

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 PM ON 20 JULY 2022 via MS Teams video conferencing

PRESENT: Councillor S. Weeks, Chair. Councillor S. Bromley, Vice Chair.
Councillors E. Biskup; S. Bowers; R. Cundy; D. Cornish; G. Evans; B. Eytle;
S. Gurney; G. Jukes OBE; S. McDonald; R. Margetts; A. Pearce; G. Veitch & R. Woof.

K. Dagnall, Clerk.
C. Warke, Deputy Clerk

149/2022 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor R. Marshallsay.

150/2022 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

151/2022 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 June 2022 were agreed as a true and correct record and will be signed in due course.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public attended the meeting.

152/2022 CHAIRS REPORT

- The vacancy for a Parish Councillor is currently being advertised. There has been some interest and it is intended that the co-option will take place on 15 September, immediately prior to the Council meeting.
- The Finchampstead Village Fete took place on Saturday 18 June at the Memorial Park. The event was successful and the Councillors and staff were thanked for attending to look after the Parish Council stall at the event.

153/2022 PROJECT AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Finchampstead Neighbourhood Development Plan (FNDP)

The draft Plan and associated documents can be viewed on the Council's website at <https://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk/community-projects/neighbourhood-development-plan/documents>

- Cllr Cornish advised that the draft Plan, the Local Green Spaces Topic Paper and the Strategic Gaps and Green Wedges Topic Paper are being amended in line with the initial feedback received from Wokingham Borough Council (WBC). The updates are largely complete and revised versions will be published on the Finchampstead Parish Council (FPC) website.
- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) required by WBC for a small number of potential housing sites are being undertaken by Localities. Cllrs Cornish and Jukes met WBC and Localities on 20 July to review progress.
- When the EIA and HRA are complete these, the draft Plan and related documents will be submitted to WBC. WBC will then undertake the Regulation 15 official review of the Plan and

this will be followed by a Regulation 16 public consultation, independent examination and a referendum. Subject to this, the Plan may be officially confirmed in Spring 2023.

Gorse Ride regeneration

- Cllr Bowers advised that the Steering Group met virtually on 12 July.
- Following a competition involving the Gorse Ride Schools, the theme for the new road names has been agreed. This will be flowers. Wates presented vouchers to the school children who participated.
- The remaining homeowners are now moving out and the final demolition relating to Phase 2A can now be completed. Wates Construction will begin building on 5 September.
- A temporary road is to be constructed to facilitate access to St Mary and St John's Church.

Arborfield Strategic Development Location (Arborfield Green and Finchwood Park)

- The Community Liaison Group met on 17 July – Cllr Pearce attended. The meeting was combined with a 'District Centre roundtable session' and the latest plans for the District Centre were presented and discussed. Crest Nicholson is expected to submit a planning application for the Centre in October 2022.
- The Clerk has contacted WBC regarding reconvening the Steering Group which has not met for some time. WBC has advised that the Group may be convened in the autumn, but that in the interim both WBC and Crest are able to meet to discuss any specific queries.

154/2022 COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE & GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Woof reported on the financial position of the Council and current matters.

Financial position

- Unity Trust Bank £72,735.72
- CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund account £1,100,895.95
- CCLA Property Fund £25,000
- The above figures include £1,075,804.71 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts.

The schedule of payments totalling £17,721.65 was circulated to all Councillors. The schedule was unanimously approved by the Council.

Cllrs Weeks and Bromley agreed to authorise the electronic payments.

Other matters

- The Ramblers have requested that the Council considers funding one of 3 kissing gates to be installed to replace stiles on a new path providing an alternative route to Footpath 1, west of the Parish. It was agreed that up to £600 should be allocated to the project from Community Infrastructure Levy funds.
- Cllr Woof and the Clerk visited the Gorse Ride Schools on 14 July to discuss their grant application for play equipment and outdoor meeting spaces. This and other grant applications will be discussed at the Finance & General Management Committee meeting on 27 July.

