



COLD ASH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 23rd February 2021

Present:

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

In Attendance:

District Councillor Simpson

Public Participation

There was no Public Participation

218508 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Le-Cornu Councillors noted ongoing sickness.

218509 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Clark declared an interest in planning item 218525 application **21/00182/FUL**

218510 **Minutes**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th February 2021, were approved unanimously as a correct record and would be signed by the **Chairman** in due course.

218511 **Matters Arising**

- **Cllr Silsby** confirmed that he had visited the site where a resident had asked for an oak tree to be removed. He confirmed the oak tree, with the split trunk, could be removed by the neighbouring resident at their cost. Cold Ash Parish would like full details of the tree surgeon carrying out the work before it takes place. The canopy of the tree immediately behind The Acland Hall could be lowered. Cold Ash Parish Council would organise a quote for this and carry out the works.
- **Clerk** had spoken to BT and it was agreed to continue for the next year without a contract so both calls and broadband would be out of contract in January 2022 when alternative suppliers could be investigated.
- **Clerk** advised that the recent complaints from a resident regarding Hermitage Road had been reported to West Berkshire Council and were now being investigated.

- **Clerk** asked **Cllr Silsby** if footpath maps had been printed. He advised they had. These would now be placed in the noticeboards.
- **Clerk** advised that the Annual Parish Meeting could take place via Zoom. The date agreed for the meeting was 22nd April 2021. A notice would be placed in the Bulletin and website, asking parishioners for ideas on items to be discussed. The closing date for ideas would be 22nd March 2021 when subjects would be discussed and agenda formulated.
- **Clerk** advised that the Community Support Group had been notified that they had been commended for the Community Champion Award from West Berkshire Council.
- **Cllr Clark** reported that he had been approached by several people, including Thatcham and Bucklebury councillors, about opposition to the Thatcham 20 development, with a view to campaigning for the development to be re-sited in Chieveley close to junction 13, which makes much more sense in many ways. He asked the views of the Councillors and **Cllr Adams** mentioned that this would be worth **Cllr Clark** investigating further to assess support. It was agreed to add this to the next agenda for further discussion.

218512 **Acland Hall**

Cold Ash Parish Council was happy for a feasibility visit to take place, regarding use of the recreation ground by The Watermill Theatre. It was suggested that a Councillor attend the visit on behalf of the Parish Council. It was requested that a member of Acland Hall committee attend a Parish Council meeting to give details in due course.

218513 **Code of Conduct**

The Code of Conduct was approved by all Councillors.

218514 **My Voice**

Cllr Silsby presented the My Voice application which enables voting to take place within the community. He explained it was a simple application and gave examples of voting and questions. The only personal details required would be an email address. Each person would need to be confirmed as a Cold Ash resident. There was an annual licence fee of £400.00 but this was negotiable. There was also an option for the Company to send out a poll and analyse details for £90.00 per poll. Initial set up was rather involved but once up and running was easy to manage. **Cllr Silsby** suggested not entering into a full contract but to use for 2-3 months to see if viable. He agreed to organise set up with some assistance from **Cllr Fenner**. He would bring results back to Cold Ash Parish Council at a later date.

It was agreed to note decisions next to allow Cllr Clark to leave the meeting.

218515 **Planning Matters****b) Planning Decisions** – members noted the following decisions:

20/02433/HOUSE Cherry Cottage, Bucklebury Alley - Two storey side extension and construction of outbuilding following demolition of existing outbuilding. **APPROVED** *Previous Parish Council comments NO OBJECTION – 5 in favour, 1 abstention.*

20/02643/HOUSE 6 Yates Copse, Newbury - Two storey side extension, conversion of garage to enlarge kitchen dining room including additional bedroom and enlarge existing bedroom with internal alterations, additional parking space created to frontage. **APPROVED** *Previous Parish Council*

comments NO OBJECTION – Comment – Concerns over small amount of space for amenities and parking.

20/02812/HOUSE - Castle Lane Cottage, Johnsons Lane - First floor rear extension to provide en-suite and wardrobe area. Garden office/annexe guest accommodation to site where garage was previously approved.
APPROVED Previous Parish Council Comments -NO OBJECTION – UNANIMOUS

*Cllr Clark declared an interest in the following item.
Cllr Clark left the meeting.*

a) **Planning Applications**

21/00182/FUL Clover House Westrop Farm - *Change of use from pasture to paddock and construction of three loose boxes and tack room. No Objection - Unanimous*

In principle, the Parish council does not object to this application. If it is granted we would like the following conditions applied.

- **No further change of use to equestrian or garden use. To prevent the over commercialisation of this AONB area.**
- **Due to land being within the AONB a further stipulation that the built stables/tack room will not be allowed to be converted to use as a residential dwelling at a future point in time.**
- **Not to be used for commercial use.**
- **Cold Ash Parish Council's emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan is proposing a dark sky zone in this area and as such we request no floodlights on the outside of any building that is associated with the application. We request a lighting plan is agreed before occupation.**

The application stipulates that a soakaway will be utilised for the disposal of liquid and no mention is made of the installation of any utilities (power/drainage)

The Parish council has concerns over this on the basis of the amount of waste/ordure that 3 animals produce and request that more detailed statements/designs are included on the disposal of such, including the use of any vehicular access to facilitate waste disposal and how assurance can be included to ensure that any waste contamination will be dealt with. i.e.

- **Are foul drains required rather than soakaways?**
- **The inclusion of a dedicated waste bay for contaminated bedding/ordure and the means of disposal.**
- **The installation of utilities (mains water/electricity etc.)**

Could this please be investigated?

Finally, Cold Ash Parish Council request a condition limiting the number of animals stabled in/on this facility/land be applied to ensure the number of animals is limited to 3. This is to ensure that the land and surrounding area are not over-crowded and that the produced by-

products of the animals can be adequately managed.

- c) **Appeals**– members noted the following appeal:
There were no appeals.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.34pm

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