

BURGHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday 22nd October 2015 **Time:** 7.45pm

Place: Burghfield village hall committee room

Present: Mr C Greaves (Chair) Mr D Godwin
Mr P Lawrence Ms A Trueman
Miss M Cresser Mr D Godding
Dr R Longton

Attending: Clerk to the Parish Council Mrs C Jackson-Doerge
3 Members of Mortimer NDP group

Apologies: Mr R Hannington Mr P Wilkins
Mr J Sayer

1. To receive written requests for Disclosable Pecuniary Interest dispensations from members and verbal notification of any personal interests members present may have on any items on the agenda

There were no items upon the agenda that necessitated a member to present a written request for dispensations of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.

2. Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee

The minutes of the last meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24 September and the draft minutes from the 8 October having been circulated, were confirmed a correct record and signed by the presiding Chairman.

3. Matters Arising on the Minutes

- i) A request was presented to the Community committee for their clarification of the usage guidelines relating to the village hall car park
- ii) The West Berks Cycle group were advised of the various cycle routes suggested by members within the parish requiring further investigation.

4. Neighbourhood Plan

- i) To receive a presentation from the Mortimer NDP Group
Members of the Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Group attended, answering the 8 questions previously submitted in detail to assist members in obtaining a clearer picture of the requirements in producing a Neighbourhood plan. The advantages and disadvantages were both explored and discussed, assisting the committee in being able to reach a decision as to whether Burghfield would progress with a Neighbourhood plan in the near future.
- ii) To present members questions to Mortimer NDP and consider any action required
Further questions were presented to ascertain the true value of a Neighbourhood plan and to determine whether it was felt appropriate for Burghfield to consider in further detail. Mortimer NDP members were thanked for their time in attending to answer the various questions presented by members. Committee members were asked to review the Mortimer Neighbourhood Plan website as well as the overall commitment required for the production of a plan.

Bramley NDP group are to be asked to attend the November meeting. The same questions are to be presented prior to their attendance for consideration.

5. Housing

- i) To submit observations on Planning Applications currently before the Committee

App. No:

Location and Proposal

1. **15/02378/FUL** **Land to the East and North of 2 Kirton Farm Cottages**

Change of use of land to domestic parking

Parish Council

No Objection

- ii) To receive and note any Planning Application Decisions received and deal with any other planning related matters

<u>PC Decision</u>	<u>Application no.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>WBC Decision</u>
No Objection	15/01734/FUL	1-48 Hunters Hill	GRANTED
No Objection	15/01862457/HOUSE	5 Essex Cottages, Reading Road	GRANTED
No objection	15/02149/HOUSE	1 Burghfield Bridge	REFUSES
No objection	15/01194/COMIND	Garlands Junior School, Clayhill Road	WITHDRAWN

- iii) To consider any changes in Planning legislation and its impact upon Burghfield
- West Berkshire Council forwarded details relating to the consultation on the renewal of its Statement of Principles as required by the Gambling Act 2005. WBC has a statutory requirement to revise the statement every 3 years, to take effect from January 2016. The policy document highlights changes to Section 7 to cover the new mandatory requirements which apply to operators who are required to develop their own premises specific risk assessment by 6 April 2016. New paragraphs have also been inserted under Section 13 to outline WBC's position in respect of the formation of a local area profile.
- Members were advised of a new bill having been published in relation to the rules surrounding residential parking and housing designs.
- Details were received from WBC in relation to Springwood Engineering, advising the application will be determined by the Eastern Area Committee on the 28th October with a recommendation for permission to be granted.

6. Transport

- i) To consider any Highway or Road Safety improvements for implementation within the parish
- WBC forwarded the Winter Service Plan and snow clearance priority listing for the area, highlighting the various routes for the upcoming winter period.
- ii) To receive information from WBC further to the request for increased pedestrian safety when crossing Reading Road
- At the request of a local parishioner, highways were asked to investigate how pedestrian safety could be improved for people crossing the road near to the Guide Dogs Centre on the Reading Road. WBC suggested a possible improvement might be for the footway on the North side to be extended by approximately 20 metres. However, upon further investigations regarding the feasibility of the suggestion by WBC it was felt that the removal of vegetation would increase safety and visibility significantly. This does rely on the land owners permission and continual maintenance to be effective. Members present **resolved** unanimously that a request be presented to WBC for the vegetation to be removed. A further request is to be submitted for a small pathway to be installed to assist pedestrians crossing.
- iii) To consider the Total Transport feasibility study questionnaire received from WBC, highlighting any unmet demand within the parish for further investigation
- Details were presented regarding a study that is exploring the feasibility of delivering "Total Transport" in rural West Berkshire and in parishes south within Wokingham District. The idea of Total transport is to bring together, wherever possible, the different strands of road based passenger transport to ensure that public sector transport funding is used in a more coordinated way, therefore enabling service provision to be maintained or improved. A response from the parish council was sought prior to the 4th November to highlight any unmet demand within the parish for transport to destinations such as healthcare and shopping and determine their willingness to become involved in addressing the demand. **Resolved** unanimously to circulate to members for comments to be collated and returned.

7. Green issues

- i) To give consideration to any green issues within the parish requiring action
- Confirmation was provided in relation to the parish council's application to the FiT bureau for the solar panels on the village hall roof being pursued.

8. To give consideration to any amendments required in the publication of planning applications within and surrounding Burghfield parish

Members present gave consideration to a request received for increased publication regarding planning applications affecting the parish. Ms A Trueman expressed her concerns, specifically requesting that numbers of planning applications to be considered by the infrastructure committee are advertised on the agenda of the meeting. In response to Ms A Trueman's request, further concerns were raised regarding the time frame to respond to planning applications and the legal

requirements surrounding the publication of meetings.

Members were advised the communications committee is currently undertaking a review of the parish councils Facebook policy to determine the approved use and whether the remit requires expanding to accommodate further publication of items from each of the committees upon the council.

Resolved unanimously to forward a request to the communications committee for consideration to be given to the most effective method for publicising planning applications to be considered.

9. Street Lighting update

An order has been placed for the next phase of the Burghfield PC owned street lights to go ahead. Members present gave consideration to increasing the number of street lights for upgrade this financial year due to money available within the relevant budget heading. Members are to consider additional lights at the next scheduled meeting.

9. To determine future agenda items for discussion -

10. To receive items for information only

Conclusion: The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.15pm

Chairman: