



COLD ASH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, 19th July 2022

Present:

Cllrs Fenner, McArdle, Hanks, Wilding, Adams, Murray & Silsby
Clerk L Randall

In Attendance:

23 residents from Cold Ash, Mr R Wickins from Shorewood Homes

Public Participation

Mr Wickins introduced himself as the director from Shorewood Homes; he advised that the proposed development in Collaroy Road would include 10 dwellings, in keeping with surrounding properties. Current access was from Collaroy Road a new access is being proposed from Collaroy Road. A new access has been considered from The Rise, however there are land ownership issues with this option. All properties would have good sized gardens and the architectural style would be traditional. He advised that Shorewood homes had sent a copy of the site plan to residents and comments had been received from neighbouring residents. The planning application had been submitted to West Berkshire Council and once agreed the development should take 15 months to complete. Residents were concerned with sight lines, and that there were no pathways, and asked why access from The Rise could not be considered, they were advised that Highways Officers from WBC had not yet been consulted, but all traffic data had been submitted to WBC with application. Residents had concerns regarding the amount of vehicles and traffic the development would generate. Mr Wickins would discuss their concerns with Shorewood Homes Highways Officers. Residents felt there would be over development to the site, and the new build s would overlook neighbouring properties now that the hedges had been removed. There were also concerns with the construction vehicles accessing the site. **Cllr Silsby** asked what benefit the proposed development would bring to the parish, he felt there was no requirement for large housing in the area; Mr Wickins advised that affordable housing was not viable. **Cllr Murray** advised that the first the Parish Council had heard about the development was complaints from residents regarding tree felling. Due to technical issues at the Parish Council Meeting, Mr Wickins would forward presentation which could be shared with residents; they would also be available on the WBC website shortly. There were concerns with light pollution; **Cllr McArdle** advised that this area was a dark sky zone. **Cllr Fenner** thanked Mr Wickins for attending and asked residents to send questions to the Parish Office for the Clerk to forward on to Mr Wickins.

228964 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Clark, Verner, Marsh & District Cllr Simpson

228965 Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of interest.

228966 Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th June 2022 were approved. They were duly signed by the Chairman **Cllr Fenner**.

228967 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

228968 Report from District Councillors

The District Councillors' report had been received by the **Clerk**. A copy was available on request. Matters included were, Economy, Adult Social Care, Environment, Community & Planning

228969 Clerks Report

- **Clerk** reminded **Cllr Murray** to forward updated Bio and Register of Interest.
- **Clerk** advised Councillors that Play in the Park would take place again this year, on the 11th August on the Recreation Ground from 10.00 – 11.30am. There had also been another request for the ground to be used by a company for a football competition over the summer, however due to the poor state of the ground it was decided not to allow this to go ahead, to give the ground chance to recover before maintenance could take place in late August.
- **Clerk** advised that the oak tree in Ashmore Green road had now been removed as it was causing subsidence to a property.
- **Clerk** reminded Councillors that the Parish Office would be closed from 25th July to 1st August for Annual leave.
- **Clerk** advised she had received further notification regarding the appeal at Lawrence's Lane. **Cllr Fenner** advised she had had a conversation with a councillor at Thatcham Town Council asking if Cold Ash Parish Council were happy to be called as a witness in the appeal. **Cllr Murray** was happy to take on the issue but asked for all information to be forwarded to him. It was agreed to support TTC and the issue would be added to the next agenda for a formal discussion. Councillors agreed for **Cllr Murray** to act on Cold Ash Parish Council's behalf.

228970 Planning Matters

A) Planning Application

22/01403/HOUSE Seekers Stoney Lane Ashmore Green - *The proposal includes a conversion of the existing garage into a new open kitchen/ dining space with utility and boot room. 2no. new windows to the front elevation to match existing and bi-folding doors to the rear and a new timber frame porch to the front entrance.* **NO OBJECTION - UNANIMOUS**

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

22/00542/COND1 - 21/01203/REM Land Adjacent to Summerfield The Ridge Cold Ash – *Section 73 application for removal/variation of conditions 1 (approved plans), 5 (Instant hedge) and 6 (gates) of approved 19/00832/REM - Approval of reserved matters following outline permission 16/02529/OUTD - 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 seeking consent - Appearance, landscaping and scale. APPROVED – Previous Parish Council Comments - **OBJECTION - UNANIMOUS**

- **Further over development of the site**
- **Changes not agreed on original planning application.**
- **Unnecessary development for the site**

