

# Twyford Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Meeting held at Stanlake Pavilion on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7:45 pm.

**Present:** Mr R Mantel (Chairman), Mr R Abeywardana (Vice-Chairman), Mr M Alder, Mrs E Ashley, Mr J Bowley, Mr M Bray, Mrs B Ditcham, Mrs A Evans, Mrs L Jarvis, Mr J Jarvis & Mr C Wickenden.

**In attendance:** Mr P Cassidy – Ruscombe Parish Council

**Clerk present:** Mrs L Moffatt (Clerk).

1. **Public Questions** No questions.
2. **Apologies** Councillors - Mrs T Ramsden & Mrs S Wisdom  
Mr S Conway (Borough Councillor).
3. **Declaration of interest in items on the agenda** None.
4. **Dispensations** None.
5. **Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
Amended to include Mr C Wickenden as present.  
Proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded Mr C Wickenden to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. Motion carried nem con.
6. **Matters Arising** None.
7. **Borough Council Matters** Mr S Conway had given his apologies and reported by email:
  - The consultation on the latest version of the draft local plan ended on Monday 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr Conway reported on his own objections to the Bridge Farm site, emphasising the highways and flooding problems. He also supported the exclusion from the draft of the Ruscombe Green Belt. He stressed that, as Green Belt it is protected by local and national policies. The only grounds for an exception to those policies would be the absence of sites elsewhere, which is not the case in this instance. He also pointed out that this particular piece of Green Belt land was especially sensitive, as its flat and open nature means that any development would be very visible.
  - Mr L Ferris and Mr Conway will be meeting with highways officers to receive a report on the progress of new proposals for parking schemes in various parts of the village. He will report on this in February.
  - Mr Conway also hopes to be able to report on the library progress at the February meeting.

There were no questions for the Borough Councillors.

There were no reports from Mr Ferris or Mr Smith.

8. **Liaison with Ruscombe Parish Council (RPC)** – Mr P Cassidy reported. The Council have allocated £5,000 for leaflets and social media to create awareness against the Berkeley Homes proposals. He asked for help from the northern parishes to campaign to protect the green belt. Mr Alder stated that there is no organic growth in the Twyford population – people are being induced to move into the area. Discussion took place on starting a campaign to lobby and keep up the profile, countering any literature Berkeley Homes come out with. Could the Campaign to Protect Rural Wokingham drive this campaign? Agreed RPC need to drive the campaign with the other parishes supporting it. Mr Cassidy will take this back to RPC. Mrs Ditcham reported that the northern parishes had met to discuss their local plan responses.  
RPC agreed on a precept of £29,300, a 1% reduction on last year.  
Their Neighbourhood Plan is with WBC and ready for the referendum.
9. **Reports and to receive any recommendations from committees**
  - 9.1 Planning and Amenities Committee 04.01.22  
Mrs B Ditcham reported summarising the meeting minutes.

- The Thames and Chiltern in Bloom have asked TPC to report on their climate change initiatives at their meeting in February. Mrs Ditcham and the clerk are meeting to plan a short presentation.
- 9.2 Neighbourhood Plan sub committee - no meeting
- 9.3 Parish Lands Committee 11.01.22  
Mr M Bray reported summarising the meeting minutes.  
**Recommendations:**  
The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** £490 for the Platinum Jubilee Gas-Fuelled Beacon Package. Motion carried nem con.  
The clerk reported that a gas bottle is not available from the suggested supplier as there is a shortage. Other costs will include sandbags, fire extinguisher, 47Kg gas canister and safety barriers  
The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** replacement posts at Stanlake Meadow entrance costing £566. Motion carried unanimously.
- 9.4 Finance and General Purposes Committee 18.01.22  
Mr J Bowley reported summarising the meeting minutes.  
**Recommendations from December meeting:**  
The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** approval of Microsoft Business 365 Business Standard (2 users) at a cost of £283.20. Motion carried unanimously.  
The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** Migration and set up (of the above) at a cost of £360. Motion carried unanimously.  
The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** Mailbox migration to Microsoft 365 business basic at a cost of £685. Motion carried unanimously.  
**Recommendations from January meeting:**  
The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** to use £17,000 capital reserves to reduce the budget/precept. Motion carried unanimously.  
The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** a 2022/23 budget of £131,613. Motion carried unanimously.  
The committee **RECOMMEND to Full Council** a 2022/23 precept of £127,238. Motion carried unanimously.  
[Note £4,375 ringfenced capital funds for hedge laying]  
Committee members to forward any comments on the precept news article to the clerk by midday 26.01.22.
- 9.5 Fete Committee – no meeting
10. **Other representative reports** – no report.
11. **Climate Change update** – Mr R Abeywardana summarised the progress report circulated on 13.01.22. He reported that he is looking to hand over responsibility for the Working Group lead and Mr Jarvis agreed to consider taking this on.
12. **TRIP** – to discuss future aims and Surfers Against Sewage program (SAS).  
Mr R Abeywardana reported on the SAS program and the requirement to upload evidence in order to retain the plastic-free status. He suggested that the Council consider bringing this within their remit in order that it can be resourced by the Council. TRIP actions feed into the climate change action plan. Mr M Alder has expressed an interest in leading this and will report next month on how TRIP can be brought within the banner of the council.
13. **Communication and liaison with other groups in the Parish** Mr Alder reported on a meeting he had attended on cycle routes. The clerk will circulate a summary received from Mr Neil Cartwright. Mr Alder reported that WBC are liaising with various groups and co-ordinating demands.
14. **Clerk’s report**  
The clerk had been invited to the WBC Tree and Biodiversity Task and Finish Group

