



COLD ASH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, 24th August 2021

Present:

Cllrs Verner, McArdle, Marsh, Hanks, Fenner, Adams, Clark & Silsby
Clerk L Randall

In Attendance:

Mr P Crozier from Fowler Architecture & Planning and District Cllr Garth Simpson

Public Participation

Mr Crozier spoke on behalf of the applicant regarding planning application 21/01861/FUL Straight Elms Farm. He advised that the previous planning permissions agreed in 2017 had lapsed. He advised that the applicant wanted to convert building to an annex for family members other changes were minimal. **Cllr Silsby** asked why permissions had lapsed he was advised these were from a previous owner.

218673 Apologies for Absence
Cllr Bailey and Le-Cornu

218674 Election of the Chairman for the Remainder of the Municipal Year 2021/22
Due to the resignation of the previous chairman a vote took place for a new chairman to continue for the remainder of the municipal year 2021/2022. Two councillors were nominated **Cllr Fenner** and **Cllr Clark**. After a vote via a show of hands **Cllr Fenner** was voted in as the new Chairman. Councillors congratulated Mrs Fenner.

218675 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest

218676 Minutes
Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th July 2021 were approved. They were duly signed by **Cllr Fenner**.

218677 Matters Arising

- **Clerk** advised she had received further complaints regarding loud music being played on the Recreation Ground. It was agreed she would contact Environmental Health to see what could be done. She would also advise the resident.

218678 Report from District Councillors
The District Councillors' report had been circulated before the meeting. Items covered were The new CEO WBC, Covid Recovery, Waste Collection, Health and

Education. **District Councillor Simpson's** report included: Lawrence's Lane, Slanting Hill Local Plan delay ,St Gabriel's Convent and Neighbour Dispute. A copy of the report can be obtained from the **Clerk**.

218679 Clerk's Report

- **Clerk** asked for permission to give the key to the Recreation Ground to the Acland Hall caretaker to enable parking on the ground on the 25th August whilst the Watermill production took place. Councillors agreed to the request as long as the gate was marshalled.
- **Clerk** advised that a user of the Acland Hall had asked to use the Recreation Ground on the 4th September for a family football game.
- **Clerk** advised she had decided to return from her holiday on the 8th September so she could organise the meeting on the 14th September.

218680 Planning Matters

If members of the Public would like to comment on an application, they should check the advice on our website:

<https://coldashpc.org.uk/the-council/planning/>

a) Planning Applications

21/01739/HOUSE Heathfield Gladstone Lane-*Proposed single-storey side extension. No Objection - Unanimous*

21/01855/HOUSE Russets Stoney Lane Ashmore Green - *Single storey rear extension. No Objection - Unanimous*

21/01861/FUL Straight Elms Farm Stoney Lane Ashmore Green – *Conversion, link extension and alterations to existing buildings to create an annexe, home office and gym, ancillary to the main dwelling. Erection of stable block. No Objection with the following caveats:-*

- **That the new conversion has to remain as part of the main house and should NOT be allowed to be sold/treated as an independent dwelling (The justification for the build is a accommodation for an aged parent and a gym/office – as such there is no need for it to be treated as an independent house).**
- **If the stables are built as per the current plan then a further caveat should be added to prohibit any further development of the stables and surrounding area.**

21/01947/HOUSE Meadowlands Road Known As Ashmore Green Road - *Single and double storey extension with a new double garage. No Objection 7 in favour 1 abstain.*

21/01437/HOUSE Adjacent to Parish Sanctuary Wood Slanting Hill – *Relocation of driveway access and associated work to significantly improve visibility and safety. REFERENCE ONLY*

b) WBC (West Berks Council) Planning Decisions Members noted following decisions:

20/02875/HOUSE – Woodley, Stoney Lane - *Erection of five brick*

pillars to support gates and wall in the front garden to provide security. **APPROVED** Previous Parish Council Comments **OBJECTION** (7 in favour and 1 against proposal) we understand that the land owner wanted to secure property, but Cold Ash Parish Council felt the proposal was not suitable for the rural location -

- Over urbanisation of country lane.
- Suggested wall materials not suitable for street scene.
- Wall height too high for rural location.

Cllr Marsh pointed out amended plans had been submitted which Cold Ash Parish Council did not receive. Clerk would contact planning and advise.

21/01125/HOUSE 2 Collaroy Glen Cold Ash RG18 9PZ - Single storey extension to enlarge kitchen/family area **APPROVED** – Previous Parish Council Comments - **NO OBJECTION** - Unanimous .

