



COLD ASH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, 14th March 2023

Present:

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

In Attendance:

Mr Pirlo, Ms Francis, Mr & Mrs Ralph, Mr I Goodwin, District Cllr Simpson, Mrs M Avens, Mr D Coulson, Mrs H Codling & Mr McCann

Public Participation

Mr Pirlo advised the Parish Council about his application 23/00246/HOUSE Juniper Rise, he explained that all changes had been a reduction on the original plans and were in keeping with Ashmore Green. Mrs Ralph also spoke about Juniper Rise and stated she felt all amendments had not enhanced the property, she advised that the property was too large and towered over her property. Mr Goodwin advised that many residents had concerns over the height of the building. Ms Francis supported Mr Pirlo's application, and felt that properties in Ashmore Green were as large if not larger than the development. **Cllr Murray** asked why the roof line was higher than the original plan, Mr Pirlo advised this was due to damp course and increased joist and lintel size which had not been factored into original plan due to an error by the architect.

Mr Coulson asked the Parish Council if the Tennis Club could incorporate a seating area next to the pavilion. The land suggested was not currently used as part of The Recreation Ground; any costs would be picked up by the Tennis Club. The work was hoped to be carried out in the spring Mr Coulson also asked the Parish Council if the tennis club could cut back the overhanging trees from neighbouring properties. The neighbours had been consulted and were happy for the works to be carried out. A tree officer would also be consulted. Mr Coulson asked that Parish Council for permission and if they would be happy to pay a third of the costs.

239153 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Clark, Silsby & Marsh

239154 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

239155 Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th February 2023 were approved. They were signed by the Chairman.

239156 Matters Arising

- **Clerk** advised that the damaged bench on the Recreation Ground had now been removed and despite calling and emailing the owner she had been unable to contact them.
- **Clerk** advised the job advert had been posted in various areas but as yet no one had applied.

Report from District Councillors

239157 District Councillors' report had been circulated prior to the meeting; items included were: - extraordinary meeting 2nd March, WBC Budget 23/24, Planning, Community, WBC Champions & environment. A copy of the report can be requested from the Clerk.

239158 Clerks Report

- **Clerk** advised that the flashing speed sign at the bottom of Cold Ash Hill had been reported to WBC as it was faulty.
- The new contract for the maintenance of the street lights had been received. The **Clerk** advised she would sign and return. Councillors were happy for her to do this.
- Clerk advised there had been a parking issue at the Acland Hall carpark on the 4th March. The caretaker from the Acland Hall was speaking to the football manager and hopefully the manager would enforce future parking at St Marks School.

239159 Tennis Court

Parish Councillors discussed Mr Coulson's request to incorporate a seating area next to the pavilion, and agreed this could go ahead. They also agreed to the removal of the overhanging branches subject to the Tree Officer being in favour. The Parish Council agreed to pay a third of the costs.

239160 Planning Matters

Planning Application

A) **23/00246/HOUSE** Juniper Rise Ashmore Green - *Retrospective: application for alterations to approved scheme 12/00538/HOUSE; first floor extension to single storey house, single storey extension to the west and new garage to replace existing.*

Objection 6 in Support & 1 abstain.

- Out of keeping with neighbouring properties
- Overbearing to neighbouring properties
- Use of garage as a separate dwelling
- Concerns with retrospective planning applications being allowed which enable works, which have not complied with previous applications to be passed by the planning department.

23/00283/HOUSE Southcote The Ridge -*Proposed Dormer Extension To South Elevation (Rear). Modification To Existing Flat Roof On Same Elevation. Blocking Up Of Windows On North Elevation With Insertion Of Velux Roof Windows* **No Objection – Unanimous**

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

23/00278/NONMAT Land Adjacent To Summerfield, - Application for a Non-Material Amendment Following a Grant of Planning Permission
22/00928/REM - Section 73A: Variation of Condition 1 (Approved Plans) for previously approved application 21/01203/REM: Section 73 application for removal/variation of conditions 1 (approved plans), 4 (scheme of landscaping) and 5 (instant hedge) 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. Amendments: Minor amendments to the approved dwelling on plot 1. In addition, text amendments to the wording of conditions 3 and 4 to ensure that the respective conditions refer to the latest planning consent granted under 22/02225/COND2

239161 Land Adjacent to Summerfield

Cllr Murray gave a brief update on the application at Land adjacent to Summerfield, he had circulated a report to all Councillors. He advised that there was an access road from Lawrence's Lane to the development and the agent was advertising the paddock area as part of the development. He asked that any further information be sent to him.

