



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Held on **Tuesday 23 February 2016** at **7.45pm** in the Parish Office

Present: Councillors Dr Haffegge (Chair), Ms Healy, Ms Thorin and Towle

E057. Apologies for absence

Councillor Dr Barnard.

E058. Declarations of interest

There were none.

E059. Minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2016

These were approved by the Environment Committee, having been proposed by Councillor Dr Haffegge and seconded by Councillor Fitzwilliams.

E060. Matters arising

There were none.

E061. Finance

The Committee's financial report to date for 2015/16 was noted (no change from previous month).

E062. Correspondence for information

There was none.

E063. Allotments

- a. New Quelm allotments site (in Warfield new development area 2, adjacent to Quelm Park):

Land ownership and land use – the Bracknell Forest Council legal department is currently investigating the issues, including location of site boundary and land use (not all of the land has been appropriated). The Deputy Clerk will purchase the title register and title plan in order to better understand what the issues are.

Planning permission – this should not be required, but confirmation will be possible once land use issues are resolved.

Re-engineering of attenuation pond and swale – Bracknell Forest Council has not yet received Berkeley Homes' proposals with respect to this issue. It was noted that consideration is being given to a solution using geocellular attenuation. It was agreed that Warfield Parish Council will need to approve the proposals and also to consider whether or not it wishes to own the land containing the attenuation pond in case of future maintenance issues; the Deputy Clerk will make Bracknell Forest Council aware of this.

Size of site – the Deputy Clerk reported that the site looks likely to deliver a maximum of 30 half plots (calculated from Berkeley Homes' indicative plan for the site), not the 50 which Warfield Parish Council was led to expect. The Deputy Clerk will raise this concern with Bracknell Forest Council since the Warfield Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) identified that land for 50 full plots/100 half plots would be made available across the whole SPD area, and the Quelm Allotments site was originally expected to be the largest parcel of land allocated to allotments.

Southern gateway to the new development – in order to assess the impact on the allotment site of proposals for an attractive gateway the Deputy Clerk will request copies of Bracknell Forest Council's plans for this.

Spoil heap – this has now been removed.

Land clearance – this has been delayed due to the potential need for further ecological surveys, and it was agreed that the ecological surveys be delayed until the land issues are resolved. The Deputy Clerk will, however, obtain a quotation for an ecological survey from GS Ecology Ltd, and also review Berkeley Homes' ecological surveys submitted as part of its 2013 planning application.

Funding – the Deputy Clerk will start to look at costings for the new allotment site in order to better influence discussions regarding funding with Bracknell Forest Council.

The Deputy Clerk will seek clarity on the roles of Warfield Parish Council and Bracknell Forest Council in the development of this allotment site.

Allotments Courses – Councillors Ms Thorin and Fitzwilliams are booked to attend SLCC Allotments Courses, and the Deputy Clerk is booked to attend an APSE 'Managing Allotments' Course.

- b. Future allotment sites in Warfield new development areas 1 and 3 – there was nothing to report.

E064. Events

- a. Community Litter Picks (Clean for The Queen; Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 March) – Tesco has requested one volunteer from each department to take part in the Sunday event, and Syngenta will advertise the event on-site. Purple Clean for The Queen litter sacks have been delivered, and removal of the rubbish collected has been arranged. No further actions are necessary before the event.
- b. Vegetable Take & Grow (Saturday 23 April) – the 1st Warfield Cubs have volunteered to grow for the event. Councillor Dr Haffegge will purchase modules/seed trays, compost, and seeds for them, and provide growing instructions. Councillor Ms Thorin may be able to attend their planting evening on Friday 4 March; she will confirm this nearer the time.

Bracknell Horticultural Association has confirmed its attendance on the day. Representatives of Warfield Produce Show are still to confirm their attendance. Keith Birchall (Warfield Pumpkin Show) is unable to attend, but will donate pumpkin plants/seeds. The Deputy Clerk will also invite representative(s) of both Jealotts Hill Community Landshare and Bracknell Forest Council's Recycling Promotions team (emphasis on composting and wormeries) to attend.

It was agreed that refreshments will be available as usual; Councillor Ms Healy will ask Grace Leftly if she is able to assist. Visitors will be asked to complete a questionnaire on entry as usual; the Deputy Clerk will consult with Councillor Fitzwilliams regarding any changes necessary to its content/format. It was noted that a new competition may be required (possibly to include adults as well as children) – Councillors will bring suggestions to the next meeting.

- c. Family Cycle Ride (Sunday 26 June) – there was no progress to report.
- d. Warfield Produce Show (Saturday 16 July) – the Show Committee will consider Warfield Parish Council's offer of category sponsorship at its next meeting (it is also looking at better ways of advertising the event itself).
- e. Warfield Pumpkin Show (Sunday 25 September – tbc) – there was nothing to report.
- f. Bracknell Forest Week of Walks (Monday 3 – Sunday 9 October) – Councillor Fitzwilliam's walk was confirmed as taking place on Thursday 6 October, starting at 4.30pm from Frost Folly car park. It will include the footpath to St. Michael's Church and will take approximately 1¼ hours.

Councillor Ms Thorin would like to organise either a 3k or a 5k run at the weekend, again starting at Frost Folly (Saturday 8 October preferable given the amount of traffic in the vicinity of the Church on Sundays). She will consider further before the next meeting of the Committee.

The Deputy Clerk will request timescales for publishing details of both these events.

E065. Current and future projects

- a. Frost Folly Country Car Park – following consideration of the Condition Report it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk will obtain quotations to address the extremely poor condition of the sleepers at each side of the moveable bollards; options may include re-attaching the sleepers to their metal posts if feasible, removing the metal posts, or similar. The Committee will await proposals from Harrow Estates regarding the upgrade of the car park.
- b. Trees (preservation and management) – this item will be removed from future agendas.
- c. Green space projects – it was agreed that the Committee will start to consider succession planting for some trees in Warfield, with new trees to be planted in Autumn/Winter 2016-17. Councillors will consider appropriate trees (generally those which appear to be in poor condition and coming to the end of their life). The Deputy Clerk will contact Bracknell Forest Council's Parks & Countryside team for their suggestions/advice.
- d. Climate Change Action Plan (recycling initiatives) – the Parish Office is now recycling mobile phones and inkjet cartridges (Dell, Lexmark, Canon, Samsung and Neopost) via Recycle4Charity to raise funds for The Woodland Trust. Warfield Parish Council has also registered to recycle air and home care products via Terracycle (as well as coffee packaging); this will also raise funds for the Woodland Trust. The changes to the Parish Council's recycling facilities will be advertised in the next issue of The Wren.
- e. Walking – Councillor Fitzwilliams has updated the wording for the existing walks.
- f. Running – there was no progress to report.
- g. Cycling – there was no progress to report.
- h. Other member suggestions – there were none.

E066. Warfield's Annual Gardening Competition

The 2016 Competition will be launched in the next issue of The Wren and at the Vegetable Take & Grow in April.

E067. Members' reports

There were none.

E068. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 29 March 2016 at 7.45pm.
Apologies were noted in advance from Councillor Ms Healy.

E069. Closure of the meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.