War Memorial project updates

- Cllr Jukes informed the Council that the statement prepared in response to the 'Save the Memorial' Team submission has been circulated to Councillors and distributed to all households in the Parish along with the Finchampstead Parish Council Annual report. An initial response from the 'Save the Memorial' team has been circulated. A further response from the 'Save the Memorial' Team has now been received and FPC will respond in due course.
- The relocation project is progressing according to plan.

- The Working Group met WBC representatives on 17 June to discuss the concept designs prepared by WBC for the War Memorial junction. WBC is now developing one of the options.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Cllr McDonald reported on current matters.

- Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June have been circulated.
- Future projects were discussed, including potential land purchase adjacent to the California Country Park, lakeside improvements at the Park, and a seminar type event for Wellingtonia Avenue residents and other interested parties.
- The Council has a vacancy for a Litter Warden. The recruitment process will be started as soon as possible.
- A first aid / defibrillator training session has been arranged for 20 October and is being widely promoted.
- Cllr Veitch and the Clerk will be undertaking the annual allotment inspection with the Finchampstead Allotment Association on 21 July.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Cundy reported on current matters.

- Minutes of the meeting held on 17 July have been circulated.
- 14 planning applications were considered, including a reserved matters application for a further parcel of 60 dwellings at Finchwood Park. Objections were submitted for two applications.
- 13 decisions were noted, all but one of the WBC decisions were in line with the views of the Parish Council.
- The Enforcement Working Group met on 23 June to discuss current matters.
- Cllrs Cundy, Marshallsay and Veitch met on 13 July to discuss a WBC consultation on Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. A response has been submitted to WBC.

RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

Cllr Cornish reported on current matters.

- The Committee met on 30th June. The minutes have been circulated.
- The Ramblers and a landowner are proposing a diversion of Footpath 1 in the west of the Parish to create a more attractive route. Cllrs Cornish and Jukes attended a site visit to assess the proposed route and had no objections. The Ramblers hope to replace 3 stiles on the route with kissing gates, creating a stile free route from Forge Lane to Church Lane, Farley Hill.
- Bridlepath 26 drainage improvements – the project is on hold pending WBC confirming requirements relating to the path closure.
- An update has been requested from WBC on the proposed path from Fleet Hill Lane from Footpath 29 to the Tally Ho Public House.
- Cllrs Cornish and Margetts have met the WBC Executive Member for Active Travel, Transport and Highways to discuss plans for cycle routes to Wokingham.
- WBC has launched a consultation on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. A response will be submitted on behalf of the Parish Council. Individual responses are also encouraged.

ROADS & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Cllr Bromley reported on current matters.

- The new traffic monitoring units are proving difficult to set up and are not yet in use.

- Community Speed watch sessions are taking place on an adhoc basis subject to the weather, but will go back to a 2 month rota for weekly sessions in August and September, subject to volunteer availability.
- Portable speed indicator devices are still being used on various roads in the Parish.

155/2022 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

WBC Standards Board

Cllr Gurney attends the Standards Board meetings as a representative of Wokingham Town Council. Cllr Gurney reported that online training on the Code of Conduct will be available for WBC and Town and Parish Councillors in the autumn. WBC and several Town and Parish Councils, including FPC, adopted a new code in 2021.

Cllr Cundy provided an update on the Berkshire Association of Local Councils (BALC). A new website with a members' area is available although there is still work to do on this. The website links to information on the Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) website.

156/2022 FORUM

- Cllr Cundy thanked Cllrs Jukes and Weeks for reinstating the traditional post on Footpath13.
- Cllr Bromley noted his disappointment that WBC is no longer providing green food caddy bags.
- Cllr Cornish mentioned the need for a review of the use of SharePoint and Teams and suggested the possibility of formal training. The Clerk and Cllr Cornish will discuss this.
- Cllr Jukes noted that WBC has a new Emergency Planning Officer. A meeting will be arranged in the autumn to discuss the role of Finchampstead Emergency Response.

