

**Minutes of a meeting of Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council
held at The Parish Council Office, The Courtyard, High Street, Ascot, SL5 7JF
on Tuesday 29 October 2019 at 7.00pm.**

Members present: Councillors A Sharpe (Chairman), B Story (Vice-Chairman), P Deason, R Ellison, M Finch, J Gripton, B Hilton, S Humphrey, S Jones, C Lester, S Verma, R Wood.

In attendance: Helen Goodwin, Clerk to the Council; RBWM Councillor D Hilton; Catalina Estrada of Silwood Park, representing the Green Corridor Project & Catharine Paige of Wildlife in Ascot.

7493 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillors C Herring, S Jones and I Steers.

7494 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

7495 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 September 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed as such.

7496 FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised the council that Cllr A Jezard has resigned from the council due to his other commitments and possible conflict of interest at Charters School. Following due process the clerk will contact the returning officer.

7497 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was not adjourned.

7498 GREEN CORRIDOR SURVEY PROJECT

Catalina Estrada of Silwood Park presented a report setting out the work carried out so far, the results found and the costs to date. She explained what their plans are for the 2019-20 winter and spring 2020, which will include trees and invertebrates. The report was well received and councillors suggested that the public be encouraged to become more involved; Wildlife in Ascot has the facility for members of the public to report wildlife sightings and local schools will be approached. The council expressed gratitude to Ms Estrada for the very interesting presentation and requested she provide the clerk with a pdf of the presentation for upload to the council website. Cllr P Carter offered to visit St Michael's school and talk to them about the project to encourage them to become involved.

7499 PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

- i) The Planning Committee minutes of 24 September and 15 October were presented by Councillor R Wood who reported that there has been a significant proportion of applications for tree operations and commented that the committee always recommends that trees are retained wherever possible and, where it is essential to fell them, that they are replaced on a 2 for 1 basis; Costcutters in Sunninghill has applied to extend and to take away car parking – a strong objection was raised by the planning committee.
- ii) The Leisure Committee minutes of 8 October were presented by Councillor R Ellison who reported that, following the request to councillors for proposals for CIL funding, a small number was received. However, it was felt clarification is needed on what can/cannot be proposed for the use of CIL funds. The council agreed that CIL funding should be the responsibility of the whole council rather than just the leisure committee.

7500 FINANCIAL REPORT

Councillor R Wood presented the Financial Report as Lead Member for Finance. He stated that we are half way through the year and on course for normal expenditure. In terms of capital expenditure we haven't yet spent the budgeted sum of

£50,000 on Cheapside play park. Overall some of the smaller elements of income are lower than originally planned but other items have been received in advance. Reserves have fallen by £8,000 but are still healthy and there are no concerns going forward.

7501 CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Concern was expressed that the CESA group does not seem to have a constitution and, as such, is a lobbying group. The council is not able to enter into consultation with a group that isn't properly constituted and cannot therefore work in a joint venture with CESA, nor may the council offer advice to residents regarding, for instance, energy suppliers. The Chairman reminded the council that the borough is setting up a working group and will be inviting parish stakeholders to take forward the conversation on climate emergency. The council agreed it will also listen to the borough's advice on climate and environmental issues. In addition, the local plan is still in discussion and input may be made on environmental issues in this area. With regard to the Friends of the Earth paper that had been circulated, the council agreed to ask Cllr Steers to make some positive suggestions of what the council could do.

7502 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY FUND

Cllr R Wood gave an update that we currently have uncommitted CIL reserves of £105,000. We have previously given money to St Michael's and will be giving money to the Green Corridor Survey. An email today advised of £17,000 to come and we may expect further significant sums in the future as larger developments continue. Cllr Wood reminded the council that these funds are intended to be spent on infrastructure to the good of the community and which mitigates the results of the building and developments from which the funds are generated.

Discussion ensued regarding what type of project the funds could be put to; there is no rush but we need to think on an elongated timescale. While day to day costs of the parish should be dealt with by the L&C committee, use of CIL funds should be dealt with through the parish council.

It was agreed to ask Chris Joyce, the borough's Infrastructure & CIL manager, to come and speak to us about this at the next parish council meeting. The council will request he lists RBWM priorities so that we know what the borough is going to spend its CIL money on and we can see where we can work together to ensure that, as far as possible, the borough CIL funds relating to development in our area are also spent in our area.

Discussion followed regarding various possible infrastructure projects including the possibility of purchasing assets of community value. A further suggestion was to team up with Sunningdale council and provide further funding towards "The Oaks". The chairman proposed that, when preparing the meeting schedule for next year, we set aside some council meetings for discussion solely on CIL projects.

7503 PARISH PLAN

Councillor M Finch reported how he had gone about putting together his report on the results of the parish plan consultations. He explained that Cllr P Deason helped out explaining that the document needed to be more dynamic. As a result Cllr Deason has now put together a report which reflects the views and desires of the community. This is a much shorter document which focuses on the feedback. The chairman congratulated Cllrs Finch and Deason on the work they have done. It was felt that the report should be published to the parish by being uploaded to the website and that a flyer should be distributed to every house in the parish detailing access to the report.

7504 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

Borough Councillor D Hilton presented a report and led discussion on borough matters:

- i) With regard to CIL funding:
 - a. Cllr Hilton advised the council that, over the life of the Borough Local Plan, he estimates the parish will be receiving considerable CIL funds.
 - b. No CIL is currently paid in Maidenhead and all CIL, less the parish proportion, is collected into a single 'pot' and a prioritisation committee decides where the money will be spent. The projects will be chosen from the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. A project part-funded by the Parish Council may gain priority.
- ii) Cllr Hilton acknowledged that The A329/Silwood Road junction is an issue. He advised that a roundabout including the A329, Silwood Road and Buckhurst Road would cost circa £3 million or, including just the A329 and Silwood Road, £1 million. A system of traffic lights was been modelled but this would reduce flow on the A329 so will not proceed. The Heatherwood Hospital roundabout to Silwood road traffic review may offer another solution.
- iii) Following discussion regarding the suggestion that the council might want to consider purchasing a community building in the future, Cllr Hilton advised he would research and establish the rules around Community right to buy.
- iv) Regarding the BLP, this is currently under consultation, it will be examined later in 2020 and hopefully adopted in early 2021.

- v) Parking enforcement – there is a meeting tomorrow to discuss this and Cllr Hilton will ask for a series of measures including time spent in the parish and the number of penalty charge notices issued.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i) It was noted that Cllr Jezzard, who has now resigned, was leading the website review initiative; the council will need to consider how it wishes to proceed.
- ii) The clerk confirmed that the Berkshire Records Office has agreed to archive some of our council records.
- iii) It was commented that there is a problem with parking on Watersplash Lane, Cheapside. Cllr D Hilton agreed to liaise with Cllr Gripton on this.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Councillor Allison Sharpe, Chairman