

**Minutes of a meeting of Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council
held via Zoom
on Thursday, 07 January 2021 at 7.00pm.**

Members present: Councillors A Sharpe (Chairman), B Story (Vice Chairman), L Davison, R Ellison, J Gripton, B Hilton, S Humphrey, P Deason, M Finch, C Herring, C Lester, C Richardson, S Verma, R Wood.
In attendance: Helen Goodwin, Clerk to the Council.

The Clerk advised those present that the meeting is being recorded and the recording will be kept until the minutes are approved at next parish council meeting.

7789 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received. Councillors P Carter and S Jones were absent.

7790 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

7791 FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- (i) The next full meeting, on 24 March, is allocated as an Annual Assembly; we are not obliged to hold this in March and, unless any councillors feel strongly to the contrary, that meeting will now be a regular full council meeting, via Zoom. We will take the advice of NALC but consider that it would not be responsible to hold a public meeting at the current time.
- (ii) The Ascot Support Hub is still operating now we are in Lockdown 3; the Hub has been approached to assist with a local community project to source laptops and other devices to assist local primary school children to access online learning at home. Head teachers have been contacted and this is being done in a structured manner. The Government is targeting secondary schools but primary schools will be lagging behind, which is the reason for this initiative.

7792 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was not adjourned.

7793 PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

No committee minutes were presented, however Cllr R Wood reported that the planning committee meeting held on 5th January considered the application for a film studio to be erected in Windsor Great Park for a five year period, to be utilised for approximately six weeks per year for Netflix. The planning committee is strongly against this application because it is an incursion into the Green Belt. The minutes of the meeting will be circulated to the full council later this week.

7794 PRECEPT AND FINAL BUDGET FOR 2021/22

The draft budget agreed in the December meeting included the addition of £6,000 to increase the fencing at Tom Green's Field, thus increasing the expenditure on what had originally been prepared. In order to maintain our reserves at a reasonable level what is being suggested for approval is to retain the expenditure levels at £273,000 and have a precept income of £204,000 which will require utilising reserves of £47,000. The actual precept level will be £31 per band D house equivalent, which is the same figure as it has been in the past year. The precept was unanimously agreed by show of hands.

The parish council was presented with the proposed final budget for 2021/22, giving approximately six months' of reserves remaining at the end of the year 2021/22. This was agreed unanimously by show of hands.

7795 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

RBWM Cllr D Hilton was unable to attend.

7796 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (i) A query was raised regarding the regulation which stipulates that a reason for apologies for absence from meetings is given. The Clerk will ascertain the details of the regulation and advise.
- (ii) It was noted that there is a local volunteer group of Wardens who are available to collect prescriptions for residents who may find it difficult to attend a pharmacy in person.
- (iii) A question was asked regarding the appropriate action which should be taken when a councillor moves out of the parish temporarily and wishes to remain on the council. The chairman advised that details of the situation should be put in writing to the clerk. It is not always necessary for a councillor to live in the parish, there are other criteria such as working in the parish or owning land.
- (iv) The council was advised that the local doctor surgeries have started the Covid vaccination programme and are using the Bracknell Waitrose sports facility for this. Residents should be advised not to call their local GP surgery to enquire about the vaccination as surgeries are currently inundated with such calls; all residents who are eligible for a vaccination will be contacted by their doctor.
- (v) Cllr M Finch will soon be starting work on a parish map and asks that any councillors with ideas of areas and activities in the parish that they think would be good to reflect on the map should contact him. This will be discussed in more detail at the next Leisure & Cultural committee meeting in February.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.35.

Cllr A Sharpe, Chairman