C) Appeal

There were no appeals.

239162 Finance

1. Items for payment. Members agreed Items for Payment on Sheet No 11 2022/2023.

Summary of sheet:

Room Rental – 71.99

Telephone/Broadband – 31.16

Litter Pick – 65.00

Waste collection – 50.07

Website - 4.00

Street Light Supply – 34.83

Supplies WAG – 24.18

Tree Works 700.00

Printing – 62.75

Traffic Survey 900.00

A full list is available from the Clerk.

2. Bank reconciliation – Members to note the Bank Reconciliation

Statement 28th February 2023 – *(attached)*

3. Payments against Budget – Members noted the Analysis of Payments Against Budget to MAR 2023.

239163 NDP Update

Cllr McArdle advised that emails had been sent advising Regulation 14 consultation had begun. The leaflet distribution to residents within the Parish was underway, he thanked everyone for their help. A face to Face meeting and a Zoom meeting were set up and taking place on the 28th and 29th March respectively. **Cllr Murray** asked for an update to be added to social media. There were concerns with the level of support from West Berkshire Council regarding the NDP; **Cllr McArdle** proposed he would

Minutes of Cold Ash Parish Council

write to the Council Leader and our District Councillors, copying in the WBC CEO, to share our concerns. **Cllr Murray** asked if a response had been received from the MP, he was advised there had not been, he proposed he would call the office direct and lodge concerns.

239164 Committee Reports

15th Feb 23 – NDP Steering Group via Zoom – **Cllr McArdle** This was covered under the previous item.

239165 CAPC & AMHC Responsibilities to outside area of Acland Hall

Members discussed the management of the area immediately around the Acland Hall. It was agreed that the Acland Hall committee would be able to make decisions on matters outside the hall as according to maps supplied the AMH committee, of which extracts were taken from Land Registry and AMH constitution. The Parish Council would still remain responsible for trees and hedge maintenance. If planning permissions were required the Parish Council would be involved, also if any financial assistance was required, the Acland Hall committee would approach the Parish Council.

239166 Insurance

Members agreed with the Clerk's recommendation to renew the Insurance. There was a slight price increase in the sum assured due to inflation. It was agreed for a cheque to be raised and sent to insurers on 1st April 2023

239167 Annual Parish Maintenance Contracts 2023/2024

Members received the proposed maintenance schedule for approval. The recommendations were approved, Clerk would write to all contractors.

239168 Annual Parish Meeting

A discussion took place to confirm content to the Annual Parish Meeting. **Cllr McArdle** pointed out that this was the parishioners meeting so they should decide what was on the agenda. It was agreed items to be included would be a presentation on speeding and traffic within the Parish, also a Neighbourhood Development Plan update and a presentation on the Wildlife Allotment Gardens. Some of the Community groups would also give short presentations.

239169 Reports from meetings with other bodies

No Meetings with Other Bodies

239170 Councillors Questions

- **Cllr Adams** asked if a response had been sent to WBC regarding the extraordinary Meeting, he was advised it had.
- **Cllr Murray** advised he would circulate data received from other parishes regarding the local plan, and asked if it could be put on the website.
- **Cllr Murray** asked if the NDP leaflet had been added to the notice boards he was advised it had.
- **Cllr Murray** advised the traffic issues on the A4 were due to the installation of the entry road to the proposed Flood pond.

239171 Correspondence

A list of correspondence received and sent since the meeting held on 10th January 2023 had been circulated as Information Sheet no12/MAR2023 and was noted by Members.

Minutes of Cold Ash Parish Council

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.29pm

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