



**COLD ASH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**  
**TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Present:**

Cllrs Marsh, Hanks, Clark, Fenner, Jaques, Silsby, Adams & McArdle  
Linda Randall - Clerk

**In Attendance:**

District Cllr Simpson

**Public Participation**

There was no Public Participation

**218484**    **Apologies for Absence**  
Cllr Le-Cornu & District Cllr Beck

**218485**    **Granting of Dispensations to allow Councillors to discuss Precepts**  
With the authority granted to her, the Clerk will grant dispensations to those present to discuss matters pertaining to the Precept, having received the necessary signed *pro forma* Declarations of Interest.

**218486**    **Declarations of Interest**  
There were no declarations of interest.

**218487**    **Minutes**  
Minutes of the Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021, as amended, were approved unanimously as a correct record and would be signed by the **Chairman** in due course.

**218488**    **Matters Arising**

- **Clerk** advised that the invoice had been raised to WBC for the Community Bid. Unfortunately, the extra set of Christmas tree lights could not be included as they had not been purchased due to stock availability.
- The direct debits had now been set for water charges.
- **Clerk** advised she had heard back from BALC regarding on-line banking and she would now contact the bank to see the requirements for this to be set up.
- **Cllr Silsby** advised he had submitted the AWE grant paperwork.

**218489**    **Draft Budget 2021/22**  
**Chairman** outlined the Budget and the main areas of annual expenditure further to

the papers tabled at 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 council meeting. Members were asked to consider a draft budget and predicted year-end statement together with Clerk's notes. The proposed Precept would be £42,500.00 for year 2020/22. This was taken to a vote, with a unanimous vote in favour. **Clerk** would now submit the precept request to West Berkshire Council

**218490**     **Regulation 18 Consultation on the Emerging Draft of the West Berkshire Local Plan Review to 2037**

**Cllr Marsh** and **McArdle** were thanked for their input into the draft document. Discussion took place for Councillors to agree submission to consultation. The deadline for responses was 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021. **Cllr Jaques** asked for points to be added including: the gap between Thatcham and Newbury to be maintained and offers of infrastructure including schools and amenities to be made enforceable.

*Standing orders were suspended at 7.25 pm to allow District Cllr Simpson to speak.*

*District Cllr Simpson provided an update on traffic. He felt the extra traffic could cause problems at peak times and this should be mentioned in the response. Cllr Clark felt assurances were required by West Berkshire Council if the development for 2500 houses was to go ahead as to how extra traffic and pollution levels would be managed through Cold Ash. District Cllr Simpson would add some comments to be included in response. Cllr Jaques felt air quality should be mentioned. Cllr Clark suggested robust comments including on infrastructure and pollution levels. It was agreed further comments would be added to the response to include the comments raised.*

*Standing orders resumed at 8.02 pm.*

**Tree Removal**

**218491**     A letter had been received by Cold Ash Parish Council from a resident close to the Acland Hall, asking for two oak trees to be removed. The resident was happy to meet the cost if the Parish Council agreed to the work. The oak tree with the split trunk was considered worthy of removal. The second tree at the rear of the Acland Hall was discussed and it was suggested that lowering canopy considerably may suffice. It was agreed that Councillors would visit the site and then further discussion would take place.

**Clerks Report**

- 218492**     • **Clerk** advised she had received a letter of complaint, regarding fencing in Westrop Woods. *It was agreed to suspend standing orders at 8.15 pm to allow Mr. Clark, as the land owner, to speak.*  
*Mr. Clark explained that indigenous planting was taking place and a deer fence had been installed with wire at the bottom to deter rabbits. Although gates had been installed, they had disabled access. Cllr Silsby felt the fencing was unattractive. Mr. Clark advised that this was the best way to protect the 1500 new trees planted to enable them to thrive. It was agreed to add Footpaths in general to a future agenda for discussion.*

*Standing orders resumed at 8.25 pm*

**Planning Matters**

218493

a) **Planning Applications**

**20/03082/HOUSE** Arbor Low, Bucklebury Alley - *Proposed single storey rear extension, extension and alterations to front porch, first floor front gable extension, garage conversion, new roof light, internal alterations and rendering of existing elevations.* NO OBJECTION - UNANIMOUS

**21/00041/HOUSE** Thirtover House, Thirtover - *Two sheds to be built within the garden of Thirtover House. Shed 1 would measure 6m x 3m with a height of 4.35m, and Shed 2 would measure 4m x 2.4m with a height of 3.8m.* NO OBJECTION – UNANIMOUS Comments:

- No orange notice displayed
- Building works had started although application states it had not commenced.

b) **Planning Decisions** – members noted the following decisions:

**20/02902/NONMAT** Juniper Rise, Ashmore Green - Application for non material amendment to approved 12/00538/HOUSE - *First floor extension to single storey house, single storey extension to the west and new garage to replace existing. Amendment Velux windows to the front roof -* **APPROVED**

c) **Appeals**– members noted the following appeal:

There were no appeals.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm

Chairman..... Date.....