBC fully aware of the problems and investigating other methods e.g. road markings, signage and a poster campaign.
- WBC will use the children's designs for the litter bins
- Police are monitoring traffic speeds with the Speed Gun - most people exceeding the limits are local
- Cllr Stanton advised the date of the Children's Centre Envisioning day - 13<sup>th</sup> May.
- FinchNag AGM on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2010
- Cllr Weeks advised that the NAG's funds are very limited - any grant application received will be considered at the next FPC Finance meeting

**Wokingham Borough Transport Plan** - Cllr Bromley and Cox's report - distributed

**Southern Parishes Youth Group meeting** - Cllr Cox's report - distributed

## **127/2010 - CORE STRATEGY WORKING GROUP - MEETING HELD 14 APRIL 2010 WITH OTHER NEIGHBOURING PARISH COUNCILS**

Councillors from Arborfield, Barkham, Shinfield and Swallowfield attended the meeting. Apologies received from Wokingham Without PC. Cllr Mrs Newcombe reported that all individual parishes had submitted their own comments to WBC who are due to consider the Final Options at the end of May, subject to the Borough elections.

It was agreed by all that Cllr Mayne's presentation was informative and matters of common ground were discussed. Shinfield PC advised they have already retained the services of Wendy Le-las as a Planning Consultant.

It was agreed to arrange an urgent meeting with all the Ward Borough Councillors as quickly as possible and that the '*Southern Parishes Consortium*' will meet again on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

Cllr Mrs Newcombe proposed a budget of up to £1000 for the Consortium to jointly retain the Consultant for advice on a possible Judicial Challenge.

AGREED with one against and Cllr Weeks abstained as inappropriate for him to vote.

**128/2010 - PROPOSAL FROM R&RS COMMITTEE - TO PURCHASE AND MAINTAIN TWO STREET LIGHTS ON FOOTWAY BETWEEN DRAKE CLOSE AND ARNETT AVENUE. REVISED COSTS SUBMITTED AS £2752 FOR SUPPLY AND AN ESTIMATED ANNUAL MAINTENANCE COST FOR 2 ADDITIONAL LIGHTS OF £260.00**

(Earlier proposal to expend up to £5000 to purchase 2 lights was AGREED at February Main Council, subject to maintenance undertaken by WBC).

It was noted that the residents are fully behind this project following consultations. Cllr Mayne advised that WBC unwilling to take on the cost of maintenance but the revised cost of supply leaves money available for the annual maintenance - the number of FPC owned lights would rise from 14 to 16.

It was AGREED to purchase two more street lights but Cllr Mayne will pass the specification to the Clerk for a comparative quote from SEC.

**129/2010 PLOT OF LAND ADJACENT TO THE MEMORIAL PARK**

Several complaints received at the Parish Office concerning the state of the site and whether the existing Permission for use as a Builders' Yard is being fully met. The Clerk has asked the Enforcement Officer at WBC to investigate.

Cllr Weeks advised that the owners of the land are likely to submit an application for two new houses on the site and some residents think this would be a more acceptable solution, despite the planning limitations for such village development. Cllr Cundy advised this might then encourage other land owners to submit more plans leading to inappropriate development in the Village.

The matter will be kept under close scrutiny.

**130/2010 - CORRESPONDENCE LIST - 15 APRIL 2010 MEETING**

1. Resident concerned about dog fouling - see email
2. IEMD Traffic Regulation Order - WBC consultation to use double and single restricted waiting lines at NMR end of Kiln Ride. FPC comments by 16<sup>th</sup> April. It was agreed that too little time had been allowed for the Parish Council to consult with local shop owners and residents for their opinions. It was also noted that the FinchNag had not been informed of the proposal. The Clerk will request an extension of one month before submitting comments. AGREED.

3. IEMD Policy for the use of enhanced Gateway features & Bus Stop Policy - WBC consultation before Policies are adopted Borough wide.
  - Gateways to mark entries to specific places and can be adapted for use as a traffic calming measure to highlight entry into lower speed limits, villages etc.
  - Bus Stops - WBC wish to adopt standard layout for stops and waiting areas to provide hard standing, bus pole and flag, timetable and raised kerbs (to allow better access for less able passengers)

It was noted the time for response was again short and it was agreed that any comments be passed to Cllr Mayne but overall the new policies are acceptable.

4. FBCentre opening weekend 24-25 April 2010 - Cllr Markham to represent FPC at 'Opening Ceremony' in Sports Hall at 12.30pm and a table will be manned on 24<sup>th</sup>.
5. Mazars LLP - Notice of Audit of Accounts for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 - Annual Return due by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010 - to be passed to the Finance Committee.
6. Wokingham Job Support Centre - thank you letter for donation.
7. Police Authority Liaison Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010 - date cancelled and to be re-arranged.
8. Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership - email from Sue Dent with enclosures of their last Steering Group meeting. A representative from FPC is welcome to attend future meetings so an official representative will be chosen at the Annual Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> M

**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.

Items include WBC Minutes of meetings, Agendas etc.

#### Forum

- Cllr Bromley, as the newly appointed Secretary of the California Association, reported that the Container Library service has now ceased.
- Cllr Mrs Jennings Frisby reported that the California Association are applying for funding for a new sprung floor and it was AGREED the Clerk send a letter of support to the Association. Fund raising activities will include Car Washing, sponsored Tap Dance and a Garden Party.
- Cllr Mrs Driver reported that the new owners of the Village Shop and Post Office are Sandy and Kate Barry who are collecting for the Adnams' leaving present - all donations to be passed to Ray Adnams in the Workshop. It was AGREED the Clerk will send a thankyou letter.
- Cllr Mrs Driver asked the Clerk to contact WBC about the missing Sponsor sign on the Finchampstead/Barkham Ride roundabout
- Cllr Mrs Driver reported a child's accident caused by the poor pavement surface on Birch Road. - Cllr Mayne advised that a defect report should be sent to WBC for their action.
- Cllr Mrs Driver advised the road surface on B3016 is deplorable and that recent patching has made it worse. To be discussed by the Roads Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> May.
- Cllr Weeks advised that the Gorse Ride football team will move to a new facility for the next season.
- Cllr Mayne advised that the Risk Assessment Group will shortly carry out the annual review.

#### 131/2010 - DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Main Council - Annual Meeting 7.30 pm Thursday 20 May 2010 at FBCentre, Gorse Ride North

Meeting closed at 10.15 pm.