along with clerks from Finchampstead, Wokingham Without and Wokingham Town Council. They reported on their tree planting and maintenance experiences.

The Clerk forum was held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Mark Gwynne and Charlotte Marlor from WBC spoke about the Anti Poverty Strategy. They reported that Wokingham is a wealthy area it's hard for those struggling to ask for help. The strategy is working with the Voluntary and Community Sector to agree a single point of contact approach. They would like to see an increase in those claiming free school meals as this helps them identify those that might be struggling. Research shows that residents struggling financially don't think to go to their Council to seek assistance. Clerks shared climate change initiatives in their Towns and Parishes with Wokingham introducing water free toilets at their allotments and Woodley installing rain water harvesting amongst other ideas.

WBC's Andy Glencross has acknowledged the joint request for a street lighting asset transfer. He expected he would be able to give a steer as to how the direction and travel of the request is likely to go in the summer with a decision likely in April 2023. Further discussion was on public recycling bins and problems with contamination of waste and the new regulations for the speed watch scheme.

Polehampton Trust are celebrating their 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and are considering commemorating this with a bench, tree or coppice of 300 trees. They will update the Council in due course.

The Twyford and Ruscombe Horticultural Association have offered the council a table for exhibition purposes or children's activities at their summer shows. Agreed to have a neighbourhood plan table at the shows on 26<sup>th</sup> March and 11<sup>th</sup> June.

The clerk asked Parish Lands committee members to respond with comments on the Stag Beetle information board design.

Proposed Mrs E Ashley, seconded Mr J Jarvis to hold the Annual Parish Meeting in person on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

**15. Items to be discussed at the next meeting:**

Meeting venue (suggestion to return to Loddon Hall)

**16. List of authorised payments** – list dated 21.01.22. Approval proposed by Mr J Jarvis, seconded Mr M Bray. Motion carried unanimously.

**17. Correspondence** - noted

- 17.1 HALC Briefing Note Covid 19: Council Meetings
- 17.2 BALC December newsletter
- 17.3 CCB message
- 17.4 CCB Action for All E-Bulletin
- 17.5 Waingels Consultation on Proposed Admissions Arrangements 2023- 24
- 17.6 WBC Infrastructure Funding Statement
- 17.7 Christmas wishes - Susan Parsonage & John Halsall
- 17.8 Christmas wishes – Mayor
- 17.9 RPC Agenda 05.01.22
- 17.10 Action for All E-Bulletin
- 17.11 One Front Door impact report

**18. Dates of meetings:**

**All meetings 7:45pm at Stanlake Pavilion unless noted otherwise.**

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (Zoom 7:30pm) | 31.01.22 |
| Neighbourhood Plan Sub Committee 7pm           | 01.02.22 |

Planning and Amenities Committee	01.02.22
Ruscombe Parish Council meeting (LJ) (Loddon Hall Ruscombe Room)	02.02.22
Parish Lands Committee	08.02.22
Finance & General Purposes Committee	15.02.22
Fete 7pm	22.02.22
Spring Clean 10am Loddon Hall	02.04.22

**19. Date of next Full Council meeting – Tuesday 22nd February 2022.**

**Meeting closed at 8.59 pm**