21/01197/HOUSE Norbreck The Ridge Cold Ash RG18 9HT - Proposed detached garage, stop up existing secondary access and new hedgerow with fence behind. **APPROVED** – Previous Parish Council Comments - **OBJECTION** – **UNANIMOUS**

- Over development of site
- Not in keeping with street scene.

21/01477/HOUSE Hazian Ashmore Green Road Ashmore Green – Formation of habitable rooms in roof space with front and rear gable build ups and side dormers. **WITHDRAWN** – Previous Parish Council Comments - **OBJECTION** – not in keeping with street scene. Cold Ash Parish Council support planner's comments.

21/01574/HOUSE Davenham House Slanting Hill Hermitage - Provide a new single storey side extension with pitched roof to existing property comprising of art studio and gym. **APPROVED** Previous Parish Council Comments - **NO OBJECTION UNANIMOUS**

21/00863/HOUSE Two Oaks Stoney Lane Ashmore Green - Single storey infill extension to front, partial rendering of existing bungalow **APPROVED** Previous Parish Council Comments - . No Objection – Unanimous.

21/01529/HOUSE Jonroc, road known as Ashmore Green Road – Platform 3m x 2.5m built around an apple tree 2.4m from the ground, All built with treated softwood. Accessed via a wooden ladder. **APPROVED** Previous Parish Council Comments - **NO OBJECTION**

- c) **Appeals**
There were no appeals.

218681 Finance

1. **Items for payment.** Members agreed Items for Payment on Sheet No 5 2021/2022.
Summary of sheet:
Meetings - £36.36
Waste Disposal - £52.87
Grass cutting - £1215.34

Maintenance - £118.52
Playground repairs - £48.00
Litter pick £65.00
Stationary £118.79
Website £9.60

2. **Bank reconciliation** – Members noted the Bank Reconciliation for July 2021
3. **Payments against Budget** – Members noted the Analysis of Payments Against Budget to August 2021

218682 Queens Platinum Jubilee Event

Cllr Silsby had joined a community committee on behalf of the Parish Council to discuss and organise celebrations for the Queens platinum Jubilee in June 2022. The Parish Council agreed to the remaining funds in the Fete savings to be given to the committee to help with costs. The idea was to have a picnic on the 5th June 2022 with ice cream van, various events and live music, hopefully all activities should be finished by 7.00pm. There was also discussion regarding a beacon on the 2nd June 2022, the Parish Councillors were in favour of this but, further investigation by **Cllr Silsby** would be required which would take place in the coming months.

218683 Recreation Ground

Further discussion took place regarding new equipment for the Recreation Ground. Parish Councillors agreed to the new portable football goals. These would be purchased through the league by the football club with a small cost to the Parish Council. **Cllr Verner** was concerned they could be stolen but she was advised they were too large to remove. It was agreed the goal posts would be kept on the pitch so they could be moved around as required. Not stored against any structures. **Clerk** would advise the manager. Discussion took place about the possibility of a table tennis table, gym equipment and moving the basketball hoop to a new position on The Recreation Ground near to the Tennis pavilion at the far end of the ground, however no agreement was reached. There were concerns regarding space for these items but after meeting with the playgrounds contractor it was agreed there would be enough space. Although the costs were high for some items, it was decided to ask parishioners their views at the upcoming open meeting in October by the NDP. **Cllr Marsh** suggested considering extending the current playground so items for older children could be included. It was agreed to discuss ideas and get feedback at the NDP Consultation Event planned for the 23rd October 2021.

218684 Members Bid

Cllr McArdle highlighted that there were a number of dimensions to this agenda item. It was originally agreed that we would start to look at ideas for Members Bids in September, to ensure we had agreed and costed proposals ready for submission next year. We were subsequently advised by District Cllr Simpson that there are WBC CIL funds available with a deadline of 31/8/21 for submissions. In response to this District Councillor Simpson had produced a couple of spreadsheets, one covering potential projects and a second with suggestions for changes in the parish received from the traffic consultant that undertook the survey for us. The spreadsheets have been developed to support our NDP and cover ideas that we'll need to make decisions on. **Cllr McArdle** advised that it's intended to put these to our parishioners as part of the NDP communication event planned for 23rd October 2021 and via an online survey, in parallel. It was agreed that we'd take a first pass through the potential projects at this meeting and also add the subject to the next meeting agenda to discuss more fully. **Cllr McArdle** took the Councillors through potential ideas to see if any were ready for

