COOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the Cookham Parish Council held in the Community Room, Cookham Library, Tuesday 1st August 2023, at 7.30pm

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

Also Present: There was 60 members of the public present.
No members of the Press were present.

OPEN FORUM:
60 members of public came to represent their support for Strande Park residents. The residents of the site have been subject to a number of serious issues over the last few months including, over the last week, the forceful removal of homeowners hedges and fences with little or no notice, damaging private property and communal areas of the site leaving it is an unsafe condition.

Other issues remain outstanding which are adding to the concerns including: the management of the site Licence by RBWM, the requirement by RBWM for a 'Fit and Proper person' as a registered site manager, unapproved works to remove site garages and trees, and removal of the hedges on the part of the site allocated to housing with resulting lack of parking space and residents' recreation land. Residents felt police have been slow to react, adding to their frustration.

In her capacity as Borough Cllr, Cllr M Brar read a report from Borough Officers.

As chairman of the meeting, Cllr Edward noted that the Parish Council has little power to act but will support residents by making representation to various parties such as RBWM and the local MP. The matter will be added to the Planning Committee agenda for discussion.

This section of the meeting finished at 8.25pm with the council meeting resuming at 8.30pm

1. **APOLOGIES:**
Apologies were received from Cllrs T. Caen, M. Howard and H. Pleming

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**
None

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
The minutes of the Full Council meeting (including Part II), held on 4th July 2023 were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr E. Bune, seconded by Cllr A-L Regan.

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 11th July 2023, were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr C. Aisladie, seconded by Cllr E. Bune.
The minutes of the Flood and Major Incident Committee meeting held on 18th July 2023, were approved as a true record of the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr A-L Regan, seconded by Cllr M. Brar.

5. **FINANCE:**
   a. **To approve payments / receipts in July 2023:** The list of payments and receipts made in July 2023 were approved on the proposal of Cllr J. Moore, seconded by Cllr M. Brar.

b. To review the Bank Reconciliation report as of 30th June 2023: The report was acknowledged.

6. 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 as follows:

1. Troy P+D has reported that RBWM is satisfied that no SEA or HRA work is required. This is a significant step forward.
2. The WP met on 25.7.23. (Jon Herbert of Troy was away, so was not present.)
3. It discussed and approved the remainder of the Plan, including the Appendices, with minor amendments.
4. It decided to accept Troy's advice to withdraw nominations of any sites which the current draft for Local Green Space designation if and to the extent that those sites already have protection by being cemeteries, allotments, subject to the National Trust Act 1907 and/or within a Conservation Area or the green belt. It will, however, insert a paragraph stating that all such sites currently listed (including those which will not now be designated for such LGS protection) are important parts of Cookham's open and green spaces so any change in their status as such will be strongly resisted.
5. It will discuss further with Troy the question of compulsory rather than advisory (e.g. 'must' as against 'will be encouraged') language which Troy considers RBWM and/or the Examiner may want removed. It simply seeks the maximum possible leverage in such matters.
6. Research is on going to find details of the owners of the remainder of the designated sites.
7. Letters to the 'original' consultees is still to action.
8. As approved, on 3.7.23 the current draft has been sent to the 'large landowners' (save for the new owners of the Winter Hill Golf Course, who we shall confirm and write to as soon as that is done). So far only one response has been received which had no substantive comment on it.
9. Once all that is complete, the WP will consider any desirable changes. The Plan will then be ready for proper Regulation 14 consultation.

Cllr B. Perry added that WP members have been asked to keep the 2nd and 4th Wednesday free each month as provisional dates for NPWP meetings.

Cllr J. Edwards asked what the expected timeframe of the referendum may be. As there are a number of consultation stages to go through prior to this, each with the possibility of delays with redrafts, it is not anticipated that this would happen until mid 2024 at the earliest.

7. TO DECIDE IF COOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL WISH TO WRITE TO THE MP, THERESA MAY IN SUPPORT OF THE WORK THE COOKHAM SOCIETY IS DOING IN REGARDS TO THE ACCESS OVER ODNEY WEIR:

Cllrs unanimous decided they wished to write in support. Cllr Edwards to write the letter, the Clerk will format and send.

The Cookham Society has arranged a site meeting with the Environment Agency, Borough Cllrs and Parish Cllrs at the weir on Thursday 18th August to discuss the matter further.

8. TO APPROVE A PAYMENT OF £840 (EX VAT) FOR COUNCILLOR SKILLS TRAINING TO BE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM:

Cllrs approved this payment. The cost will come from the training budget, with any overspend from the General Reserve. The training will take place on Wednesday 13th September at 6pm to 8.30pm.

Remaining spaces will be offered to other RBWM parishes. They will be asked to share the costs so the overall cost may be less.

9. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE TRAFFIC WORKING PARTY:

The group have not met. The date for the first meeting is set for 9th August.

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

Cllr E. Bune	**MMPA:** The film show about the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Marlow Maidenhead line was a great event.
Clerks Report	**Meeting schedule revision:** Finance committee will move from Tuesday 24th October to October 31st. **Council Emails**: Cllrs were reminded to check emails regularly and responding when requested. Regularly means preferably daily, but failing that every couple days. Include the Office in emails. **Social Media:** be cautious with posts, don't include mention of the Parish Council if you do not have authorisation to do so. **Outstanding Cllr photos**: Request for remaining photos to add to website and noticeboards. **Meeting**: Next Corporate plan working group meeting 18th August.

11. TO REVIEW THE FULL COUNCIL ACTION LIST:

The list was reviewed.
Cllr B. Perry provided a brief update for the actions related to Stonehouse Common and Odney Common.

12. CHAIRMAN'S SUBMISSIONS:

An item will be added to the Planning Committee meeting agenda to propose that letters are written to various parties regarding the issues at Strande Park.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm