

MINUTES OF THEALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 5th June 2017 in the Peter Gooch Room, The Pavilion, Englefield Road, Theale.

Present: Councillors J. Richardson, A. Clark, S. Coker, D. Wood, D. Baker, P. Clifford, A. Macro & I. Hopcroft.

Apologies received: Cllrs B. Williams, Z. Fenwick & D. Lye

Present: Jo Friend (Clerk) in attendance. There were no members of the public present.

Councillor J. Richardson chaired the meeting.

Declarations of Interest: None were declared.

24/17/18 Open Forum for Members of the Public

No members of the public were present.

Notifications of Chairman's remarks – Cllr Coker and Cllr Clifford both had one item to raise.

SECTION A

25/17/18 MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF 8th MAY 2017.

Members adopted the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 8th May 2017. Proposed Cllr Macro; seconded Cllr Clark. Approved nem con.

Members adopted the Minutes of the regular Meeting of the Council of 8th May 2017. Proposed Cllr Macro; seconded Cllr Baker. Approved nem con.

26/17/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 8th MAY 2017.

8/17/18 Stratfield Mortimer NDP – Cllr Macro spoke about the printing error on the referendum polling cards.

Cllr Wood asked Cllr Macro if WBC were intending to do anything about the planning inspector ruling that S106 monies for the primary school expansion were not payable by the Lakeside applicant. Cllr Macro said the only way to challenge the decision was to call for a judicial review if an error had been made. WBC will have to look at using CIL or other S106 monies to fund an expansion. The CIL regulations are due for renewal soon.

SECTION B

27/17/18 District Council Report

Cllr Macro provided a verbal report:

- HSA DPD – this was adopted on 9th May, along with the policies and parking standards that accompany it. New parking standards are made up of 3 zones, Cllr Macro believed that the centre of Theale was classed as a town centre and therefore parking requirements are lower than for non town centre development.
- WBC Ward Boundaries – during the consultation on this TPC had complained that WBC had not taken planned development into account when estimating electorate figures in Theale. The Commission has agreed and will now re-consult on an approved methodology. WBC will respond to this with a new warding proposal for Theale.

- Meadow Way Parking – Cllr Macro has been receiving complaints from Meadow Way residents regarding large parked vehicles obstructing the footway and parts of the carriageway. The clerk informed council that she understood there were also complaints that residents were unable to park owing to residents from the permit parking section of the road parking outside properties in the unregulated area; train station users parking in the unregulated section of road; and Amazon delivery drivers leaving their vehicles parked up overnight. Cllr Macro will take this matter up with WBC.

28/17/18 Clerk’s Report

WBC Devolution of Services – the clerk will provide council with a report from the workshop being held on 12th June.

Theale Primary School Sports Day – despite repeated requests the chairman has still not received any explanation as to why the school issued an incorrect statement regarding children using council play facilities on sports day. Some councillors were unhappy with the offensive remarks made against parish councillors that this action had generated on social media, and the negative impact on the council’s reputation, some councillors were not concerned about these matters. Cllr Richardson put forward the chairman’s suggestion that a letter should be sent by TPC to the head expressing disappointment that no explanation had been received. Cllr Hopcroft felt a letter was not necessary and offered to go into the school in person to ask about the matter. Cllr Macro suggested that as the original issue was the letter sent to parents then it would be appropriate to address the matter in writing and a written record of events should be retained. Cllr Richardson proposed that council vote on sending a letter from TPC to the head. Five councillors voted in favour; three councillors voted against. The motion was carried and a letter will be issued.

Recreation Ground – Councillors believe the recreation ground to be a ‘no alcohol’ zone. Members discussed increasing the amount of signage instructing the public that it is a no alcohol zone. Members will decide where they would like signs to be erected and then the clerk will obtain costings in order that a decision may be made at a future meeting.

29/17/18 Planning Applications

17/01363/HOUSE	Two storey side & single storey rear extension	3 Lambfields, Theale RG7 5DB	Mr Morris	No objection
17/01202/FUL	Upgrade of obsolete existing lightning protection system & installation of 2 CAT ladders for emergency egress from plant room level	1510 Arlington Business Park, Theale, RG7 4SA	Theale Ltd c/o Praxis Real Estate Management	No objection
17/01220/ADV	Site wide signage (free standing signs & banners) for building identification & way finding	Arlington Business Park, Theale	Patron Arlington SARL	No objection
16/01240/OUTMAJ <i>and associated applications</i> <i>additional drawings/ amended plans</i>	Outline application for up to 225 homes with associated infrastructure.....flood alleviation works ... works to bridge over Canal ...	Burghfield Sailing Club, Hangar Road, Sulhamstead	Berfeld Ltd	OBJECT All previous objections still stand. Extra objection to enabling HGVs to use swing bridge over canal. Request for S106 monies as majority of impact will be on Theale parish.

17/01319/LBC2	S19. Variation of Condition 2: approved plans, of approved application 16/00159/LBC2	Unit 4, Brewery Court, Theale RG7 5AJ	Mr Hillman	No objection
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30/17/18 Internal Auditor's Report

Noted.

31/17/18 Asset Register

Noted.

32/17/18 Annual Governance Statement

Members RESOLVED to approve the Annual Governance Statement as presented by the Clerk/RFO. Proposed Cllr Wood; seconded Cllr Richardson. Approved nem con.

33/17/18 Annual Return 2016/17

Members RESOLVED to approve the Accounting Statements 2016/16 as presented by the Clerk/RFO. Proposed Cllr Hopcroft; seconded Cllr Macro. Approved nem con.

34/17/18 WBC Housing Site Allocation DPD

The detail on the agenda was wrong owing to an incorrect link on WBC's communication to TPC. Members noted that the only site adopted in the current HSA DPD is THE009, 100 dwellings on land between The Green and the A340, expected to be delivered in the near future.

The DPD has been adopted. WBC has started developing a new Local Plan so it is possible that other sites could be adopted in the future.

35/17/18 Community Infrastructure Policy

Noted.

36/17/18 Theale Library - Update

Cllr Hopcroft gave a verbal update on the working group meeting of 25th May. The group needs to ascertain whether it will be viable for TPC to take over responsibility for the Gateway. We are still awaiting information from WBC regarding various important aspects of the project. Councillors Richardson and Macro and the clerk will be attending the meeting with WBC on 13th June. Cllr Macro said that the library was planning a 're-launch' on 13th October.

37/17/18 Government Consultation on Parkrun Charging

Members agreed that the council's response to this consultation should be based on the view that any decisions about charging users of council facilities should be taken at a local level in accordance with the Localism Act 2011. The clerk will submit a response on behalf of TPC.

38/17/18 Authorisation of Payments

It was RESOLVED that items on sheet no.489 and dated 5th June 2017 be approved for payment. Proposed Cllr Coker; seconded Cllr Clifford. Approved nem con.

Members noted the April Direct Debit sheet.

SECTION C

39/17/18 Items for Information

Noted.

SECTION D

40/17/18 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Cllr Coker said his matter had already been dealt with during the meeting.

Cllr Clifford asked if the council had delegated powers to anyone and suggested that some powers could be delegated to the clerk. The clerk believed that the only explicit power delegated to her was that concerning emergency expenditure. Cllr Clifford suggested that delegating further powers to the clerk may be something that council would wish to consider.

Cllr Clifford asked who had responsibility for staffing matters. The clerk said she was line manager for other staff and conducted their appraisals and the staffing committee conducted the clerk's appraisal and dealt with other matters. The committee refers all matters of expenditure back to full council. Details of disciplinary and grievance procedures are on the council's website.

41/17/18 Part II

There were no members of the public present.

Members noted Payment sheet No. 490 dated 5th June 2017.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9.25pm.

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Chairman to the Council