

MINUTES OF THEALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the full council meeting of Theale Parish Council held on Monday 6th July 2020 via online video conference

Present: Cllrs D Baker, A Clark, P Clifford, S Coker, L Cox, K Gash, J Richardson, C Rolfe & B Williams (Chairman)

Clerk (Designate): P Manley and **Interim Clerk:** C Barlow

Public/Press: No members of the public

PART 1

19/20/21 To receive any apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Z Fenwick & I Hopcroft.

No declarations of interest were received.

20/20/21

Cllr Williams asked the council to propose three motions not included on the agenda (minutes 32/20/21, 36/20/21 and 37/20/21 below):

- i. to approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ending 2020 (part 1)
- ii. to discuss the necessary ensuing security measures following the recent unauthorised encampment on North Street Playing Fields (part 2) and
- iii. to decide on the opening of the Pavilion and/or playground (part 2).

Proposed by Cllr Richardson, seconded by Cllr Coker, it was

RESOLVED to move the above listed motions during the meeting.

21/20/21 Chairman to receive any matters to be raised by members

Cllr Coker stated he had a matter which would likely be covered in part 2.

22/20/21 To adopt the minutes of the meeting of the parish council on 8th June and authorise their signing at a later date

Proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr Cox, it was

RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the parish council on 8th June and authorise their signing at a later date.

23/20/21 To consider and agree a formal response to planning applications received since the last council meeting

20/01305/FUL	Proposed change of use from Class A1 to 3no. two bedroom residential properties	51 Church Street Theale RG7 5BX Mr Farrell
Cllr Baker stated that this application had since been withdrawn.		
APP/W0340/W/20/3251129 (application reference 19/02915/HOUSE)	Appeal against the refusal of planning permission for: detached four bay garage to provide parking for 1 and 2 Church Street Mews with first floor annexe	1 and 2 Church Street Mews Theale RG7 5BF Mr and Mrs Dickinson
The council decided to submit representation saying that it agrees with West Berkshire Council's refusal of the planning application as the parish council's previous comments were not addressed.		
20/01367/FUL	Erection of 2no. 2 bedroom chalet bungalows with vehicle parking, landscaping. Proposal includes dropped kerb and vehicle crossover.	10 Church Street Theale RG7 5BT Mr and Mrs Earl
<p>It was</p> <p>RESOLVED to object to the application on the following grounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. considering the location is on the edge of a Conservation Area, the proposed development is not in keeping with neighbouring properties ii. although the development listed as Church Street, the proposed access onto Englefield Road is opposite the junction with Cloister Mews, next to access to garages and close to the busy junction of Englefield Road and Church Street, all of which significantly increases the risk of an accident in an already busy area iii. the proposal would be an over-development of a small space, resulting in very little room for a garden or backyard iv. there are only two proposed spaces for cars, which will not be enough, especially if the residents received visitors; additionally, disabled badge holders might feel compelled to park on the double-yellow lines on Englefield Road which, given the close proximity to the junction of Englefield Road and Church Street, will impede drivers' sight lines and, again, increase the risk of an accident. 		

20/01442/COMIND	Proposed new façade to existing showroom and small building extension to rear of site	Porsche Pincents Kiln Calcot RG31 7SE Porsche Cars Great Britain Ltd (adjacent parish)
No objection		

24/20/21 To note West Berkshire Council Planning Decisions for Theale Parish since the last parish council meeting

20/00923/COND1	Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (drainage) and 7 (cycle parking) of approved application 19/00283/PACOU, which granted prior approval for the change of use of offices (Class B1a) to form 23 apartments.	James Butcher House 39 High Street Theale Pembroke Property Holdings Ltd	Approved
20/00787/FUL	Installation of new generator and GRP enclosure for external services	1320 Arlington Business Park Theale RG7 4SA Veritas Technologies LLC	Approved
20/00982/FUL	Proposed erection of 3m high security fence with associated pedestrian and vehicular gates	Station Plaza Brunel Road Theale RG7 4AQ The Police and Crime Commissioner— Thames Valley Police	Approved
20/01029/HOUSE	First floor front and rear extension	37a Wigmore Lane Theale RG7 5HH Will Anstey	Approved
20/00887/FUL	The replacement of the existing windows	Ilex House 10a High Street Theale RG7 5AN AAA Premier Group	Approved

25/20/21 To authorise payments as listed on payment schedule 556 dated 6th July 2020

Proposed by Cllr Richardson and seconded by Cllr Coker, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED to agree to the payment of items listed on payment schedule 556 dated 6th July 2020 to a total of £9,807.36.

26/20/21 As part of the annual review of the council's policies, to approve the:

- a. **CCTV Policy**
- b. **Training and Development Policy**
- c. **Financial Regulations and**
- d. **Financial Risk Assessment**

It was suggested the Clerk:

- i. in the CCTV Policy, change references to the Data Protection Act 1998 to General Data Protection Regulation
- ii. in the Training and Development Policy, remove section 6—'Appraisals'—and insert a clause which states that councillors will be encouraged to attend training at least annually
- iii. record the more recent tree survey than that listed in the Financial Risk Assessment and investigate any actions and recommendation which resulted and
- iv. in the Financial Risk Assessment, clarify the distinction between PAT and FIT.

