

Twyford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Meeting held remotely on Tuesday 9th June 2020 at 7:30pm.

Present: Mr J Bowley (Vice-Chairman), Mr R Abeywardana, Mr M Alder, Mrs E Ashley, Mr M Bray, Mrs B Ditcham, Mrs J Duffield, Mrs T Ramsden, Mr C Wickenden, Mr T Winchester & Mrs S Wisdom.

In attendance: 1 member of the press.

Clerk present: Mrs L Povey (Assistant Clerk) & Mrs L Moffatt (Clerk).

1. **Public Questions have been invited in advance of the meeting via email, telephone or in writing.** No questions.
2. **Apologies.** Mr J Jarvis, Mrs L Jarvis & Mr R Mantel.
3. **Declaration of interest in items on the agenda.** None.
4. **Dispensations.** None.

Planning & Amenities Matters

5. **Matters arising and action points** – Assistant Clerk informed the Council that the streetlamp outside Miles & Daughters has a new repair date of the 6/8/20. Noted.

6. **Planning Matters - Current List**

* Please note, the Chair & Vice-Chair to liaise prior to this meeting to discuss any comments. The Chair to update the Committee on any comments to be submitted.

- 6.1 Householder Prior Notification

- 6.2 193191 Loddon Park Farm (1) – Should not set a precedent for future development.

- 6.3 193205 Loddon Park Farm (2) – Should not set a precedent for future development.

- 6.4 200073 47 Station Road – No comment subject to WBC checking the plans are in accordance with Station Conservation Area rules and restrictions.

- 6.5 200687 12 Amberley Drive – No comment.

- 6.6 201100 33 Hurst Road (1) – No comment.

- 6.7 201101 33 Hurst Road (2) – Objection, change of the street scene from a green rural scene.

- 6.8 201160 9 Ruscombe Road – No comment.

7. **Footway Lighting, General Amenity Matters, Village Maintenance & Highways**

* Please note, only urgent items will be discussed within this section. Everyday management will be delegated to the Assistant Clerk.

- 7.1 Gateway signage – to consider quote received £9,454.35 (circulated 1/4/20). Clerk to provide an update within the Clerks report (item 9).

- 7.2 Drains along B3018 – blocked. Awaiting WBC to action. Carried forward.

Planning & Amenities Committee items to note:

1. **Notices of permission**

* denotes applications that the Council has previously commented on.

- 1.1 200723 68 Wargrave Road

- 1.2 200984 103 London Road

- 1.3 201003 30 Broad Hinton

2. **Notices of refusal**

- 2.1 192280 Land to the Rear 20 & 22 Station Road (circulated 18.05.20)

* Twyford Parish Council comments; The committee are not in agreement of the plans being approved and support the residents in their views and comments.

WBC – Reasons for Refusal

1. The proposed development by reason of its stark form, siting and discordant design within the street scene would result in significant harmful impact on the character of the area, failing to preserve or enhance the special architectural and historic character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The proposed development is contrary to Policy CP1, CP3 of the Core Strategy and TB24 of the MDD Local Plan, the Borough Design Guide SPD and the NPPF.

2.2 200472 7 New Road

* TPC Comments to the Planning Application - Objection on the grounds of unsuitability of the site abutting the A4. This should not be seen as a self-build unless it is covered by community build rules which would give priority to existing residents & should only be considered after a housing needs survey has been conducted.

WBC – Reasons for Refusal

1. The proposed development would constitute an inappropriate form of tandem development of a residential garden, out of keeping with the general pattern of development and which would cause harm of the local area. The proposal would not make a positive contribution to the character of the area. The proposed development is considered to have an adverse impact on character and appearance of the surrounding landscape. As such the proposal is contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework, Policy CP1 and CP3 of the Core Strategy, policies CC03, TB02 and TB06 of the Managing Development Delivery Local Plan and the Borough Design Guide.

2. Insufficient information has been submitted; the proposed site layout does not demonstrate that the proposed car port meets WBC's parking standards. The proposed site plan would need to be updated to show turning areas and swept paths to reflect an updated parking layout. The proposed development has failed to demonstrate no detrimental impact on highway safety. This is contrary to Policy TB20 of the Managing Development Delivery Local Plan.

