

Twyford Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

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Meeting held at The Loddon Hall, Twyford on Tuesday 23rd February 2016 at 7.45 pm.

Present: Mr R Mantel (Chair), Mrs E Ashley, Mrs L Jarvis, Messrs M Bedford (from 20:05 onwards), J Bowley, M Boniface, D Fergusson, J Jarvis, R Morris, C Smith, C Wickenden & T Winchester.

In attendance: - Borough Councillor Lindsay Ferris, PCSO Mark Sneideris, Twyford Neighbourhood Policing Team & 1 member of the public.

1. **Public questions** – none.
2. **Apologies** – Mrs B Ditcham.
3. **PCSO Mark Sneideris, Twyford Neighbourhood Policing Team.** Mark Sneideris summarised the staffing changes in the Twyford team. The team have been tackling the parking problems around the station issuing 50 tickets in the last month. Mark Sneideris pledged his support for CCTV in the village and is trying to raise funds for village centre CCTV. Mr Boniface asked what crime there is in the village. Mark Sneideris responded that there had been some car crime and graffiti reported in nearby Hare Hatch. The clerk reported broken glass bottles in King George V recreation ground and on Broad Hinton.
4. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – none.
5. **Dispensations** – none.
6. **Minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2016.** Proposed Mrs E Ashley, seconded Mr J Jarvis, carried unanimously.
7. **Matters arising** – none.
8. **Borough Council Matters.** Borough Councillor Lindsay Ferris reported a 3.94% increase in Council tax made up of 2% adult social care and 1.94% other. The Fire Brigade have an increase of 1%. The Finance Settlement from Central Government will see a reduction from £12.5million to £6.1m with further reductions planned. A transitional grant of £2.1m will be awarded for 2016/17 and 2017/18. There is no allocation in the Capital Program for the Community Hub. A review of library services is being undertaken. Lindsay Ferris reported that WBC are reviewing the SGN works along the Hurst Road which are progressing very slowly. They will move to Lodge Road Hurst and then return to the Waltham Road. There have been concerns over the timing of the traffic lights.
Borough Councillor John Jarvis reported. He reported the Police and Crime Commissioner council tax increase to be 1%. WBC are the biggest collector of collector of council tax with a 99% collection rate. He reported that the Borough can only increase their precept by 2% (excluding provision for adult social care) without going to a referendum. He reported that the Community Hub would be funded through the re-development of the car park, the planning application for the Community hub is due to be accepted in the next month. Mr Morris reported that the dumper truck traveling to and from the Stanlake Lane has no registration plate and questioned the legality of this. Mr Bedford queried the 1% increase from the Fire Service as when they made their presentation to the Council they reported that they were amalgamating services in order to cut costs. Mr Winchester asked why the Council will not go to referendum as most people would pay more for services. Mr Jarvis responded that the cost of a referendum is expensive. Further discussion took place on the Community Hub and how the Council can ensure it makes it onto WBC's capital program.

9. Liaison with Ruscombe Parish Council. Mrs C Bulman had given her apologies. There was no report.

10. Reports and to receive any recommendations from committees:

10.1 Planning and Amenities Committee 02.02.2016 Mr Smith reported on the minutes.

The committee **RECOMMEND to the Full Council** to approve the Terms of Reference for Joint Working over the Management of the Community Infrastructure Levy – final draft. Motion carried unanimously and the Chairman signed the agreement.

In accordance with Standing order 13a [Any expenditure incurred by the Council shall be in accordance with the Council's financial regulations] and Financial Regulation 3.7 [No expenditure shall be incurred in relation to any capital project and no contract entered into or tender accepted involving capital expenditure unless the Council is satisfied that the necessary funds are available, or the requisite borrowing approval has been obtained.] A **RECOMMENDATION to Full Council** proposed by Mr C Wickenden, seconded Mr D Fergusson to set aside standing order 13 (given that no Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting had been held) to enable the Council to consider the following 3 financial recommendations. The Chairman and clerk confirmed that there are sufficient funds for these recommendations if they are approved. 10 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Motion put forward by Mrs B Ditcham: Hanging Baskets - For the Council to consider making a recommendation to 'top up' the budgeted amount of £640 by £560 from capital funds in order to purchase 20 hanging baskets. 6 to be located as requested by the Council and the remaining 14 to be donated to TVP. After some discussion it was proposed Mr R Morris, seconded Mr J Jarvis to **RECOMMEND to Full Council** to approve £560 for use by the Planning and Amenities committee on hanging baskets as the committee see fit. Motion carried 10 on favour, 2 against. The logistics to be agreed by the Planning and Amenities committee.

10.2 Parish Lands Committee 09.02.2016 & Family Picnic sub committee Mr Bowley summarised the meeting highlighting items 11.2 – review of usage of the Stanlake pavilion and 11.3 – approval of usage of the pavilion for the Colleton School after school club

The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** to allocate a budget of £5,000 to renovate the pavilion kitchen. 10 in favour, 2 abstained. Motion carried.

The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** to allocate a budget of £1,000 for the Village Ranger to decorate the pavilion interior. 10 in favour, 2 abstained.

The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** to allocate a budget of £40,000 for the Children's play park (toddler side) project. It is anticipated this will be funded through £7,000 S106 funding, £26,000 CIL money and the remainder from Capital Funds.

Agreed that given the amount and project timescale this recommendation will follow the usual protocol and be considered by the Finance and General Purposes committee in March.

10.3 Finance and General Purposes Committee 16.02.2016 – no meeting held.

10.4 Other Representatives reports.

10.4.1 Community Hub meeting – Mr Bowley reported that a meeting had not been held. Mr Jarvis had attended a separate financial meeting and reported that a quote for Polehampton Charities of £17,000 to draw up the leases was considered too expensive.

10.4.2 WBC Peer Challenge – Mr Mantel reported. Only 2 days notice was given for the review and as a result there were only representatives from 2 Parish Councils. The results of the review will be circulated.

11. Clerk's report The clerk reported on the Wokingham Borough Officer & Clerk's Forum held on 8th February. A presentation was given by WBC's Francesca Hobson about Flood Action Groups. Francesca will be attending the Planning and Amenities meeting on 5th April to talk about Twyford forming such a group. A discussion took place on open spaces and environment issues. WBC's Chris Buggy from Countryside Services has been looking at the concept of Public Space Protection Orders (dogs) either for the whole borough or the country parks.

In public areas with PSPOs, you may have to:

- keep your dog on a lead
- put your dog on a lead if told to by a police officer, police community support officer or someone from the council
- stop your dog going to certain places - like farmland or parts of a park
- limit the number of dogs you have with you (this applies to professional dog walkers too)
- clear up after your dog

WBC are looking to introduce a charge of £625 p.a. to commercial users of their parks. They plan to limit dog numbers to 4 per walker. The Parishes were concerned that these steps may encourage commercial dog walkers to move to the Parish parks and open spaces. It was agreed to set up a working group to agree a model set of rules to ensure appropriate behavior across the borough.

WBC's Chief Executive Andy Couldrick spoke about the cuts in government grants and the savings that will need to be made across the borough's services. He said they will be holding a full scale review of the Council and will need to change the way things are organised. Staff will need to multitask and be mobile – he said that WBC will look very different in shape and size and used the example of West Berkshire who are closing libraries and children's centres. He spoke about CIL monies and said that these decisions sit with the Parish as to whether they share funds with the Borough or decide to have 'gold plated swings'.

12. Councillor Questions – none.

13. Correspondence

13.1 TRCA AGM Minutes – circulated by email. Noted.

13.2 Wokingham area bus timetable – leaflets were circulated.

14. List of authorised payments – List dated 22.02.2016 proposed Mr J Jarvis, (subject to ratification of the Thames Water invoice) seconded Mr C Wickenden, carried unanimously.

15. Dates of meetings:

Planning and Amenities Committee	01.03.16
Ruscombe Parish Council meeting (LJ)	02.03.16
Family Picnic sub committee (all welcome)	08.03.16 (7pm)
Parish Lands Committee	08.03.16
Meet your councillor session	12.03.16 (Waitrose 3-4)
Mrs Ashley, Mr C Smith & Mr R Mantel as reserve	
Finance Committee	15.03.16
*Borough Wide litter pick	19.03.16 (10am)
*To be attended by all available councillors	
TRCA meeting (JB)	04.04.16

16. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 22nd March 2016.

The meeting closed at 9.42 pm.