

MINUTES OF THEALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Theale Parish Council held at the John Cumber Hall, Theale on Monday 21st June 2021

Members present: Cllrs A Clark, P Clifford, S Coker, L Cox, R Gallop, K Gash, I Hopcroft & J Richardson (chairman).

Clerk: P Manley

Others present: Cllr A Macro (district councillor)

Meeting started 7:00pm

FUL/44/21/22 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Fenwick and Rolfe.

Cllr Coker declared an interest in item 2 on the agenda, as he manages a local football club. Cllr Hopcroft declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 3, as a member of the Environmental Working Party.

Cllr Clifford arrived at 7:08pm. Cllr Gash arrived at 7:14pm.

FUL/45/21/22 To form an 'open spaces' committee and adopt terms of reference

Following a discussion of views for and against forming the committee, it was agreed that the terms of reference had to be agreed before the committee could be formed.

The following changes were made to the draft terms of reference:

- 1.2 To change 'as often as necessary' to 'at least quarterly'
- 2.1 To remove 'This includes the recreation ground and North Street Playing Fields.'
- 2.2.d To add 'including sports pitches, fences and boundaries' to the end
- To include a clause stating that the committee retains the right to refer any matter to the council
- 2.3.a To remove 'all'
- 2.3.c To remove the clause
- 2.3.d To change 'other parties' to 'other relevant parties'.

Proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Hopcroft, the motion was put to vote and it was

RESOLVED to form an 'open spaces' committee and adopt the terms of reference including the above changes.

FUL/46/21/22 To elect members to the [open spaces] committee

It was agreed to elect all members to the open spaces committee, including those absent.

MOTION proposed by Cllr Gash and seconded by Cllr Gallop that the council elect Cllr Clifford as chair of the committee.

The motion was put to a vote and **RESOLVED**.

MOTION proposed by Cllr Gallop and seconded by Cllr Hopcroft that the council elect Cllr Gash as vice-chair of the committee.

The motion was put to a vote and **RESOLVED**.

FUL/47/21/22 To agree the projects to be considered by the [open spaces] committee, and delegate further development of the open spaces to the committee.

The list of projects (non-exclusive) to be considered by the open spaces committee included:

- a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)
- floodlights
- outdoor gym equipment
- new play area and
- CCTV.

FUL/48/21/22 To match-fund the Environmental Working Party’s proposal

The clerk notified the council that Cllr Macro had submitted two draft applications to Paul Hendry (West Berkshire Council) for his consideration prior to submission. The two applications corresponded with options 2 and 3 of the Environmental Working Party’s proposal.

Cllr Macro relayed Paul Hendry’s comment that ‘WBC will be making cherry trees available to local councils to plant in prominent areas as part of the Blossom into Spring Project’ and his recommendation that the Environmental Working Party supplement this offer with additional tree planting.

MOTION proposed by Cllr Richardson and seconded by Cllr Clark that the council agree to match-fund option 3 of the Environmental Working Party’s proposal (at a cost to the parish council of £5,000) should Cllr Macro be awarded the money, and that the £5,000 be funded by the ‘natural world’ reserve (£1,000) and general reserve (£,4000).

The motion was put to a vote and **RESOLVED** with one abstention. Cllr Cox asked that her abstention be noted.

The meeting ended at 8:27pm.

Signed _____ Dated _____