

**FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD 7.30PM ON 17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2011**  
**AT THE FBCENTRE LIBRARY, GORSE RIDE NORTH, FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKSHIRE**

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Before opening the meeting, the Parish Council held a minute's silence for Eric Cox.

**PRESENT:** Cllr R Cundy, Chairman  
 Cllrs Ms Blackwood, Mrs Driver, Mrs Jennings Frisby, Mrs Newcombe  
 Cllrs S Bromley, W Chapman, J May, K Mayne, A Pearce, I Pittock,  
 Cllrs R Rampton, S Weeks, R Woof.  
 Ms Kathy Osborne, Steve Bowers, candidates for Co-option  
 Mrs Anna Kent, Assistant Clerk, Mrs Katy Dagnall, Clerk Designate

**57/2011 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr G Markham, G Veitch,

**58/2011- MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

December Main Council

The amendment on page 174 made at the January meeting is to be deleted as the discussion on School Admissions was properly minuted in the November Main Council minutes (this alteration was initiated by Cllr Cundy at Main Council on 20<sup>th</sup> January). Cllr Cundy amended the sentence.

January Main Council

Held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January were signed as a true record.

**59/2011 - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON THE MINUTES**

23/2011 - Proposal to Agree To Sign the Rental Agreement with the FBC for the New Parish Office

Item to be carried forward.

23/2011 - Appointment of New Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Contract agreed between FPC and Mrs Katy Dagnall who will officially start on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2011. Training days have been arranged for an interim period to allow a proper handover.

23/2011 - Forum - Parish Council Meetings

A new meetings schedule has been distributed in line with the change to Main Council meetings and other committee meeting dates will be arranged when the WBC Planning meetings have been notified.

23/2011 Youth Project - Wednesday Night Club at FBCentre

Cllrs Cundy, Markham and the Clerk will meet with Jim Gallagher and Simon on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 to discuss progress on the Project.

23/2011 - Leas Field DMMO

JH has spoken to Rebecca Walkley who is to reply by email. To be discussed at March meeting

26/2011 - Finance Committee Recommendation For Precept 2011-12

The Precept figures were submitted to WBC by the Clerk.

28/2011 - Localism Bill - Neighbourhood Plans To Shape Development At Parish Level

Cllr Pittock is to attend the SLCC Workshop on the 'Big Society and Localism' at Wokefield Park, Reading on 10<sup>th</sup> March and will report to the March Main Council meeting.

29/2011 - WBC Schools Admissions Policy

Cllr Pittock's draft response was finalised by email, as agreed at last MC meeting, and submitted to WBC in time for the deadline. Rob Stanton, is meeting with the Secretary of State for Defence next week, and a formal announcement about the garrison site is later in the year. A planning application for the new school will be submitted in April.

30/2011 - Allotment Project

The Working Group and the Clerk met at the Parish Office on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> February to discuss how to progress the Project.

Cllr Mrs Driver advised the meeting, all residents on the database will receive a letter asking if they are still interested in having an allotment. The first tranche of allotments (approximately 25) will probably be issued to those who have been on list the longest. Paul Neary from Allotment Regeneration Initiative has been invited to make a presentation at the Annual Gathering, and all those on the database will receive an invitation. Neither of the leases (WBC & Cemex) has yet been signed.

**The meeting closed at 7.45pm to select Councillor for the Co-option vacancy. Meeting re-opened at 8.06pm. See separate Agenda item.**

31/2011 - WBC Masterplan - Arborfield SDL Implications For Southern Parishes - Recommendation from the Southern Parishes Planning Group

WBC issued a Press Release in response to the SPPG Release and there has been negative press in the local papers.

Cllr Mayne advised, WBC has sent their response in to the court, the lawyers are now reviewing it. The advice from the lawyers is that now WBC have submitted their defence, the court could take 6-8 months to hear the case. WBC have refused to speak to the Parish Councils while the case is sub judice. The Southern Parishes are meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March to discuss WBC's response to our action.

Cllr Weeks advised he had since spoken to David Lee and Susan Law. David Lee will be instructing WBC legal advisors to facilitate discussions with Southern Parishes. The matter going to Court will not benefit any Parish or WBC. David Lee mentioned he would not accept a situation if Southern Parishes give WBC an ultimatum, as this would weaken their position with developers.

**60/2011 - COMMITTEE REPORTS - PLANNING**

Cllr Mrs Newcombe reported on the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011 - minutes distributed.

The enforcement database has been updated - any Councillor with further updates should let the Assistant Clerk know as soon as possible.

Enforcements - A summary of the new Permitted Development rules have been issued to the committee.

- 2 Warren Lane is a permitted development
- Mayfield, Longwater Rd, no breach has been committed.