157/2022 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 15 September 2022.

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the Council.

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT LIST 20 JULY 2022

UNITY TRUST BANK ACCOUNT 10/07/22			£72,735.72
CCLA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 30/06/22			£1,100,895.95
CCLA PROPERTY FUND 31/03/22			£25,000.00
INCLUDING CIL RECEIPTS TOTAL £1,075,804.71			
TOTAL FUNDS			£1,198,631.67
	NET	VAT	TOTAL
Outstanding payments not yet cleared			
Total payments outstanding			£0.00
Payments already approved and paid			
A. F. JONES STONEMASONS (JUBILEE STONE)	225.00	45.00	270.00
JAY PRINTERS-ANNUAL REPORT/WAR MEMORIAL STATEMENT	1,684.00	0.00	1,684.00
HARRISON CLARK RICKERBYS SOLICITORS LTD	2,500.00	500.00	3,000.00
GOODGER DESIGN - WAR MEMORIAL PROJECT	350.00	70.00	420.00
ABRACADABRA LEAFLET DISTRIBUTION	1,043.29	208.66	1,251.95
WYNNSTAY (AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES) LTD - ALLOTMENT TROUGH	381.57	76.31	457.88

WBC - LEGAL& HIGHWAY LICENCE FEES (WAR MEMORIAL PROJECT)	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00
PAYMENTS JULY 2022			
Total staff costs	£8,326.05		£8,326.05
Other costs			
ASAP COMPUTER SERVICES - SUPPORT	258.20	51.64	309.84
ASAP COMPUTER SERVICES - ADAPTOR	50.00	10.00	60.00
WEB MARKETING MATTERS	157.55	31.51	189.06
FBC CENTRE - OFFICE SERVICE CHARGE	1,171.00	0.00	1,171.00
FBC CENTRE OFFICE RENTAL	1,221.25	0.00	1,221.25
FBC - CAFÉ	19.63	3.92	23.55
SSE STREET LIGHT ENERGY	27.55	1.37	28.92
BRITISH TELECOM	47.68	9.53	57.21
IBS - PRINTER RENTAL AND PRINTING	100.31	20.06	120.37
WINDOWFLOWERS - HANGING BASKETS	1,617.00	323.40	1,940.40
C. CONNELL - INTERNAL AUDIT FEES	350.00	0.00	350.00
SURVEY MONKEY SUBSCRIPTION	320.00	64.00	384.00
Allotment costs			
WYNNSTAY LTD - WATER TROUGH AS ABOVE			
ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRIBUTION	500.00	0.00	500.00
FAA SUBSCRIPTIONS X 4	40.00	0.00	40.00
Neighbourhood Development Plan costs			
NONE	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grants and contributions - subject to final approval by Council where required			
FBC - YOUTH WORK. APRIL TO JUNE	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
TOTAL JULY PAYMENTS		£515.43	£17,721.65
TOTAL REMAINING			£1,180,910.02
JULY PETTY CASH / CARD PAYMENTS	Net	VAT	Total
SLCC BERKSHIRE TRAINING EVENT KD	10.00	0.00	10.00
TOTAL CARD PAYMENTS (CLERK)	34.48	0.00	34.48
TOTAL CARD PAYMENTS (FOOTPATH WARDEN)	16.69	3.34	20.03
TOTAL	£61.17	£3.34	£64.51
CARD PAYMENTS DETAIL	Net	VAT	Total
HEART INTERNET DOMAIN RENEWAL (.com)	16.79	0.00	16.79
HEART INTERNET DOMAIN RENEWAL (.co.uk)	11.99	0.00	11.99
TESCO -STATIONERY	5.70	0.00	5.70
CRESSWELL'S GARAGE - FUEL (FOOTPATH WARDEN)	16.69	3.34	20.03
		£3.34	£54.51