Cllr Baker requested that future policy reviews highlight the changes made.

The clerk offered to investigate training opportunities for councillors nearer Theale or online.

Subject to the above changes being made, it was

RESOLVED to approve the CCTV Policy, Training and Development Policy, Financial Regulations and Financial Risk Assessment.

27/20/21 To discuss the continued anti-social behaviour on the recreation ground, especially around the Social Club and Village Hall, Pavilion, car park and youth shelter with the intention to resolve such matters dependant on councillor suggestions

Cllrs Williams updated the council on the recent spate of antisocial behaviour on the recreation ground, especially around the youth shelter and car park.

Following a suggestions from councillors, the clerk offered to:

- i. investigate the possibility of remote CCTV cameras trained on the skatepark and playground, including the necessary technology, whether the present CCTV system can be augmented and the relevant legal considerations
- ii. talk with Theale Village Hall and Theale Social Club about the possibility of installing a locked gate or chain at the entrance to the car park—funded by all three organisations—to discourage nighttime antisocial behaviour and

- iii. contact local parish councils, such as Burghfield Parish Council, to find out what measures they have taken in similar circumstances.

Following its proposal and unanimous approval, it was

RESOLVED to authorise the removal of the youth shelter to discourage antisocial behaviour.

28/20/21 To agree to the installation of a new emergency vehicle access gate, padlock and 'break glass for key' box for the recreation ground at an estimated cost of £1,320 + VAT

As per the clerk's recommendation, and following Cllr Williams' suggestion the 'break glass for key' boxes be placed in the Peter Gooch Room and the corridor between the office and toilets, it was unanimously

RESOLVED to agree to the installation by Company A (Dave Lane) of a new emergency vehicle access gate, padlock and 'break glass for key' box for the recreation ground at an estimated cost of £1,320 + VAT, mindful that the actual cost may differ slightly.

29/20/21 To confirm that the council renew the trusteeship of Mr Dennis Hayden for the Tilehurst Poor's Lands Charity until May 2022

It was

RESOLVED that the council renew the trusteeship of Mr Dennis Hayden for the Tilehurst Poor's Lands Charity until May 2022.

Cllr Williams expressed the council's thanks to Dennis Hayden for his continued dedication to the village.

30/20/21 To confirm Christmas lights options

With a view to organising other options in February 2021 for the following Christmas, it was

RESOLVED to confirm the Christmas lights options as listed on the quotation from Blachere Illumination Ltd to a total of £4,384.86.

31/20/21 To consider a donation towards the Lockdown Wood Project

It was requested that the clerk ask Newbury Friends of the Earth for more information about the intended location of said wood. Until such information was obtained, it was

RESOLVED to defer consideration of a donation towards the Lockdown Wood Project.

32/20/21 To authorise three requests from Theale and Tilehurst Cricket Club:

- a. to store and use a mobile batting cage on the recreation ground
- b. to fix an honours board in the Peter Gooch Room and
- c. to put netting under the hedge along the car park.

Regarding a., it was

RESOLVED to authorise the request from Theale and Tilehurst Cricket Club to store and use a mobile batting cage on the recreation ground, subject to signs being displayed warning members of the public to be aware when the cricket pitch was in use, and the club being considerate about the safety of other users of the field whilst using the cricket pitch.

Regarding b., it was

RESOLVED not to authorise the request from Theale and Tilehurst Cricket Club to fix an honours board in the Peter Gooch Room until its completed refurbishment.

Regarding c., it was

RESOLVED to decline authorisation of the request from Theale and Tilehurst Cricket Club to put netting under the hedge along the car park, because of concern over the impact on wildlife, grounds maintenance and the overall aesthetics of the area.

The council suggested the club consider erecting a temporary net whilst the pitch was in use, instead.

33/20/21 To approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ending 2020

It was

RESOLVED to approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ending 2020.

PART 2

34/20/21 To resolve that the public leaves the meeting for the remaining items, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, section 1(2)

It was

RESOLVED that the public leaves the meeting for the remaining items.

35/20/21 To authorise the continued appointment of Alan Harland FCA as per the items stipulated in his letter

It was

RESOLVED to authorise the continued appointment of Alan Harland FCA as per the items stipulated in his letter.

36/20/21 To approve the reasons for the continued absences from any council meetings of two councillors for a period exceeding six months, subject to Local Government Act 1972, section 85(1)

Following a prior discussion between Cllrs Fenwick and Williams, it was proposed and subsequently

RESOLVED to grant Cllr Fenwick's continued absence from any council meetings for a further six months from 6th July 2020, to be considered again at the end of that period if necessary.

37/20/21 To discuss the necessary ensuing security measures following the recent unauthorised encampment on North Street Playing Fields

The clerk updated the council on the action to be done following the unauthorised encampment, including the building of a bund along the north-western edge of North Street Playing Fields.

38/20/21 To decide on the opening of the Pavilion and/or playground

Based on Cllr Williams' noting that the government's COVID-19 guidance restricts meeting indoors to people from a maximum of two households and that the use of changing rooms presented an increased risk of the transmission of the virus, it was

RESOLVED not to open the Pavilion for any hire for the time being.

Cllr Williams asked the clerk to ensure the council's insurance policy covered the opening of the playground with the current measures.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10.02pm.

Signed _____ Dated _____