

## MINUTES OF THEALE PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017 in the Peter Gooch Room, The Pavilion, Englefield Road, Theale.*

*Present: Councillors B. Williams (Chairman), S. Coker, J. Richardson, D. Wood, D. Baker, D. Lye, I. Hopcroft, P. Clifford & Z. Fenwick.*

*Apologies received: Cllrs. A. Macro and A. Clark.*

*Present: Jo Friend (Clerk) in attendance. Two members of the public were also present.*

*Declarations of Interest: None.*

### **210/16/17 Open Forum for Members of the Public**

Mr Paul Dinsdale asked if there was an update on the school. Cllr Williams said that TPC were not in a position to provide an update at the moment. Mr Dinsdale said West Berkshire Council had a position and he was asking for the parish council's position. He asked for a timescale of when an update would be provided. Cllr Williams replied that the parish council would provide an update as soon as it was able to.

The other member of the public was present to hear the council's discussion on a planning application.

There were no further questions so Cllr Williams closed the forum.

*Notifications of Chairman's remarks – Cllr Wood had one 1 item.*

## **SECTION A**

### **211/16/17 MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017 and 23rd JANUARY 2017.**

Members adopted the Minutes of the Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017. Proposed Cllr Fenwick; seconded Cllr Richardson. Approved nem con.

Members adopted the Minutes of the Meeting of 23rd January 2017. Proposed Cllr Baker; seconded Cllr Wood. Approved nem con.

### **212/16/17 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017 and 23rd JANUARY 2017.**

9/1/17 – there were no matters arising.

23/1/17 – there were no matters arising.

## **SECTION B**

### **213/16/17 District Council Report**

Cllr Macro had provided a written report which the Clerk read to council.

### **214/16/17 Clerk's Report**

Memorial Bench – Clerk to obtain more information from applicant. Members agreed that a Memorial Seat policy should be developed for future adoption.

**215/16/17 Planning Applications**

16/03612/ FULC	Creation of a single storey floating pavilion ancillary to office accommodation, in east quarter of lake, fixed to north side of embankment. New bridge from bank to provide access to pavilion.	Arlington Business Park, Theale RG7 4SA	Patron Arlington SARL	No objection
16/03616/FUL	New 3 storey extension, new main entrance to NE and rear facades complete with new glazed curtain walling & associated external landscaping improvements.	HP Enterprise Services UK Ltd, 1240 Arlington Business Park, Theale	Patron Arlington SARL	No objection
16/03575/ HOUSE	Two storey side extension & single storey rear extension	29 The Green, Theale RG7 5DR	Mr Adam Gunton	No objection
17/00133/ HOUSE	Revised proposals for proposed first floor extension over garage to front elevation	4 Blatchs Close, Theale RG7 5DH	Neil Smith	No objection
17/00124/ HOUSE	Single storey conservatory to the rear	8 Worsley Place, Theale RG7 5QP	Jason Lee & Charlotte Dixon	No objection
17/00196/ HOUSE	Single storey extension existing garage to create third bedroom with en suite shower room & alterations to existing single storey rear extension incorporating new roof make up & bifold doors	12 Swallowfield Gardens, Theale, RG7 5AD	Mr Graham & Miss Lewendon	No objection

**216/16/17 Boundary Commission Review of Warding**

Members wished for the following points to be made in its response to the consultation: Theale, as a village, has natural boundaries and an identity and they don't want it split; adding an area north of the M4 would not be appropriate as the motorway forms a distinct barrier and Theale had been as one with Holybrook before but had split in 2000; would be more natural for Theale district to include North Street and possibly Englefield village; the commission's projected electorate figure is too low, there are several developments that will be built and numbers will increase beyond BC's predictions. The Clerk reminded Members that they could all submit personal responses to the consultation. Members suggested that TPC's points should be put on its website to inform any members of the public who may also wish to comment.

*Two members of the public left the meeting.*

**217/16/17 West Berkshire Council Library Service**

The clerk updated Members following WBC's meeting for library volunteers which was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. A handful of prospective volunteers had attended the meeting, it is clear that WBC will need many more and will have to amend the way it is communicating/trying to attract volunteers to the service. Generally, the attendees were very positive about supporting the local branch and requested a further meeting in order to take things forward. TPC is having a second meeting with WBC on 20<sup>th</sup> February to look

at, among other things, how the building can be better used once the school leaves the library in July. WBC will be making its decision on which proposal it will adopt for the future library service, at its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> February. Indications are that it will choose Option A which will see one staff member at each library branch, aided by volunteers.

**218/16/17 Beansheaf Building**

Members discussed the communication from the council's legal advisor and agreed that the asset had been used by and contributed to by inhabitants of Theale & Holybrook. They asked for clarification on all the options that are available to TPC. Clerk to obtain this information.

**219/16/17 Social Media Policy**

Members RESOLVED to adopt the interim Social Media Policy as presented by the Clerk. Proposed Cllr Fenwick; seconded Cllr Coker. Approved nem con.

**220/16/17 Website**

Cllr Hopcroft had not received any content suggestions from councillors. The Clerk has been updating the site regularly. Members asked if it would be possible to get statistics on visitor numbers to the site and to particular pages. Clerk to check with provider.

**221/16/17 District/Parish Conference**

Clerk will attend.

**222/16/17 Circus**

Members agreed to have Circus Ginnett back in April/May. Many residents had enjoyed the last visit and it had gone smoothly. Councillors discussed the previous arrangements and commented on the impact the problems on the M4 had had on audience figures. They agreed that the fee would remain the same as it was in 2015.

**223/16/17 Training**

Funding Workshop – Cllr Richardson and the Clerk to attend.

**224/16/17 Berkshire Local Nature Partnership**

Cllr Hopcroft was keen to progress TPC's plans to carry out some projects relating to the natural environment. It was felt that advice could probably be obtained from organisations such as BBOWT and local volunteers rather than paying a membership fee to BLNP. Cllr Hopcroft will follow this up.

**225/16/17 Parish Council Representatives**

Members agreed that it would not be appropriate for a non-parish councillor to represent TPC on the Dr Ellerton's Charity committee. Council was disappointed that it was unable to provide a representative because of the additional duty the councillor would have to undertake for the charity and asked that the Clerk request a copy of the minutes of future Dr Ellerton's Charity meetings.

**226/16/17 Theale & Tilehurst CC – Kwik Cricket Tournament**

Members RESOLVED to waive any charge for this event, in line with previous years. Proposed Cllr Williams; seconded Cllr Clifford. Approved nem con.

**227/16/17 Defibrillators in Theale**

Members noted that a third defibrillator had been installed, this one is on the wall of the Post Office in the High Street.

**228/16/17 M4 Junctions 12 – 13 Road Works**

Noted.

**229/16/17 Authorisation of Payments**

It was RESOLVED that items on sheet no.480 and dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017 be approved for payment. Proposed Cllr Coker; seconded Cllr Wood. Approved nem con.

**SECTION C**

**230/16/17 Items for Information**

Noted.

**SECTION D**

**231/16/17 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Cllr Wood had noticed that the charity shop in the High Street appeared to have closed. Other councillors said different rumours had been circulating, no one seems sure about why it closed or how long it will remain so.

**232/16/17 Part II**

In view of the confidential nature of business to be conducted it is in the public interest that the public and press be excluded and are instructed to withdraw.

No members of the public were present.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9.45pm.

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*Chairman to the Council*