

COOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the Cookham Parish Council
Held in the Community Room, Cookham Library, Tuesday 1st November 2022, at
7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr M. Howard (Chairman)
Cllrs M. Barnes, E. Bune, C. Doyle, J. Perry, P. Roe C. Aisladie, M. Brar, B. Perry
and H. Philip

Also Present: 3 member of the public were present.
There were no members of the press present.

OPEN FORUM:

A resident thanked the Council for their part in the Twinning reception and visit. They went on to speak about the amount and speed of the traffic on High Road, Cookham, as it appears to have got busier and faster recently. The road has a 20 mph speed limit and parts are narrow and not suitable for certain types of vehicles. Cllr Howard suggested contacting RBWM to see if speed monitoring survey could be done or the local Speedwatch group.

At the Twinning event, a gift of a small hamper had been given to the Council. Cllr Howard suggested that this be donated to the Scouts to be raffled.

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Cllrs L. Austin, I. Herd and I. Wernham,

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 4th October 2022 were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr B. Perry seconded by Cllr M. Brar.

4. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The minutes of the Staffing Committee mtg held on 4th October 2022, were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr C. Aisladie, seconded by Cllr M. Brar.

The minutes of the Inquorate Planning Committee mtg held on 11th October 2022, were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr E. Bune.

The minutes of the General Purposes Committee mtg held on 18th October 2022, were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr C. Doyle, seconded by Cllr C. Aisladie.

The minutes of the Finance Committee mtg held on 25th October 2022, were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr P. Roe, seconded by Cllr J. Perry.

5. FINANCE:

a. To approve payments/receipts in October 2022: The list of payments and receipts made in October 2022 were unanimously approved.

b. To receive the first half figures (April to September 2022):

Budget preparations for 2023/24 have begun with initial discussions at the Finance Cmte meeting on 25th October. Cllr Roe and the Clerk will continue with budget preparation for the November Finance Cmte meeting.

There were no questions about the first half (April to September 2022) figures.

The Chairman invoked Standing Order 3d, Exclusion of Press and Public.

6. TO INTERVIEW AND APPROVE THE CO-OPTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS FOR COOKHAM RISE WARD:

After a short interview and on the proposal of Cllr M. Howard, which was unanimously approved, Miss L. Tull and Dr J. Edwards were co-opted as Cookham Parish Councillors for Cookham Rise Ward.

The Declaration of Office was duly signed by both.

Standing Order 3d was suspended.

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLR B. PERRY REGARDING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WP:

Since the last Council meeting, developments needing report and/or approval are:

1. The second draft of the Plan has been received. This has been circulated to the WP.
2. Once the WP agree, the Plan will be shared with the 'significant landowners' group.
3. RBWM Officer responsible for Neighbourhood Plans Garry Thornton has been contacted and his views on the Plan will be sought. RBWM can start the process of screening for both SEA (strategic environmental assessment and HRA (habitat regulations assessment)). This process can take around three months as it also involves consultation with the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England for a minimum period of five weeks. This needs to be done before the plan can proceed to the next stage (regulation 14 consultation).
4. Budget consideration needs to be made by RBWM for the costs associated with a referendum.
5. Paul Strzelecki, on behalf of Cookhams Footprint, considered previous drafts and the WP's steer on renewable energy were diverging from the NPPF and the BLP inappropriately over local generation of renewable power especially for local use. This has been checked with Troy Planning + Design who consider that all policies in the draft are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. They accept that further tweaks may be required to satisfy these tests. This is one reason why RBWM feed-back is important. This applies not just to this particular issue but generally. Troy also point out that the BLP policy on renewable energy (NR5) is not a 'strategic policy'. The NPPF says that a Neighbourhood Plan's policies may diverge from and take precedence over non-strategic policies in the Local Plan.
6. Shez Courtenay-Smith is progressing well with her 'Spencer Paintings' appendix for the Plan in parallel with this. The work is an amazingly deep and clever piece of work which will closely tie existing views and buildings to the paintings. She hopes to have a draft with us before the end of the year.
7. The Cookham Village Conservation Area was approved by RBWM Cabinet on 29 September and will become effective soon. It makes significant mention of Spencer and his paintings. This seems to mesh well with the intention to invoke the Spencer connection in our Plan.