submission as a CIL bid application at the end of August 2021. It had already been agreed that the football posts idea would be progressed from CAPC CIL monies (see previous agenda item) so this wasn't covered. He advised that initial work had been carried out to find the cost of installing water to two allotment sites. This could cost up to 5K. **Cllrs Marsh and Clark** felt there could be cheaper options to do this. **Cllr Clark** agreed to provide contact details of someone that could help with this. **Cllr McArdle** agreed to look at other options. He had also put together quotes for a tool store and tools to go on the Wildlife Allotment Garden site to enable volunteers to store large tools, so work could be carried out efficiently, and so they wouldn't have to use their own tools. **Cllr Clark** suggested that the bid be put forward as the closing date was in 6 days. All Councillors agreed to this. **Cllr McArdle** agreed to resend the proposal to District Cllr Simpson to see if we have sufficient information to submit a bid.

218685 Dog Bins

Cllr McArdle advised the dog bins were overflowing in some areas of the Parish, he had written to West Berkshire Council as a parishioner complaining about this matter, he felt pressure should be put on WBC to get the current contractors to empty them regularly.

*Standing orders were suspended at 8.43 to allow District Cllr Simpson to speak
Standing orders resumed at 8.45*

Cllr Fenner asked District Cllr Simpson to speak with West Berkshire Council about the matter.

218686 Great Big Green Week - 18-26 September

Members agreed to participate in this event, details had been submitted to West Berkshire Council

218687 Thatcham 20

Members agreed that **Cllr McArdle** would represent Cold Ash Parish Council at the upcoming meeting for North Thatcham Development on the 31st August 2021 hosted by Laura Farris MP. Anyone could attend but need to apply via the Facebook link.

218688 Update on unauthorised development at Lawrence's Lane

Members discussed the recent unauthorised activity, which had taken place at Lawrence's Lane. The matter was now being handled by West Berkshire Council. Councillors thanked **Cllrs Clark & Hanks** and the **Clerk** for their hard work in the matter.

218689 Committee Reports

4th & 18th August - NDP Steering Group – **Cllr McArdle** gave a report on the recent meetings that had taken place. He advised that the Local Plan had been delayed, as a result of NPPF changes, but the steering group would continue with the NDP plan within the current timelines, as advised by Bryan Lyttle (WBC). He confirmed that the draft NDP had now been submitted for screening, so the formal timescale has commenced. He advised that the NDP Steering Group is planning an event for the Public to feed back on the plan, policies and projects, on the 23rd October 2021 11.00am – 3.00pm in the Acland Hall. Whilst this is an NDP event, it is important that all of the CAPC councillors be involved in fronting it. **Cllr McArdle** requested that councillors be available on the day to take a shift in hosting the event. The **Clerk** will

send an invite to all councillors. **Cllr McArdle** asked whether the council was happy to invite Laura Farris MP to the meeting. This was agreed. A letter is to be sent via the **Clerk**. The final piece of work on traffic analysis has started. It has been agreed to share the results with Bucklebury Parish Council. **Cllr Marsh** is applying for a further Locality grant.

218690 Meetings with other bodies –

3rd August Meeting with Playground Contractors – **Cllr Fenner, Hanks** and The **Clerk**- this was discussed under item 218683

4th August Thatcham 20 – **Cllr Fenner** gave a brief report on the meeting advising that Midgham Parish Council had withdrawn from the coalition; no reason had been given for this. The next meeting was on the 2nd September. **Cllr Clark** advised that housing should not be built in areas that had pollution issues. **Cllr Fenner** was concerned about traffic impact through Cold Ash.

A resolution was passed for the meeting to continue after 9.00pm

218691 Councillors' Questions

- **Cllr Fenner** advised there was an on-line event via NALC in October on Bio-diversity.
- **Cllr Silsby** had attended Planning & Power training, but felt it was not beneficial.

218692 Correspondence

A list of correspondence received and sent since the meeting held on 24th July 2021 had been circulated as Information Sheet no 5/August 2021 and was noted by Members.

218693 Part Two – Members of the Public are invited to leave the meeting

Resolution to Exclude the Press and Public

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it was Resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted under Part 2, the public and press be asked to leave the meeting.

PART TWO

Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Recent Behaviour and Attendance

Confidential Minute no. 53 refers

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed..... Date.....
Chairman