

**FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD**  
**8pm Wednesday 27th January 2010**  
**California Ratepayers Hall, FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKS**

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**PRESENT:** Cllrs Mrs L Newcombe – Chairman  
Cllr Mrs C Driver, Mrs Jennings-Frisby , W Chapman, R Cundy, I Gordon,  
Mr A Pearce, G Veitch, Mrs Anna Kent, Asst Clerk

**35/2010 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Cllr S Bromley.

**36/2010 - MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

**37/2010 - MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**63/2008 - CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS- Moor Farm, Park Lane**

Land Clearing taking place close to Travis Perkins on Park Lane, close to Hogwood Trading Estate. A site visit was carried out on Fri 4<sup>th</sup> April with Cllr W Chapman and WBC has written to the owners of the site which is called Moor Farm. Spoke to J Steepe on 6<sup>th</sup> May, land owned by 3 people, fly-tipping evident on land, WBC is meeting with a representative of the owners, and an enforcement notice or clean-up notice will be served. Mr Steepe has written to the owners asking that the land be cleared: they have until the end of August 08. No clearing has commenced on the site. A letter was sent to Ms J Jackson at WBC asking for an update. She wrote to FPC on 22.10.08 the site is actively being cleared, Mr Steepe has visited the site and work is continuing. Progress on clearing the site is slow. Ms Jackson gave an update and an Enforcement Officer has been in contact with the owner again.

Email received from Ms Jackson on 18<sup>th</sup> May, works are continuing to clear the site and Mr Steepe is regularly monitoring the situation and visited the site a few weeks ago. On 11<sup>th</sup> Aug Mr Steepe informed FPC that much of the land has now been cleared, however it has 4 owners and one party has not done any clearing of their land, WBC will be writing to that party, update from J Steepe, that only one section of land has not been cleared properly and WBC will be contacting them. No further development

**160/2008 - CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS- The Stables/Jovike**

Letter from a resident Re The Stables, Jovike, Wokingham Rd. Response sent to resident and Asst Clerk has spoken to Mr Mann, WBC, who is dealing with this. Mr Mann has been in telephone contact with the resident, and plans a site visit, which he will update us on. Mr Mann reported a meeting is being held on 24.6.08 with Enforcement, Legal and Head of Dev Control at WBC, no site visit has taken place. Cllr Black has spoken to resident and seen the situation, other Cllrs at WBC have been informed, it is possible that activities are causing land contamination.

Update on 16.7.08, Mr Mann is waiting for police to contact him to organise a joint operation. Ms Jackson has advised that she will update us on this matter within 10 days from 23.9.08. Mr Mann was on leave at the time of WBC's reply on 21.10.08. Cllr Pearce has spoken to Tim Wolford, and police assistance will be given to Mr Mann.

Asst Clerk emailed WBC to register our disappointment, that even with our involvement no further action has been taken. Photos of the site were shown to the committee. Action – letter to CEO detailing the length of time since this was flagged to WBC, and concerns about the message being given to offenders of this kind that no action is taken and the parish council is toothless – deferred sending until meeting with Jeni Jackson. Subsequently it was agreed that sending the letter would be delayed until the end of February 09 to see if any action had taken place as promised. The site

was visited twice by enforcement officers in Feb 09. Evidence has been collected and WBC to consider whether breaches of control exist, and what form of action to take.

Email from WBC on 22.4.09 and expediency report has been completed which concludes that it is in the public interest to take enforcement action against the storage of caravans on the site (B8) and also the unauthorised use of land for the siting of mobile home for residential purposes.

Enforcement notice was served and came into effect on 24.5.09 with a six month compliance period. Asst Clerk wrote to the residents who contacted FPC updating them on this. It was noted that the properties may be up for sale.

An appeal against the enforcement notice has been lodged and will be dealt with by Public Enquiry on a date to be advised. The Clerk will send objections to the Inspector and apologise for late submission. A Public Inquiry was held on December 15<sup>th</sup>, Cllr Mrs Newcombe attended and informed the committee the enforcement notice was upheld and the appellants will have to pay costs. Ask WBC for an update in six months time.

