



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Held on **Tuesday 29 March 2016** at **7.45pm** in the Parish Office

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

E070. Apologies for absence

Councillor Dr Barnard.

E071. Declarations of interest

There were none.

E072. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2016

These were approved by the Environment Committee, having been proposed by Councillor Ms Healy and seconded by Councillor Towle.

E073. Matters arising

There were none.

E074. Finance

The Committee's financial report to date for 2015/16 was noted; allotment spend being membership fee for The National Allotment Society. It was further noted that the £500 budgeted for Climate Change will not be carried over, however a new sum of £500 has been included in the budget for 2016/17.

E075. Correspondence for information

- a. Correspondence regarding cut-off date for recording historical rights of way on the Definitive Map – Councillor Fitzwilliams advised that he is not currently aware of any historic rights of way which should be added to the Definitive Map. The Deputy Clerk will advise Graham Pockett, Bracknell Forest Council's Parks & Countryside Manager, of this, and also that no residents have brought any to our attention.
- b. Correspondence regarding litter in Warfield – noted. It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk will publicise the availability of litter pickers (and sacks) to borrow from the Parish Office for any residents who wish to assist in keeping Warfield clean.

- c. Request for plant donation to Warfield Primary School after the Vegetable Take & Grow – the Deputy Clerk will advise that Warfield Parish Council is willing to donate a few plants to the School after the Vegetable Take & Grow, if there are any left (noting that some are already promised elsewhere). Warfield Parish Council is also very happy to donate vegetable seeds, so that pupils can grow their own plants.
- d. Correspondence regarding dog fouling on the footpaths around Frost Folly – the Deputy Clerk will request a ‘stick and flick’ dog fouling notice to attach to the pedestrian gate at Frost Folly from Rob Solomon, Bracknell Forest Council’s Countryside Ranger.

E076. Allotments

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

Land ownership and land use – no response has been received as yet from the Bracknell Forest Council legal department regarding these issues. The Deputy Clerk has purchased the title register and title plan, which confirm that Bracknell Forest Council owns the land but that the land has a significant number of easements (non-possessory rights of others to use and/or enter the land) and also a lease is in place for the gas governor. The Deputy Clerk will follow up the matter via Matt Lunn, Bracknell Forest Council Senior Planning Officer. It was felt that it may be necessary to seek an alternative parcel of land and, in any case, it was agreed that Warfield Parish Council must always purchase allotment land in order for the site to be designated a statutory allotment site which will afford it future protection from development.

Re-engineering of attenuation pond and swale – Berkeley Homes is still giving consideration to a geocellular attenuation solution. It is likely that the swale running parallel to the new link road will be replaced by a French drain.

Size of site – Bracknell Forest Council has noted Warfield Parish Council’s concerns regarding the likelihood of the Warfield new development site being able to deliver 50 full/100 half allotment plots (as specified in the Warfield Supplementary Planning Document).

Southern gateway to the new development – it was noted that Bracknell Forest Council has not yet developed proposals for this.

Land clearance – following receipt of additional information it would now appear unnecessary to commission an ecological survey.

Funding – the Deputy Clerk will investigate whether or not the Parish Council is eligible to apply for a Tesco Bags of Help community grant to assist in funding the development of the allotment site.

Allotments Courses – it was noted that Councillor Ms Thorin recently attended an SLCC Allotments Courses (Councillor Fitzwilliams is due to attend one in April), and the Deputy Clerk recently attended an APSE ‘Managing Allotments’ Course.

Given the unresolved land issues it was agreed that a full launch of the allotments would not be possible at the Vegetable Take & Grow, however it was further agreed that a registration sheet would be provided for residents wishing to join the allotments waiting list.