Applications - the committee sent objections to the following applications:-

- F/2010/2631, 409 Finchampstead Rd. The committee objected on grounds of, overdevelopment, out of keeping, road safety issues, Thames Basin Heath. Cllr Weeks has listed this application, because of the local interest.
- F/2010/2786 - no objections, but pointed out that there is a shipping container on site which is not included in this application.
- F/2010/2808, Hogwood Meadows, Park Lane - The committee objected the grounds of overdevelopment in the countryside. TBH
- CLE/2010/2828 East Court Farm - objected to change of use, Cllr Weeks advised this will be listed.

WBC Decisions in line with committee comments except for:-

- F/2010/2533, Pinecopse, Nine Mile Ride, FPC had no objections, WBC refused on grounds of urbanising effect on the site, adverse affect on the flow of traffic.

### Appeals

F/2010/2622, Land next to Church View, The Village

On 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb Cllr Mrs Newcombe attended the planning committee meeting at WBC in connection with application, and spoke on behalf of the Parish Council urging that the application be refused which, after WBC deliberations, it was.

Cllr Weeks, in his capacity as Ward Councillor, had also attended the meeting and remarked that he had been unhappy that his position, representing the opposing views of some residents, had been questioned in public, by Cllr Mrs Newcombe.

Cllr Cundy explained the reasoning behind FPC statement to WBC was that the application must be refused as there are no legal reasons for approval under current planning guidelines.

F/2010/1665, F/2010/1717

On 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, Cllr Newcombe attended the appeal on Little Moor plot 1 and 2, and submitted our objections.

### New appeals

- East Court Farm, The Village - Enforcement Appeal on change of use of land. To be dealt with by public inquiry on a date to be advised. PC objections sent to the Inspectorate.
- Hogwood Meadows, Park Lane, F/2010/0744. Proposed change of use of land to include the stationing for family gypsy pitches. FPC comments have been sent to the Inspectorate.

### Other Matters

A large area of land is being cleared at Wellingtonia Ave, TPOs have been issued by WBC

Jeni Jackson has confirmed a meeting with the Planning Committee for 22<sup>nd</sup> February - Cllrs Mrs Newcombe, Anna Kent and other committee members to attend



## **61/2011 - OTHER REPORTS**

FPMC - GM absent, no meeting to report. Next meeting is on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2011.

Multi Agency Report - Cllr Mrs Jennings-Frisby's report distributed.

FinchNag - Cllr Pearce's report distributed and he advised the main points. The new Inspector attended the meeting.

- Anti-social behavior was discussed
- The Tenants Services representative will be based in the Community House.
- Claire McEnoy reported complaints from residents on criminal damage.
- At California Ratepayers 4 incidences of anti-social behavior have been caught on CCTV, the people involved were identified and their names given to the police. The FBCentre has also been having problems.
- Many people received speeding fines in the latest police operation carried out on Longwater Lane.
- An incident of a car not allowing another car to overtake it on Wellingtonia Ave in the early evening was reported.

Clerks' Report - given by Cllr Cundy in the Clerk's absence

- The Clerk is meeting Wendy Crosson Smith and Angie Gibson to discuss available S106 monies therefore carry forward Agenda item to March.
- The Clerk has chased John Fruin regarding the renovation of the noticeboards and removal of the old one on Reading Road and was informed this would be done by end Feb. The Amenities Committee will verify at their next meeting.
- Bird Box day at FBCentre (BVCP) 19<sup>TH</sup> February

## **62/2011 - ELECTION OF CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR**

Following the selection process at the beginning of the meeting, Steve Bowers was elected to the position and signed the declaration of acceptance.

## **63/2011 - STANDING ORDER AMENDMENTS**

Amendments already agreed at the January Main Council meeting as shown on Appendix 1 on the January Agenda (reverse) and repeated below in italics.

### ***Meetings***

#### ***Revise 1.1***

- *Meetings of the Council shall be held on the third Thursday of each month (except August) at 7.30 pm either in the Memorial Hall, Finchampstead, or The FBCentre, Finchampstead, unless the Council otherwise decides at a previous meeting.*

### ***Attendance at Meetings***

#### ***Renumber 3 to 3.1***

#### ***New 3.2***

- *Any Borough Councillor attending a Main Council meeting may, if s/he so wishes contribute to the discussions at any time, but is not eligible to vote.*

## **Co-option**

### **Order of Business**

#### **New 6.1 (iii)**

- *In the ordinary year of election of the Council to fill any vacancies left unfilled at the election by reason of insufficient nominations.*