#### 494/2009 - CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS -Substation Barkham Ride

Substation on Barkham Ride, car aerials are being dumped at the site. Cllr Pearce has been in direct contact with Southern Electric to try to resolve the matter, Cllr Pearce was asked to forward his contact at SE to Asst Clerk so another letter could be sent from the committee. Asst Clerk will also contact Wendy Crosson-Smith at WBC to find out who owns the land, and raise our concerns. It was noted that all signs on the site have been removed. Assistant clerk will ask WBC again for the information, no update received. Action – email Cllr Pearce for an update. Cllr Pearce reported visiting the site and seeing no aerials or children's toys being stored there. The fence is down to the front and side of the substation, and the signage has not been replaced. Action – Write to SEB informing them this is a safety issue, as access is still available, email sent. The site was visited and SEB reported Sign has been replaced, rubbish has been dumped there. Cllr Pearce visited the site and reported a fence is down and there is rubbish on the site, SEB has been informed. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda and Cllr Pearce would continue to monitor it.

#### 229/2009 - CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS – HIGH FENCE, 434 FINCHAMPSTEAD ROAD

Email from a resident about a high fence at 434 Finchampstead Rd, no reply from WBC, Action follow-up with WBC. John Steepe reported that the Highways Department have inspected the fence. Highways have looked at the fence, and written to the owners requesting they reduce the height. WBC updated in January 2010 the matter is still being dealt with.

#### 229/2009 - CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS – WHEATLANDS FARM

Report to WBC that Wheatlands Farm on Whitehorse Lane is not being built in accordance with the approved plans. Update on 12<sup>th</sup> August, J Steepe has not visited the site yet. It was reported that building on the site has stopped. WBC reported the matter is under investigation.

#### 229/2009 - CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS – DUMPING SOIL

Dell House – demolition and rebuilding. Cllr Veitch asked for clarification that the developers have permission to dump soil into scrub woodland on the other side of Dell Road. Cllr Weeks asked WBC to inspect and the committee will continue to monitor activities. The Assistant Clerk will ask WBC if permission was granted. Reply from J Steepe, the owners have been asked to remove the earth and return the ditching and boundary fence. Asst Clerk will update Cllr Veitch.

There has been no further progress. WBC reported on 5<sup>th</sup> Oct the owners have been informed and they will be doing the necessary works in the near future, planning application has been submitted and was withdrawn on Nov 25<sup>th</sup> 09. Action – ask WBC to check the site, as none of the works have been done.

#### 9/2010 - CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS

Planning enforcement team at WBC informed, stables have been built at Hogwood Meadows with no planning permission, and there is a bungalow close to Meadowside where land is being cleared to the front of the property. Reply from WBC on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan, enforcement action is being considered.

#### 38/2010 - CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS As at Appendix A.

#### 39/2010 – DECISIONS Decisions were reported as at Appendix B

#### 40/2010 - APPEALS – NEW

None

##### Appeal Decisions

##### Middle Earth, Lower Wokingham Rd, F/2009/1132

Appeal allowed, standard conditions apply. FPC had had no objections.

##### Jovike, Lower Wokingham Rd, Ref APP/XO360/C/09/2105124

The appeal is dismissed and the enforcement notice is upheld with correction, and WBC will be awarded costs.

##### 2 Springdale, Finchampstead F/2009/0163

The development proposed is a single storey rear extension. Appeal is allowed. FPC had had no objections.

#### 41/2010 – TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

None

#### 42/2010 STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING –

None

#### 43/2010 - CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS

1. WBC Planning Applications Lists. Noted.
2. Action – Request date from WBC, when Meadowside have to comply to condition on caravans, as mentioned in the appeal document.
3. 6 Notifications of Enforcement investigations- See Part II.
4. Letter from resident concerning F/2009/268, Bannisters, Fleet Hill. Noted
5. Withdrawal of the Berks Unitary Authorities Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Letter. noted
6. Mid and West Local Access Forum- Ask for more information ie interests of people on list.
7. Obtain an update from WBC on Larchwood, White Horse Lane

#### 44/2010 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is on Wednesday 24th Feb 2010 at 8pm California Ratepayers Hall. The meeting closed at 9pm.