



**COLD ASH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**  
**TUESDAY, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**Present:**

**Cllrs Fenner, McArdle, & Silsby**  
**Clerk L Randall**

**In Attendance:**

**Mr S Jones**

**Public Participation**

Mr Jones asked the Parish Council to consider him to be the tenant for Grazing Field 1, which was vacant. He would like to add 3 alpacas and 5 sheep to the field, he had run a small holding previously and had experience, and he had also been assisting the tenant in Grazing Field 3 currently with 3 small goats in. He would register the livestock under the same CPH number as the goats, he would also obtain the necessary insurance required; he would repair and update all fences and install a shelter at his own cost. He would like to arrange days where the community could get involved with looking after the animals. **Cllr Silsby** asked about security, Mr Jones understood that although theft was a possibility he didn't feel it was an issue.

**228871 Apologies for Absence**

**Cllr's Adams, Clark, Marsh, Verner & Hanks**

**228872 Declarations of Interest**

No Declarations of interest.

**228873 Minutes**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 were approved. They were duly signed by the Chairman **Cllr Fenner**.

**228874 Matters Arising**

- **Clerk** advised that the refugees currently staying at the Regency Park Hotel had been given permission to use Thatcham recreation ground so would not be using the Cold Ash recreation ground.
- **Cllr McArdle** asked if there was an update regarding the deeds for Parish Council land, **Clerk** advised she would send him what had been received.

**228875 Report from District Councillors**

The District Councillors' report had been received by the **Clerk**. A copy was available on request. Matters included were Budget, Ukraine, Leisure, Health and Education.

**Clerk's Report**

- 228876
- **Clerk** advised that she had received notification that the Pre-School would be submitting information regarding building a proposed gazebo in the garden.
  - **Clerk** advised that the half yearly VAT return had been submitted.
  - **Clerk** advised she had received notification that a traffic regulation order was being considered for Lawrence's Lane.

**Planning Matters**

228877

**Planning Application**

- a) **22/00575/HOUSE** Oakview Heath Lane Henwick -*First floor extension and single storey extension to side of property* **No Objections - unanimous**

**22/00680/HOUSE** Cobwebs Ashmore Green Thatcham RG18 9EX -*Single storey kitchen/dining side extension* **No Objection – Unanimous subject to Assurance that the hedge would be protected.**

**WBC (West Berks Council) Planning Decisions** Members noted following

b)

decisions:

**22/00025/CERTP** Connemara Drove Lane -Erection of timber framed car port open to all sides. Flat sheeted roof width 6.50m depth 4.50m height 2.40m **REFUSED**

**16/02529/OUTD** Land Adjacent to Summerfield The Ridge Cold Ash - Outline application for change of use of part of existing agricultural field to residential and the erection of 5 no. detached dwelling houses with ancillary garages, access, parking, landscaping and associated works. Matters to be considered Access and layout.

**REFUSED – Previous Parish Council Comments - Objection (unanimous)**

1. *With regard to access, there is totally insufficient information regarding visibility splays & sightlines to enable any constructive comment to be made at this stage, Particularly on this extremely busy road.*
2. *With regard to layout, Plot 1 is overbearing on neighbouring property – Summerfield.*
3. *Although not a matter for this application, the proposed plans indicate dwellings to be too high, at 2 to 2.5 storeys, in comparison to adjacent roof lines, and, as such, the proposed plans are misleading.*
4. *We believe this application to be premature - before the Inspector has approved the PD*

**22/00122/HOUSE** Thornfield Henwick - Single Storey Rear Extension. **APPROVED**  
*Previous Parish Council Comments - No Objection Unanimous*

**22/00026/HOUSE** Vista Cottage The Ridge RG18 9HX - Ground Floor: Existing garage and adjoining covered way removed, footprint reduced by 1 metre, and replaced with enlarged living room to project on front elevation. To rear existing kitchen enlarged with utility and rear entrance added. First Floor: Master bedroom added over new ground floor extension. Existing bathroom relocated and staircase modified.

**REFUSED** *Previous Parish Council Comments - No Objection - Unanimous*

**Appeal**

There were no appeals

c)

**228878 Finance**

1. **Items for payment.** Members agreed Items for Payment on Sheet No 1 2021/2022.  
Summary of sheet:  
Insurance – 1603.08  
Room Hire – 58.39  
Payroll – 65.52  
Litter Pick – 65.00  
Playground Inspection – 92.00  
Street Light Supply Charge 334.03  
Telephone – 38.45  
Grass Cutting – 321.42  
Supplies & Maintenance for the WAG – 328.32
2. **Bank reconciliation** – Members noted the Bank Reconciliation for March 2022.
3. **Payments against Budget** – Members noted the Analysis of Payments Against Budget to April 2022

**228879 Councilor Co-Option**

Councillors discussed the request from a resident to become a Parish Councillor. The resident had submitted a letter and signed the qualification to become a Parish Councillor. He was nominated and seconded and voted unanimously to join the Parish Council and would attend the next meeting as a Parish Councillor. **Clerk** would advise him and send the paperwork required to be completed.