The Working Party will meet on Wednesday 9th November. Cllrs Edwards and Tull were asked if they would like to join the meeting. Cllr Tull indicated that she would like to be involved.

8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM CLLR M. HOWARD REGARDING THE COMPLETED PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND REVIEW THE FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

The works on the Alfred Major play equipment completed on 24th October. The equipment has been checked by an Independent Playground Inspector and given the go ahead to open. Generally, although a few negative comments had been received, people are pleased with the changes that have been made.

Following a couple of comments on Social Media during the installation process, Cllr M. Howard reminded Cllrs of the need to follow the Councils Social Media policy.

Unfortunately, due to a high wind the Heras fencing surrounding the play area was blown over and knocked over the perimeter fence. This has been temporarily fixed but quotes are being sought to replace the fencing.

A summary of the project finance was forwarded to Cllrs with the agenda information:

Summary of costs (ex VAT) see quotations:

Sutcliffe Play Ltd - Play and Fitness equipment (ref 4801653E)	£83,114.15
Sutcliffe Play Ltd - Benches x 2 (ref 4801734)	£ 1,846.15
Active Security Ltd - Replacement CCTV Cameras (ref 29852 Amendment A)	£ 9,752.92
Active Security Ltd - Replacement CCTV recording device (ref 3059)	£ 591.45
Total cost of Alfred Major Improvement projects	£95,304.67
(NB: VAT will be claimed back via a VAT126 Claim)	

Summary of funding:

S106 funds	£57,733.18
CPC funds (saving in strategic reserves via Precept)	£35,000.00
CIL Funds (available fund £ 3,309.48)	£ 2,571.49
Total funding	£95,304.67

9. TO CONSIDER A RESPONSE TO THE RBWM CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF MAIDENHEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA AND PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF MAIDENHEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM:

Cllrs agreed that they wish to make no comment.

10. TO DISCUSS A REQUEST FOR THE OUTCOME TO THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY'S ODNEY WEIR FENCING PROPOSALS:

No further update had been received following the Environment Agency's consultation about the fencing in the summer. Cllr Howard will follow this up with the EA and report back.

11. OUTSIDE BODIES, BOROUGH CLLR AND CLERK'S REPORTS:

Cllr J Perry	Twining: The visit from St Benoir was very successful and the Welcome event run by the Parish Council was greatly enjoyed.
	Borough Flood Liaison: 26 th October 2022: update provided
Cllr E. Bune	MMPA: 26 th October 2022, minutes supplied prior to the meeting.
Cllr C Doyle	Marsh Meadow Management Committee: Minutes supplied prior to the meeting. Next meeting 16 th March 2022.
Cllr M. Brar	Borough Cllr Report: supplied via email prior to meeting. Points covered: River Thames Scheme public consultation, RBWM consultation on proposed designation of Maidenhead Neighbourhood area, changes to subsidised Bus services and sustainable warmth grant scheme. The Parish Council has not received notification of the River Thames scheme consultation, Cllr M Brar to discuss this with RBWM Officer Ben Crampin - Flood Risk Manager.
Clerk	Temporary support is now in place and working well. Interviews for the role of Assistant Clerk are due to be held next week. Bags containing the green waste from the creation of the 2 nd wild flower patch were removed by Shorts free of charge. The matter of the non collection of the waste bins was due to staff shortages, Shorts have apologised.

12. TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE UPDATES FOR THE FULL COUNCIL ACTION LIST:

The report was reviewed with the following updates:

- Cllr B. Perry's meeting with Holy Trinity CE school regarding the use of their play equipment had been postponed.
- Turkey Housing PI/ap – Cllr M Brar, in her capacity as Borough Cllr, is following that up with the Head of Planning Adrien Waite. Cllrs M Howard and B Perry to be invited to attend a meeting.
- Cannondown Bridge: Scheme plans have been received and distributed to Cllrs. Work to start in early January 2023.

13. CHAIRMAN'S SUBMISSIONS:

None.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.