3. Other planning matters

3.1 201182 9 Wagtail Close – Application for works to protected tree(s) TPO 54/1972, Group 1. T1, Holm Oak – overall reduction of the tree of 2.5m-3m similar to the work carried out at Mr Trevor Morrison's property, 10 Wagtail Close application ref. 200375 (INFORMATION ONLY)

3.2 201230 32 Springfield Park – Application for works to protected tree(s) TPO 178/1980, Group 15. T1, Holm Oak – reduce by approx. 2m in height and 1.5m in width. Crown raise the southern side of the canopy to 3m over the path and 5m over the road (INFORMATION ONLY).

Full Council Matters

8. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 2nd June 2020 (to be signed at a later date) Approval of the minutes as a true and accurate record proposed Mr M Bray, seconded Mr T Winchester, motion carried unanimously.

9. Clerks report An unauthorised encampment of 10 caravans and a further 12 vehicles (crime report number URN:975050620) had broken their way into Stanlake Meadow through the gate nearest the Ruscombe bridge on Stanlake Lane. This happened at around 5:30pm on Friday 5th June and bailiffs were instructed after police had confirmed they would not use their powers. Bailiffs moved the encampment off by 1pm Saturday. A clean up was organised for Sunday but with a glass table and domestic appliance left which should be removed by tomorrow morning. The football shed was broken into and cricket square ropes were cut and area driven over (crime report number: URN:618060620).

Email response from Phil Ashlee, Acting Inspector 6004 Wokingham Neighbourhood Police was circulated on 08.06.20. He said his rationale for not using their powers was that, whilst this was a fairly large encampment on primary land at this point they had not

caused any significant damage, there were no signs of anti-social behaviour, they were not blocking any public facilities and had informed them of their intention to leave within a few days. Based on this and the fact that at the moment the guidance from Government and the National Police Chiefs Council is that where possible they should not move on any encampments due to Covid-19, he did not and still does not feel that this encampment falls within their powers. A witness call reporting the break in as it happened had not been passed onto attending officers. The Inspector does not believe this would have changed his use of Section 61 Powers.

The clerk has forwarded a written statement from the witness onto Phil Ashlee and requested feedback on why this was not passed on and clarification that the criminal damage has been recorded.

- Cost breakdown:
 - £4,100 bailiffs
 - Clean up – cost to be reported at a future meeting
 - Staff hours

Communication with residents worked well on facebook and twitter. A number of residents called or emailed to report the encampment. Two pieces of correspondence have been circulated.

On a separate issue park waste bins were emptied a day late at Stanlake Meadow last week and several reports of overflowing waste were received. Wokingham Borough Council have reported that they have had to increase their bin emptying as usage has increased with a higher usage of the parks.

Councillors expressed disappointment as to the police response and asked why we don't have designated land in Wokingham to move travellers onto. Discussed re-considering replacing the gates (suggestion to utilise CIL funds). Resident feedback as to the communications was good.

10. Community Resilience program

10.1 Twyford Arts and Crafts Festival 2020. Mr R Abeywardana reported.

10.1.1 Leaflet update – leaflets are due to be delivered tomorrow and TATA and volunteer councillors will be helping with the distribution.

10.1.2 Website update – Ginger Stag are doing a good job of uploading the entries. Mr Abeywardana will liaise with them about improving the look for the written submissions.

10.1.3 Advertising update – The design has been sent to RG10 ready for their next publication.

10.1.4 Open Air Cinema 2021 – detail and costings – to consider budget (to make bookings) and how much is required for 2021 budget – Mrs Wisdom reported on her research. The group will report to a future meeting with more detailed costing information.

10.1.5 Next steps – 2021 exhibition event and themes to keep the initiative going – carried forward.

10.2 Wokingham Community Hub update – carried forward.

10.3 Green Prescriptions – carried forward.

11. Communication & liaison with other groups within the Parish

11.1 Report that WBC are liaising with Twyford Together & Twyford Covid – 19 group to support businesses to re-open. The Clerk reported.

Business meeting with WBC Localities, recovery, communication representatives, Twyford Together & Twyford Covid-19 group 12.06.20 – items discussed were:

- Social distancing / grants / promoting businesses
- Letter being sent to businesses with re-opening guidance / links / posters re social distancing.