**228880 Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting agenda was confirmed, **Clerk** would now publish it. It was agreed that a member of the Jubilee committee would give a short presentation and the manager of the football club would also be approached.

**228881 Risk Assessment**

The risk assessment was reviewed with some changes being made. The new football goals needed to be added; the pathway in WAG needed updating, **Clerk** would contact Gardner & Leader again to see if there were any further documents. **Clerk** was currently working on a handover file to help when recruiting a new **Clerk**. **Cllr McArdle** suggested a formal risk assessment be put in place for the Finance & General Purposes Committee. **Clerk** would update the risk assessment.

**228882 CAPC Precept Rise**

**Councillors** discussed the increase to the Parish Council precept in the recent budget. The increase was due to a number of issues including the rise in electricity and keeping a fund for Ash trees in the WAG. It was decided that precepts are not banded, but it would be interesting to know what amount per household was being charged to neighbouring parishes **Clerk** would investigate and report back to Council.

**228883 Street Lamp Supply**

Councilors discussed the recent invoice from the current provider, The Parish Council had not received notification that the current contract had expired. **Clerk** had gathered quotes, but it was agreed that the Parish Council would continue with the current provider **Clerk** would advise them, it was also agreed to pay by Direct Debit as this also added cost saving. **Clerk** would contact the provider to obtain more information regarding the continuous supply and the dusk till dawn supply.

**228884 Recreation Ground**

The Parish Council had received a request from the football club to consider contributing to the recent maintenance on the Recreation Ground, verti draining and seeding had been carried out at no cost to the Parish Council by the football club, but a request for £790.00 for fertilizing had been received. After a discussion it was agreed to use CIL money to cover this maintenance.

**228885 Rental of Paddock (WAG)**

Parish Councillors discussed the request made by Mr. Jones to take on grazing field 1 and install 3 alpacas and 5 sheep. Members agreed to the resident taking over the tenancy for the grazing field. Cllr McArdle advised that the land available had been updated as some was now used as a quite garden, an updated map of the area would be sent to the new tenant. **Clerk** would update the tenancy agreement and raise an invoice for the yearly rental of £150.00. A copy of the insurance would be requested from the tenant.

**228886 Jubilee Picnic**

**Cllr Silsby** updated members on the arrangements for the Jubilee Events. He advised that an insurance quote had not yet been received, but had been requested and risk assessments had been submitted to the Insurance Company. No request for further requests had been made for finance, but if they were required a formal request with all details should be submitted to the Parish Council. The Beacon was on track for completion and a test light was being planned. **Cllr McArdle** suggested letting the Newbury Weekly News know the details. **Cllr Silsby** advised that the Classic Car show had been pulled from the event. The committee was considering a resident to light the beacon.

**228887 NDP Update**

**Cllr McArdle** gave an update on the NDP advising that on the 28th March the draft NDP was submitted to West Berkshire Council for an informal review; a response is expected by mid-May. The aim is to run the Regulation 14 phase of the project for 6-8 weeks from mid-June. This phase will involve a pre-submission version of the document being shared with WBC and consultation with all key stakeholders on its contents. The phase will be advertised in the parish through the usual channels plus a leaflet drop and two Q&A sessions (one on zoom and another F2F in Acland Hall). Once feedback has been received we'll move into the Regulation 15 phase, which involves finalising the documentation (the NDP document, Consultation Statement and Basic Conditions Report). We will then move into Regulation 16, formally submitting the documentation to WBC who will run a further consultation, an independent examination of the documentation and a referendum. It is hoped that the process will be completed by the beginning of 2023.

**228888 Committee Reports**

16th March, 29th & 30th March 2022 NDP Steering Group – **Cllr McArdle**. Advised that the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> March was not quorate so did not take place, there was no meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> March minutes had been circulated for the 2<sup>nd</sup> March meeting.

**228889 Meetings with other bodies –**

7<sup>th</sup> March – Acland Hall Committee meeting – **Cllr Silsby** advised that the meeting had not taken place due to sickness. He did advise that the Acland Hall committee had asked if the parish Council would purchase some new taps, **Clerk** would ask the auditor if this was possible.

16<sup>th</sup> March – Climate Forum – **Cllr McArdle** had attended the forum and submitted a report to Councillors.

28<sup>th</sup> March – Jubilee Committee meeting – **Cllr Silsby** this had been discussed under item 228886

**228890 Councillors' Questions**

- **Cllr McArdle** advised that a resident had volunteered to assist with obtaining grants for projects, when the need arises.

**228891 Correspondence**

A list of correspondence received and sent since the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 had been circulated as Information Sheet no1/April 2022 and was noted by Members.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

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