

Minutes of a meeting of Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council held at the Parish Council Office, The Courtyard, High Street, Ascot, SL5 7JF, on Tuesday 6 February 2018 at 7.00pm

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

In attendance: Elizabeth Yates, Clerk to the Council

6976 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Phil Carter, John Gripton, Christine Lester and Pat Morris.

6977 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

6978 TO RECEIVE ALASTAIR WARWICK

Mr Warwick, the Chief Operating Officer of Ascot Racecourse Ltd, discussed the arrangements for Royal Ascot 2018 which were going well, with a focus on the customer's experience, food, behavioural management and heightened security.

Additional planting and hedging were being installed in the Winsor Enclosure, the Ascot Spring Garden Show was to be held on 13-15 April, the War Horse Memorial was to be unveiled on 8 June and thought was being given to a Dog Show, a Legends Concert and the use of the car parks for a 'park and ride' scheme for the forthcoming Royal Wedding, with the car parks to also be used for the forthcoming PGA event.

Mr Warwick also informed Members of the grants given last year to charity, including £100,000 to the Grenfell Tower Disaster Fund and the support given to the Royal Ascot Cricket Club and Ascot United Football Club. He also referred in outline to the development proposals for Ascot High Street and the desire to upgrade the hostel and build an hotel, plans for which would go to public consultation.

Questions followed and the Chairman began by thanking Mr Warwick for giving the Parish Council a room for its Annual Assembly in March and by asking if more could be done to co-ordinate with the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (the Borough) on street cleaning after race days. Mr Warwick replied that he could look into this, particularly regarding their Pavilion area. The Chairman then asked what the spoil heap was within the racecourse grounds and Mr Warwick replied that this heap was the arisings from a drainage scheme and would be levelled. She also asked if the parking arrangements were to be altered for this year's Royal meet, in light of future parking plans for Ascot High Street and Mr Warwick replied that they would remain as they were. Councillor Brian Humphreys asked what could be done to stop touting on event days and Mr Warwick replied that all that could be done was being done in a concerted effort with the police and Borough Community Wardens. Councillor Barbara Hilton asked where the Garden Show was to take place and Mr Warwick explained that it was not near the race track. Councillor Shirley Jones asked if the Racecourse could do more to make Ascot High Street attractive and Mr Warwick reminded Members of the contribution the Racecourse gives to hanging baskets each year. Mr Warwick was then thanked for his time and for an informative discussion.

6979 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 4 January 2018, were approved as a correct record and signed as such.

6980 FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman informed Members that the Union Flag was now flying at Cordes Hall in Sunninghill. She also stated that Councillor Barbara Hilton, the Clerk and herself had recently met with Volker Highways, the Borough's term contractor for highways and street cleaning. The meeting had been informative as the street cleaning schedules for the Parish were discussed and Volker's operation explained. The contract supervisor had offered to attend a Parish Council meeting to introduce himself and had asked for the Parish Council's assistance in informing residents that blowing leaves onto the public highway was considered to be illegal fly tipping and liable to prosecution. The high level of fly tipping was also noted and the need to clean Ascot High Street on race days highlighted as important to residents. The Chairman then stated that members of the Parish Council had attended a presentation from the Ascot Centre Development Group and it was agreed that a separate meeting of Parish Councillors would be

held to consider the Ascot Rejuvenation project as it was of such significance within the Parish, with an emphasis on where the Parish Council could attempt to influence and shape development.

6981 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was not adjourned to allow members of the public to address the Council about matters of local concern as no members of the public were present.

6982 PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Planning Committee minutes of 9 and 30 January were presented by Councillor Barbara Hilton.

The Leisure Committee minutes of 16 January were presented by Councillor Robert Ellison.

The Finance and Personnel Committee minutes of 23 January were presented by the Chairman.

6983 THE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL YEAR 2018/19

The schedule of meetings for the Parish Council year 2018/19 was approved.

6984 QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Councillor Robin Wood, in his capacity as Lead Member for Finance, presented the quarterly reports. He stated income was higher than anticipated and that expenditure was lower and that based on current levels of spend it was expected that income and expenditure would be in line at the end of the year and that reserves will remain at the level as that at the start of the year.

6985 THE PLAY EQUIPMENT AT VICTORY FIELD

The previously circulated report was considered and approval given to proceed with the most advantageous play equipment option, following public consultation. This would involve the replacement of the existing climbing frame and toddler swings within the playground at Victory Field with a new multi-play unit, toddler swings and a basket swing, in the summer of 2018; as set out in the budget for 2018/19 and in accordance with the Parish Council's financial regulations. The Clerk was asked to action this.

6986 A COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR

Approval was given to the recommendations contained within the previously circulated report that:

- a. That the Parish Council employs a committee administrator to assist the Parish Clerk and Parish Councillors in ensuring that the Council meetings adhere to the Standing Orders and that the committee and related administrative processes are current and relevant.
- b. That this administrator is employed on a locum, short term basis whilst the Parish Council considers its future direction in terms of committee structures, Council Office management and staff.

The Clerk was asked to action this.

6987 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillor David Hilton, in his capacity as a Borough Councillor, informed Members that the Borough Local Plan Regulation 19 had been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and a Planning Inspector appointed. He also urged members to engage in the Heathrow consultation, both in terms of the air space changes as well as the proposed third run way, adding that the Borough was continuing with its opposition to the third runway. Councillor Hilton also let Members know that St George's School in Ascot had offered their facilities to the Parish Council for public events.

6988 OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Ajay Nehra stated that he was pleased works had begun in installing a raised zebra crossing in Sunninghill High Street.

6989 Part 2 – Confidential - THE SUNNINGHILL TRUST LEASE

The Press and Public were not excluded from this part of the meeting as none were present.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.05pm.

Councillor Allison Sharpe, Chairman