

An ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held on  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Englefield Road, and was attended by the following:

Chair: Cllr. Clifford,  
Councillors Present: Cllr. Paul, Cllr. Church, Cllr. Gallop, Cllr. Coker & Cllr. Hopkinson  
Others In Attendance: Blaire Brodie, Administration Officer & District Cllr. Macro  
Minutes: Di Hughes – Operations Manager/Clerk

### MINUTES

Agenda Item	Minute	Action Agreed	Vote (If required)
1.	<u>Apologies</u> Cllr. Seto & Cllr. Hopcroft	-	-
2.	<u>Declaration Of Interest &amp; Dispensations</u> None.	-	-
3.	<u>Minutes Of The Previous Meeting</u> It was agreed that the minutes of the meetings held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> February & 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2025 be approved as a true record of the meeting.  <u>Matters Arising From Previous Minutes</u> TPC are still waiting for an update for WBC Planning Enforcement regarding the High Street.	-	Proposed: RG Seconded: MP All in favour
4.	<u>Open Meeting</u> None.		
5.	<u>Monthly Reports</u> a. District Cllr. Macro had sent a written report via email and took questions from Councillors:  Cllr. Clifford asked questions about the proposed changes to rubbish & recycling collections.  Cllr. Gallop asked questions about capacity to empty both rubbish & recycling in the same week every six weeks.  Cllr. Macro confirmed dates & timings for the planning site 25/00062/FUL. The office will plan to attend the site visit on 30.04.2025 and a Parish Councillor will plan to attend the Eastern Area planning meeting via zoom on 07.05.2025	-	-



	<p>b. Cllr. Clifford formally welcomed Cllr. Hopkinson to the Council and then gave a verbal update.</p> <p>c. The Clerk had given an update via email on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April. She gave a verbal update regarding gates on North Street Playing Fields.</p> <p>d. Cllr. Gallop advised that he will be attending the Village Hall committee meeting on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April</p>		
6.	<p><u>Planning Matters</u> All planning matters were attached as an appendix and sent to the members in advance of the meeting. These are also available for members of the public to view on the TPC website.</p> <p><u>Planning Applications:</u> 25/00427/HOUSE – 3 Whitehart Close – No Objections</p> <p>25/00319/FUL – West of 24 Roundhead Road – Object. TPC object to the application for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thames Water do not appear to have been consulted and there are two manhole covers on this land that are emptied regularly. Will they still be able to access them if this build goes ahead?</li> <li>2. This land is part of the old Meadow and acts as a drain away for surface water in the vicinity. Where will this water go now?</li> <li>3. TPC believe there is a covenant on this land that is still in affect that states no building will be erected.</li> <li>4. The plans submitted will mean the loss of parking for existing residents.</li> </ol> <p><u>Decisions:</u> 25/00037/HOUSE – 7 St Ives Close – WBC Granted 24/02818/PACOU – Forum 1, Station Road - WBC Granted 25/00124/ADV – Lakeside, The Green – WBC Granted 24/01765/MDOPO2 – The Green – WBC Approved</p> <p><u>Other Matters:</u> 25/00062/FUL – 1A High Street – see agenda item 5a.</p>	Clerk to submit to WBC.	Proposed: RG Seconded: MP All in favour
7.	<p><u>Finance &amp; Accounts</u> All finance matters were attached as an appendix and sent to the members in advance of the meeting. These are also available for members of the public to view on the TPC website.</p> <p>a. Council approved all the invoices for payment.</p>	Cllr Gallop & Cllr Paul to authorise payments.	Proposed: SC Seconded: MP All in favour

*Paul*

	<p>b. Quotes for consideration:  ASW Marquees – Village Fete - approved  Meta Fence - Deferred</p>		<p>Proposed: MP  Seconded: HH  All in favour</p>
8.	<p><u>Correspondence Received</u>  Correspondence where relevant is being sent to members via email.</p>	-	-
9.	<p><u>Community Grants</u>  Under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 Theale Parish Council can spend money for the direct benefit of its area, or part of its area, or all or some of its residents.</p> <p>Theale Parish Council reviewed and discussed all the applications received and the following grants were awarded:</p> <p>£250.00 - Berkshire Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre  £500.00 - 1st Theale Brownies  £400.00 - Thunderbirds Netball Club  £500.00 - Can Do It Club  £400.00 - Carebus Community Transport  £450.00 - Standby Volunteer Group</p> <p>The Village Hall application was incomplete but was still considered by Council. On this occasion, the application was unsuccessful. The main reason that The Village Hall application was declined was Council felt that having funded the CCTV camera within the last year which cost over £900.00 that they had already shown their support to the charity and needed to show support to others within the community.</p> <p>The formal presentations will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025.</p>	<p>Clerk to advise all applications if their applications were successful or not.</p>	<p>Proposed: SC  Seconded: MP  All in favour</p>
10.	<p><u>Berkshire Youth Football League</u></p> <p>BYFL had submitted a formal request in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>a. It was agreed that after the initial teething problems with the traffic that everything was working well.</p> <p>b. Council agreed to renew this booking for another three years (three seasons commencing September 2025). The three strikes and you are out clause is to remain in place. Price increases will be in line with other sports bookings.</p>	<p>Clerk to write to BYFL with the outcome and to send a new Service Level Agreement.</p>	<p>Proposed: RG  Seconded: HH  All in favour</p>



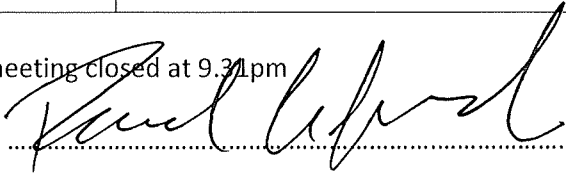
	<p>c. Council declined the request from BYFL to add the 11 a-side-adult pitch to this agreement. If the new sports pitch is unable to be used, then council will consider booking the adult 11-a-side pitch as an alternative.</p>		
11.	<p><u>Outdoor Sports Facilities &amp; Grounds Club Usage</u></p> <p>a. Theale &amp; Tilehurst Cricket Club had formally requested a meeting with Cllr. Clifford. However the meeting has been postponed so this matter was be deferred.</p> <p>b. The Clerk asked Council to agree how much usage they were willing to take on the sports pitches for the coming year considering:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The amount of weekly use on a pitch without ruining the land.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The additional traffic in and around the village.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The additional income generated for the Council.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The potential additional spend to local business on the High Street.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">It was agreed that no additional regular bookings should be taken on NSPF as this could further damage the land.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">It was agreed that all other sports pitches could accommodate two regular matches a week.</p>	<p>The office will review and confirm bookings for the 2025/2026 football season and the 2025 cricket season.</p>	<p>Proposed: PC Seconded: RG All in favour</p>
12.	<p><u>WBC Nuisance &amp; Obstruction – Overhanging Vegetation</u></p> <p>Council agreed to pilot this scheme for one year.</p>	<p>Clerk to advise WBC of the outcome.</p>	<p>Proposed: MP Seconded: SC All in favour</p>
13.	<p><u>West Berkshire Permit Scheme Fee – Consultation</u></p> <p>Having read the consultation document Council agreed that they had no comments to make to WBC.</p>	-	-
14.	<p><u>New IT Equipment</u></p> <p>Following an audit of all existing devices Council authorised the purchase of a new laptop for the new Assistant Clerk role.</p> <p>In future Council to ensure they budget for a rolling repair programme for the Councillor devices.</p>	<p>Clerk to purchase new laptop ready for the 1<sup>st</sup> May which is the planned start date of the new Assistant Clerk.</p>	<p>Proposed: MP Seconded: PC All in favour</p>

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	We currently have two spare refurbished devices which can be allocated to new Councillors as and when co-opted.		
15.	<u>Events Update</u>  The Clerk gave an update on the operational aspects of: Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April Sports Day & Big Picnic – Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> May Outdoor Cinema – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June Village Fete – Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	-	-
16.	<u>Date Of Next Meeting</u> Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May @ 7.30pm (Annual Council Meeting)	-	-

The meeting closed at 9.31pm

Chair: .....



Date: .....

14/4/25