C) **Appeal**

There were no appeals

228971 Finance

1. Items for payment. Members agreed Items for Payment on Sheet No 4 2022/2023.

Summary of sheet:

WAG Supplies/Works – 13.95

Litter Pick – 65.00

Website – 4.00

Telephone – 31.14

Waste Collections – 47.11

Street Light supply charge – 43.09

Room Hire 77.99

Playground Inspection – 96.60

2. Bank reconciliation – Members noted the Bank Reconciliation for JUNE 2022.

3. Payments against Budget – Members noted the Analysis of Payments Against Budget to July 2022. **Cllr McArdle** asked if the money in the Rights of Way cost centre could be used for repairs to pathways in the Parish, it was agreed this could be used for repairs. **Cllr McArdle** asked for confirmation on the amount remaining in the Fete cost center. he also advised he was hoping for a donation to the WAG from the Jubilee Committee

228972 Internal Auditors Report

Members had reviewed the internal auditors report and were happy with the findings. An update on the Poor's Charity would be given later in the year.

228973 West Berkshire Council proposal for Manor Park Football pitch

Cllr Marsh was unable to attend the meeting, but had forwarded an update to all Councillors prior to the meeting. He advised that the WBC consultation had now ended. WBC say: "The responsible officers are considering responses, various reports and views of their partner agencies in order to prepare a recommendation report, which will include all relevant supporting documentation, to be considered by elected members at a meeting of the Executive Committee, most likely 22/9/22". he advised that the next step would be to await the officer's reports and then lobby the WBC councillors on the committee.

228974 Office Alarm

Due to the **Clerk** not receiving a report on the current alarm in time for the meeting it was agreed to add this item to the next agenda.

228975 Recreation Ground Car Park

Members discussed the parking at the Acland Hall car park and agreed that at present parking had improved. It was agreed to re look at this later in the year if things change.

228976 Playground Update

It was agreed to repair the wet pour holes in the play park at Hermitage Road play

ground.

228977 NDP Update

Cllr McArdle advised that current steering group meetings had been put on hold, pending clarity on the Lambourn Nutreint Neutrality issue, a meeting is set with WBC to discuss the implications and raise our concerns around 'radio silence' of WBC four months earlier this year.

228978 Committee Reports

6th July - NDP Steering Group – **Cllr McArdle** – discussed under previous item.

228979 Reports from meetings with other bodies

.26th June – Open Day Downe House – **Cllr Clark** had attended and a report had been circulated.

29th June – Girl Guide Soiree 7.00pm – **Cllr Fenner** updated Councillors and advise it had been a good event.

13th July Climate Forum 12.30pm via Zoom – **Cllr McArdle** advised that vehicle charging points had been discussed, there was a reminder of Green Week, he advised that the Greening Group were involved in this. There was also a Volunteer support hub being set up to help residents with various issues e.g. IT.

14th July Flood Forum Riverside 5.00pm – Cllr Murray had attended and updated Councillors briefly.

228980 Councillors Questions

- **Cllr Murray** advised that Tree Preservation Orders on Bowling Green Road were going ahead. He advised he had also attended the recent TH20 meeting, Traffic survey data was being considered across all 3 parishes. A FOI had been made to WBC from Thatcham Town Council for previous information on Traffic surveys, there may be some new information on traffic on Cold Ash Hill which would be shared, and the new survey would look at traffic post Covid.
- **Cllr Silsby** updated Councillors on the current situation at Sylvan House. He advised that despite a healthy tree survey taking place in March, some trees had now been removed due to Ash die back. Neighbouring residents were not happy. He also advised that no report on the diseased trees had been submitted to the ministry of agriculture.
- **Cllr Adams** asked for TPOs to be added to the next agenda.
- **Cllr McArdle** asked if the members bid work could now commence. He also updated on the opening of the Quiet Garden later this year.
- **Cllr Fenner** asked if the broken branch on a tree on the Recreation Ground had now been dealt with. She also asked what date the Front Garden Competition would be judged. **Cllr Fenner** thanked **Cllr Murray** for his help with community engagement.
- **Cllr Murray** asked if the resident of Woodlands Leaves could attend a future meeting to present his proposed plans for engagement with the parish and the green space at Woodland Leaves. Cllrs suggested the end of August meeting.

228981 Correspondence

A list of correspondence received and sent since the meeting held on 14th June 2022 had been circulated as Information Sheet no4/July 2022 and was noted by Members.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.39pm

Minutes of Cold Ash Parish Council

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