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

E077. **Events**

- a. Community Litter Picks (Clean for The Queen; Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 March) – both litter picks were very successful, with 19 volunteers attending the Saturday event and 9 on Sunday (a good turnout given that it was Mothers’ Day – the Deputy Clerk has commented to Keep Britain Tidy that this was not a good choice of date). A total of 40 sacks of rubbish and recyclables were collected from Larks Hill and surrounding areas, and from the footpaths around Tesco, together with a microwave, garden table, car steering wheel, headrest, bumper and tyre, skateboard, child’s bike, advertising board, cone and garden hose.
- b. Vegetable Take & Grow (Saturday 23 April) – preparations are in hand for this event. It has been advertised in The Wren, The Word, and on Parish noticeboards. The Deputy Clerk will distribute posters via email to the local primary schools for circulation to families after the Easter break. The questionnaire will be revised to make it easier and more logical to complete. The exact format of the competition is still to be decided, but it was agreed that it would again take the form of ‘feel the ...’ due to its popularity in 2015 and be open to both children and adults.

Representatives of Jealotts Hill Community Landshare have confirmed their attendance on the day but the Bracknell Forest Council’s Recycling Promotions team are unable to attend. The Deputy Clerk will contact all Parish Councillors to request volunteers to help on the day. Councillor Ms Healy volunteered to meet the 1st Warfield Cubs on the evening of Friday 22 April to give a brief talk about the Vegetable Take & Grow and to see the plants they have grown for the event (the Cubs will also visit the Parish Office).

- c. Family Cycle Ride (Sunday 26 June) – it was noted that Councillor Ms Healy has a committee meeting on 4 April. The Deputy Clerk will ask for volunteers to act as marshals on the day in the April issue of The Wren.
- d. Warfield Produce Show (Saturday 16 July) – no response has been received from the Show Committee regarding Warfield Parish Council’s offer of category sponsorship, or Vegetable Take & Grow attendance. However Warfield Parish Council has received a new poster for 2016, and the 2016 entry form which is now available to residents.

- e. Warfield Pumpkin Show (Sunday 25 September) – it was noted that the date has now been confirmed.
- f. Bracknell Forest Week of Walks (Monday 3 – Sunday 9 October) – the Deputy Clerk will advise Lynda Lunn, Bracknell Forest Society, that Councillor Fitzwilliam is happy to lead a second walk.

Councillor Ms Thorin confirmed that she wishes to organise a 5k run on Saturday 8 October, starting at Frost Folly at 10am. Initial thoughts are that runners will need to book, and participants will run in a group with a front and back marker. Councillor Ms Thorin will confirm a route with Councillor Fitzwilliams. The Deputy Clerk will confirm insurance for the event; either via the Parish Council or via the Bracknell Forest Society.

E078. Current and future projects

- a. Frost Folly Country Car Park – quotations to address the poor condition of the sleepers at each side of the moveable bollards are outstanding. Councillor Fitzwilliams advised that one of the moveable bollards has now dropped, and so the Deputy Clerk will include the fixing of this (permanently up will be acceptable) in the quotations.
- b. Green space projects (succession planting of trees) – it was noted that Bracknell Forest Council's Parks & Countryside team were very welcoming of Warfield Parish Council's proposal to fund the succession planting for some trees in Warfield during Autumn/Winter 2016-17, but could not offer resource to assist in identifying locations/trees to consider. Councillors suggested adding trees at the following locations to the one already identified (oak on land west of junction Shakespeare Way/Hamlet Street); Goddard Way, Lyon Oaks, The Chestnuts, West End Lane (corner of, near Park Farm), green off Derbyshire Green (opposite Whitegrove Primary School), and Westmorland Park.
- c. Climate Change Action Plan (recycling initiatives) – it was noted that all new recycling initiatives, namely inkjet cartridges and air and home care products, are now available to residents.
- d. Walking – it was agreed that the Administrator will obtain quotations for design work for a new format for the Parish Council's walks leaflets.
- e. Running – to be considered at the next meeting.
- f. Cycling – to be considered at the next meeting.
- g. Other member suggestions – there were none.

E079. Warfield's Annual Gardening Competition

The Deputy Clerk will arrange for the presentation of a certificate and prize to the winner of the Tallest Sunflower competition (child category) 2015 before the Council meeting of Wednesday 27 April.

E080. Members' reports

There were none.

E081. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 26 April 2016 at 7.45pm.

E082. Closure of the meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.54pm.