



**SUNNINGHILL & ASCOT
PARISH COUNCIL**

**The Courtyard (Ascot Racecourse)
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Minutes of a meeting of Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council held at the Parish Council Office, The Courtyard, High Street, Ascot, SL5 7JF, on Tuesday 7 February 2017, commencing at 7.00pm

Members Present: Councillors A Sharpe (Chairman), B Hilton (Vice-Chairman), P Carter, P Deason, R Ellison, C Herring, D Hilton, S Jones, C Lester, P Morris, S Humphrey, A Nehra, B Story

In attendance: Elizabeth Yates, Clerk to the Council

6644 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Brian Humphreys, Duncan McKay and Robin Wood.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Charlotte Herring to her first meeting.

6645 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman asked to receive any Declarations of Interest in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct. None were given.

6646 TO RECEIVE ALASTAIR WARWICK

Alastair Warwick, the Chief Operating Officer of Ascot Racecourse Ltd, gave an update as to the Racecourse's future plans. He began by introducing Liz Patterson, Head of Capital Projects and Estate Development, and went on to give an overview as to their major events strategy. The Racecourse were hoping to host five or six large scale events each year that were appropriate to the Racecourse's business and noted that the wedding market was growing. Mr Warwick informed Members of the work the Racecourse undertakes to try and mitigate the impact of its events on the local community, such as through 'Pub Watch', 'Street Angels', improvements to soundproofing and behavioural management processes. As an example they had introduced a 'yellow card' system on all Race Days under which unruly customers were asked to leave if their behaviour was unacceptable, following one warning. He noted the growing and changing security risks. Mr Warwick discussed the work undertaken with the Prince's Foundation, the Ascot Rejuvenation Project and the possibility of building two hotels. He assured Members that no firm plans were in place and stated that he was committed to supporting the objectives of the Prince's Foundation, whilst recognising the challenges brought about by development. Members asked about possible housing numbers and traffic management arising from the Ascot Rejuvenation Project and Mr Warwick replied that these were all matters for consideration and that currently the focus was on drafting the Project's Development Brief, with the Prince's Foundation guiding the architects through a series of workshops, prior to public consultation. He went on to explain the Heathland Conservation Management Plan, the work undertaken with the Society for the Protection of Ascot and Environs, the rights of use of Crown Estate Land and the need to manage risks and access within the Racecourse. Mr Warwick mentioned that new planting and hedging were being installed to improve biodiversity.

Mr Warwick concluded by stating that he thought an annual update to Parish Councillors from the Racecourse would be useful and Members agreed, thanking him and Liz Patterson for their time.

6647 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 3 and 17 January 2017 were approved as correct records and signed as such.

6648 FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting of the Parish Council was the Annual Assembly, to be held on Wednesday 22 March, at the Saints Pavilion, Ascot United Football Club, starting at 7.00pm. She also reminded Members that the date had been set for the Parish Party as Sunday 2 July, to be held at Victory Field Recreation Ground, from 1.00pm to 5.30pm.

The Chairman went on to invite all Parish Councillors to the Sunninghill Victorian Street Fayre Cheque Presentation Event on Tuesday 14 February, at 11.00am, at Ascot Racecourse.

6649 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was not adjourned for a maximum of 15 minutes to allow Members of the Public, if present, to address the Council about matters of local concern as no members of the public were present.

6650 THE PAVILION PROJECT

Further to minute 6634, the Clerk informed Members that Councillor David Hilton had taken Option 6 and Option 7 to the Borough for their initial consideration. This followed a revision of Option 6 by Councillor Peter Deason, based on comments made by Parish Councillors at the Parish Council meeting held on 17 January. Having received feedback from the Borough and from Parish Councillors regarding the revised Option 6, the Finance and Personnel Committee had met on 30 January and considered it appropriate to take forward this option to the next stage of engagement with the firm identified under minute 6634; as contained within notes from the meeting previously circulated to the Parish Councillors Councillor Deason added that the firm had expressed interest in working with the Parish Council on the Pavilion Project.

6651 PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Planning Committee minutes of 10 and 31 January were presented by Councillor Barbara Hilton.

6652 THE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL YEAR 2017/18

The schedule of meetings was approved, with the meeting scheduled for Tuesday 2 January to be moved to Thursday 4 January.

6653 QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Councillor Deason, in his capacity as Lead Member for Finance, presented the financial reports which had been previously circulated. He noted the underspend on administration, capital projects and maintenance, but informed Members that works were due to be completed by the end of the financial year which would reduce this. Councillor David Hilton noted the higher than anticipated income from the tennis courts and cemetery, which Councillor Robert Ellison put down in part to the fee renewal process for tennis court keys.

6654 THE YOUTHLINE LTD GRANT REQUEST

The committee did not award the grant request, in accordance with the Local Government Act, 1972, Section 137. Councillor Spike Humphrey was asked to contact Charters School to inform them of the Parish Council’s grant giving process.

6655 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillor David Hilton, in his capacity as a Borough Councillor, stated that the Borough was busy considering the 7,000 responses to the Draft Borough Local Plan. He also noted the National Policy Statement made on Heathrow and stated that he would send a summary of this to the Parish Councillors. Councillor Hilton suggested that he presented the topic of Heathrow and the Air Navigation Guidance at the next Parish Council meeting and this was agreed to. In addition, he informed Members that the footpath from the Ascot British Rail Station to Ascot High Street was officially re-opened.

The Chairman went on to inform Members that Borough Councillor Julian Sharpe was considering the responses to the Sunninghill High Street Road Widening Consultation in conjunction with Borough Officers and that the Parish Council would be informed of the outcome.

6656 OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Barbara Story asked the Clerk about the state of the Pavilion at Victory Field following the recent burst pipe. The Clerk informed Members that the pipe had been fixed and that the Parish Council’s insurance company was assessing the damage to the ceilings and electrics.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm

Councillor Allison Sharpe, Chairman