

COOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cookham Parish Council held in the Community Room, Cookham Library, Tuesday 4th July 2023, at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr M. Howard (Chairman)
Cllrs L. Austin, C. Aisladie, M. Brar, E. Bune, T. Caen, J. Edwards, R. Kellaway, B Perry, H. Fleming, A-L. Regan and L. Tull.

Also Present: There was 1 member of the public present.
No members of the Press were present.

OPEN FORUM:

A member of public spoke to give an update on his dealings with Bellway, The Inspector and RBWM re the proposed Cannondown Road development. He also noted that residents were disillusioned and suggested they will not engage further.

Cllrs agreed to move item 12: To discuss Cookham Parish Councils work with regards to Cannondown Rd site, up the agenda.

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Cllrs M-L. Kellaway and J. Moore.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllr M. Brar item 12 RBWM Development Panel Member

12. TO DISCUSS COOKHAM PARISH COUNCILS WORK WITH REGARDS TO CANNONDOWN RD (BLP SITE AL37):

Details of the presentation that Cllr Howard made at the Planning Cmte meeting on 13th June had been distributed with the agenda. It outlined the actions Cookham Parish Council has taken and the consistency of the objections that had been given at every opportunity over approximately 7 years throughout all the stages of the Borough Local Plan process. This was not discussed further.

Despite all this work, and at this late stage, a few Cllrs felt more could be done, their focus being on traffic levels. However, Cllrs recognised that currently the timing for a traffic survey wasn't ideal due to school holidays and the planned Cookham Bridge closure for 20 weeks taking it until April 2024 until traffic potentially settles back into its current patterns. Cllrs will wait for the traffic and transport report due within the proposed planning application from Bellway, before considering the next steps.

Cllrs were reminded that a traffic survey is a project suggested as part of the Neighbourhood Plan outcomes once it is approved.

It is noted that if a request for a donation to a private project to pay for an independent traffic report was made to the Parish Council, Cllrs would need to decide whether a donation using the Precept, raised from residents Council Tax, would be an acceptable use of public money.

3. TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE VACANCY FOR A COOKHAM RISE WARD COUNCILLOR FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF CLLR KENT AND PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE PROCESS OF REPLACEMENT:

Cllr Kent resigned in June. The Elections team have been notified, and a Notice of Poll is currently being advertised. Cookham Rise Ward electors have until 11th July to request an election. If no election is requested, then the Council will follow its Co-option process as recorded in its Standing Orders. The vacancy will be advertised with a view to hold interviews at Full Council on 5th September.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the Annual Council meeting (including Part II), held on 6th June 2023 were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr A-L Regan, seconded by Cllr J. Edwards.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 13th June 2023, were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr E. Bune, seconded by Cllr L. Austin. The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 20th June 2023, were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr C. Aisladie, seconded by Cllr L. Tull.

6. FINANCE:

a. To approve payments / receipts in June 2023:

The list of payments and receipts made in June 2023 were unanimously approved.

b. To receive the first quarters figures (April to June 2023):

The report was acknowledged. There were no questions.

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 very limited. Following approval of the last report to Council in June, the next steps are:

1. Cllr Perry has followed up on the request to Troy Planning + Design to make changes such that the draft is fully as decided by the WP. Response awaited.
2. We still await RBWM's input on the SEA and HRA position. Troy P+D to be asked to chase RBWM again.
3. The WP and permanent consultees have been notified of its new composition and next steps.
4. As approved, Cllr Perry will write to landowners whose land has been included for potential designation as Local Green Spaces (Troy P+D has provided a template), and to place the draft before the large landowners group.
5. We will then place it again before the organisations originally contacted about it in 2020; and generally seek feed-back from residents (no feed-back as yet been passed to me as a result of the draft appearing on the Council's website).
6. We next seek final feed-back from the attending groups (Cookham Society, Cookham's Footprint, Save Cookham, Shez Courtenay-Smith and WildCookham).
7. When responses to all the above are received the WP will re-consider the draft accordingly.

8. TO REVIEW COOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL'S ATTENDANCE AT THE COOKHAM SCOUT VILLAGE SUMMER FAIR:

Cllr J. Edwards gave an update as she had co-ordinated the event for CPC: it had been a positive experience. Cllrs were keen to take part in more events but understand that this means a commitment from all Cllrs to support this, not just a few as had often happened in the past.

A communication strategy will be included in the corporate plan. Attending other events was suggested, as was the creation of a ready to go, event pack.

9. **TO PROPOSE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP TO COLLATE AND INVESTIGATE TRAFFIC RELATED ISSUES AROUND THE PARISH:**

- Such a group consists of 3 members, these 3 shall elect a Chair, to prepare a report, and they will cover the entire Parish.
- Such issues include but are not limited to road safety, traffic speeds, traffic flow management, parking concerns, pedestrian safety concerns,
- The working party CAN obtain information and knowledge from any parties, (where necessary with the Clerks help), necessary to gain a full understanding of the issues raised.
- The working party CAN NOT make decisions nor speak on behalf of the Council without the Full Council approval.
- Monthly bullet point type report will be submitted to Council, with options and recommendations for Council approval.
- The individual members of the working party retain their "right" to act as individuals and to escalate matters under their own name.

The appetite for a traffic working party was small. Cllrs A-L Regan, J Edwards, M Brar and M Howard volunteered to be involved. The remit of the group is to look at local traffic issues across the Parish, such as Sutton Road, Station Hill, Lower Road parking, Dean Lane amongst other problem areas. They will report back at monthly intervals.

10. **TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR A PROPOSED FOOTPATH DIVERSION FOR MAIDENHEAD FOOTPATH 19:**

By a majority vote, the Council wish to object to the plan to move Maidenhead footpath 19 with the comment that this will give a less satisfactory walking experience. The Clerk will forward the response.

11. **TO CONSIDER A RESPONSE TO CONSULTATIONS ON TWO PROPOSED RBWM PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS (PSPOS) FOR BARBECUES AND FIRES AND STREET DRINKING:**

Street Drinking: Cllrs unanimously backed the proposal but asked if further streets could be added. The list to include: Hillcrest Avenue, Windmill Road, Broom Hill, Winter Hill Road and also RBWM's Bell Rope Meadow.

Barbecues: Cllrs unanimously approved the proposal.

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

Cllr M. Howard **Borough Cllr Report:** Provided by email. Subjects included: discussions to improve patient access to St Marks, the new Community Lottery, Scrutiny panel, update on Parish traffic issues and understanding the RBWM tendering process.

Cllr M. Howard **Local Access Forum:** 20th June 2023, Minutes and report supplied by email.

Cllr E. Bune **MMPA:** Reported on the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Marlow Maidenhead line.

13. **CHAIRMAN'S SUBMISSIONS:**

None.

The meeting closed at 20.55pm