#### **New section 6 Co-option Procedures**

- 6.1 *Having been given notice of co-option, only Parish Councillors present at the subsequent meeting may nominate, second or vote upon a person to fill the vacancy.*
- 6.2 *At that meeting, members should be informed of the names and addresses of anyone wishing to be considered as a Councillor.*
- 6.3 *A Councillor does not have to nominate any of the persons named.*
- 6.4 *If there is only one vacancy, a Councillor may only nominate or second one candidate.*
- 6.5 *Voting for the new councillor is by ballot.*
- 6.6 *The chairman shall place the names of those properly nominated into alphabetical order and take a vote.*
- 6.7 *Councillors have as many votes as there are vacancies.*
- 6.8 *The first candidate to receive an absolute majority of those present and voting is declared elected.*
- 6.9 *The successful candidate is then declared co-opted to the Council and summoned to attend the next Council Meeting where he/she will sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to agree to be bound by the Code of Local Government Conduct.*
- 6.10 *The councillor so co-opted will then be entitled to vote on issues raised at Council meetings.*

#### **Committees and Sub-Committees**

- New 19.12** *Subject to agreement by a majority of the relevant committee or sub-committee, persons other than members of the Parish Council may be appointed to any committee or sub-committee until the next Annual Meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.*

#### **Meetings**

- Revise 1.1** *Meetings of the Council shall be held at 7.30 pm alternating between the third Thursday of the month in the FBCentre and the third Wednesday of the month in the Memorial Hall (except August) unless the Council otherwise decides at a previous meeting.*

#### **Order of Business**

- Insert new iv)** *To receive and record declarations of interest*

The following additional amendment (as shown on the February Agenda) was APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**If not all the places on a committee are filled at the Annual Meeting, or a vacancy occurs during the year, any councillor subsequently wishing to fill that vacancy until the next Annual Meeting should advise the Clerk at a main Council meeting so that s/he can be appointed to that committee.**

The Clerk will amend the document in accordance with these approved amendments with renumbering as required, and the revision will be distributed for final acceptance at the March Main Council meeting.

#### **64/2011 - WBC NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION - TO ACT AS FORUM FOR KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO DISCUSS DELIVERY OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH**

Nominations for Finchampstead PC representative. Cllr Lisa Blackwood volunteered and accepted by Main Council. Clerk to verify FPC are in the Brambles area.

#### **65/2011 - ANNUAL GATHERING**

Invitations to be sent to all Charitable Organisations to whom the PC give donations, Schools, Halls, Churches and those on the Allotments list. Cllr Cundy to arrange and discuss with FBC particularly the food arrangements. Reports would be kept to the minimum to allow more time for the Allotments presentation.

#### **66/2011 - PUBLICATION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR DETAILS**

To be done by 'exception' of individual councillors. Action The Clerk will email the councillors to check what information they want published.

#### **67/2011 - CORRESPONDENCE & FORUM - February 2011**

##### **Correspondence**

- WBC - Planning Liaison meeting Tuesday 29 March 4.30 - 6pm at Shute End. 2 cllrs from each Parish and rsvp by 1<sup>st</sup> March. - Cllr Ms Blackwood and Cllr Mrs Newcombe will attend.
- Alan Harland letter following recent Audit visit - Clerk to action his points.
- SE Water - announcing completion of replacement works in Easthampstead Road
- SLCC - Regional conference 10<sup>th</sup> March 'Big society, Small details' - to be attended by Cllr Pittock
- Royal Garden Party - BALC invitation to go forward to ballot - Cllr Cundy has completed form
- California Association - Grand Opening of New Floor - 19<sup>th</sup> February 2-4pm - Cllr Cundy and others will attend.
- Thank you letters from Age Concern, Finchampstead 1<sup>st</sup> Responders Group, National Trust Ridges Cttee, Berkshire County Blind Society, W'ham & District CAB.

**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**

Cllr Bromley reported incidents of aggressive behaviour in and around California Hall, supported by CCTV footage and has advised the Police in writing and sent a copy to the Clerk. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Michael Graham new Commander of Wokingham .

Cllr Driver has agreed to become member of Wokingham Area Housing Association. FPC need to become co-opted member at a cost of £1. AGREED. Cllr Driver will be on Tenants Cttee.

Cllr Rampton has agreed to become a Trustee of Keep Mobile.

Cllr Pittock asked how the FPC deal with sensitive information - Mrs Kent advised that any confidential papers were collected from the office by WBC for shredding.

Cllr Weeks reported a spate of low level crime in the Village.

**68/2011 - DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Main Council Meeting 7.30 pm Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March at the Memorial Hall, Finchampstead.

Annual Gathering 8pm (for public) in The Loft, FBCentre, Gorse Ride North,

Meeting closed at 9.55 pm.