- Banners / lamppost banners / posters / sandwich boards being supplied
- Hope to locate some banners in windows of vacant shops
- Discussed using marshals / advisers – thought not necessary
- Window logos - stay safe /stay local /shop Twyford
- WBC sending a survey to 1500 businesses asking are they opening what support do they need?
- Regular meetings with business forum representatives from each town & WBC representatives which Rob Yeadon will attend
- WBC's Bernie Pitch to arrange a meeting with highways and clerk to discuss footpath footprints and bus queue assistance to help guide queues and assist with social distancing on footpaths
- Suggestion that WBC may be able to assist with budget to promote local businesses
- Groups keen to create a directory of local businesses to help support them as they reopen. WBC unable to take this on but happy to help share on social media

A further meeting was held this morning with Mrs B Ditcham the clerk and WBC's Martin Heath. WBC's Bernie Pitch was unable to join the meeting. Discussion took place on WBC's will that social distancing should be possible in order to allow Twyford residents to shop local. Suggestions such as road closures, diversions, barriers to widen walkways and moving the traffic lights to allow more pedestrian movement was discussed. Pinch points around Costa and the dentist /opticians / Haweli were also discussed. WBC needs knowledge on which shops are re-opening.

Also discussed were highways issues:

- Streetlight outside Miles and Daughters – replacement will not be carried out until after 6th August due to a temporary Traffic Regulatory Order being required and delays due to the proposed traffic management plan.
- Being able to go direct to Volker Highways to arrange streetlamp works and other services through our own contract.
- Gateway signs – a new member of staff has been assigned to this and progress should soon be made.

12. Items to be discussed at the next meeting:

- Correspondence item 18 - Local Green Space Designations to be discussed at the next meeting. Mr C Wickenden to draft a list for submission by the deadline of 18th June.
- Skate park – being used and how to maintain social distancing
- Encampment – involvement of WBC, help moving forward, to consider gate replacement & possible funding through CIL funds.
- Health and wellbeing page of website – Mrs E Ashley allocated items to be written up and sent to her by Sunday:
 - Allotments and gardening – Mrs T Ramsden
 - Twyforward & being creative – Mr R Abeywardana
 - Foodbank and volunteering – Mr C Wickenden


- Other article suggestions were mentoring, open spaces, tennis & other sports, friendship groups, virtual exercise classes, loneliness & childhood anxiety (ARC may assist).

13. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 16th June 2020

Lucy Moffatt (Clerk), Twyford Parish Council, PO box 8250, Reading, Berks, RG6 9SZ.
Telephone 0118 9345444. An answer phone is available, please be prepared to leave your name and telephone number as the Clerk's hours are flexible. Associated reports are available from the Clerk on request.

Full Council items to note:

Correspondence circulated by email:

1. The Wokingham Chain Newsletter (circulated 29.05.20)
2.  NALC Digital Version Of LCR Spring 2020 Available For Free (circulated 29.05.20)
3.  NALC Coronavirus — Information For Parish And Town Councils (circulated 29.05.20)
4. HALC COVID-19 Update (circulated 29.05.20)
5. CIL & Infrastructure information sharing between WBC & Parishes (circulated 29.05.20)
6.  NALC Get Your Free Look At LCR Magazine(circulated 29.05.20)
7. CCB REMINDER Online Training Opportunity: Community Led Housing Webinar, Thursday 4th June (circulated 29.05.20)
8.  NALC Help NALC In Its Ground-Breaking Research On Dementia (circulated 29.05.20)
9. ARC Annual Report (circulated 29.05.20)
10. Ruscombe Parish Council meeting 3rd June 2020 via Zoom (circulated 29.05.20)
11. Fields in Trust - Discover our 2020 Green Space Index and find out where your local area ranks (circulated 29.05.20)
12.  NALC Open Letter to all Councillors (circulated 29.05.20)
13.  NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin (circulated 29.05.20)
14. Vital for Berkshire - CoronaVirus Appeal update (circulated 29.05.20)
15. Involve- The Wokingham Chain Newsletter (circulated 29.05.20)
16. WBC – Reopening of HWRCs (circulated 3/6/20).
17. Planning Objections by AH Planning (circulated 3/6/20).
18. WBC – Local Green Space Designations (circulated 3/6/20). Mr C Wickenden to look up the list of areas within Twyford that have already been suggested as a local green space. Mr M Bray to construct a list of other suggested areas for discussion at next weeks meeting. Clerk to add to the agenda for the 16/6/20.
19. WBC – June Enforcement Figures (circulated 3/6/20).

Meeting closed at 20:31

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