

BEAUDESERT & HENLEY IN ARDEN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES – JPC ORDINARY PARISH MEETING

Here are the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Joint Parish Council which took place on **Monday the 22nd of March 2021**, at 7.00pm, using zoom technology.

Members Present: Cllrs Field [Chair], Jones, Woods, Bainbridge, Easton, Bainbridge, Clarke, Kingsnorth and White.

In attendance: Ray Evans Clerk. Margaret Smith, WCC.

Public Participation Session: There were four members of the public present. The Chair asked members of the public if they wished to speak. Questions were raised in connection with the JPC policy on car parking and EV charging points, which were addressed under Items 6.04 and 6.05. The Chair referred members to the attendance by Margaret Smith.

MINUTES

Item 1.00

Acceptance of apologies for absence

Resolved: All members were present.

Item 2.00

Dispensations

Resolved: There were no dispensations received.

Item 3.00

To receive declarations of Interests

Resolved: Cllrs Field and Easton declared they had an interest in Item 6.04. Cllr Okey expressed an interest in Item 6.01.1

Item 4.00

To receive and sign the Minutes of Last Ordinary Meeting – 22nd of February 2021

Resolved: The Chair asked all if they were satisfied that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Cllr Woods proposed that they were, seconded by Cllr Bainbridge, the motion carried unanimously in favour by members present at that meeting.

Item 5.00

Matters Arising from the previous minutes

Cllr Bainbridge raised the matter of litter bin collection, asked the Clerk if he had any response from Streetscene [SDC] he said he had not but would press again and that he had now involved Cllr Matt Jennings, who he hoped might bring some information to the JPC regarding the frequency of litter bin emptying. The Chair mentioned that this was becoming more frustrating and that it may be that the JPC take direct action. The Chair requested that Item 6.05 be moved forward to precede Item 6.01, all agreed.

Item 6.00

Task Leaders Reports

6.05 [Brought forward]

Cllr Clarke updated members on progress with WCC, SDC and other bodies on the matter of traffic calming plans. Reported that he had been very busy, contacting a range of people in WCC etc and reported that there were lots of promises by all to help but very little in the way of positive action. He reported that he had a good rapport with Cllr Horner and Phillipa Young, WCC, but progress towards a 20MPH limited appeared to be elusive until higher authorities believe it can be moved forward, realistically. A resident agreed, that as a past councillor, for many years, he had met with exactly the same problem. Cllr Clarke added that at least there was the Stockholm Declaration which lays down the need for this matter of reduced speed in pedestrian areas to be adopted in the UK. Cllr Clarke summarised, saying he believed there were areas where advances may be made, the potential adoption of EV charging etc. Margaret Smith was invited to speak about charging points in Henley and a lively discussion took place. Cllr Clarke reminded all that local elections may now delay any further meaningful discussions that can be held with WCC. The issue of traffic calming will be posted on all future agendas. Margaret Smith mentioned that EV charging would benefit from chevron parking on the High Street.

6.01

Cllr Okey

Jubilee Park upgrade, the Clerk enquired whether a plan had been drawn up. She reminded all that a decision in favour of buying and installing the outdoor gym had been taken at full council earlier, and she was looking for approval to spend no more than £2,000.00 for bins on the site, removal and repositioning of goal posts, new basketball net etc. She mentioned that she intended asking Henley Metal Limited to assist in the upgrade work.

Resolved: Cllr Okey proposed that the permission to spend the initial sum of **£2,000.00** be granted by the JPC, seconded by Cllr Jones, and carried in favour by all members present. PLEASE NOTE, the resolution differed slightly from that reached in an earlier meeting after which members asked for a plan of actions.

6.01.1

Mini grant for the Friends of Henley Station group, this was to cover all the plants required to fill the planters earlier donated by others, at no more than £500.00.

Resolved: The motion to agree to the grant being awarded was proposed by Cllr Woods, seconded by Cllr Easton, and carried in favour by all excepting Cllr Okey who did not take part in the vote.

6.01.2

Cllr Okey commented that she had been approached by Henley WI to take on another plot which she had to decline from letting any existing holders taking any vacant lots, in favour of those who were waiting in order to become plot holders. She asked the Clerk for a summary on paid up plot holders. She went on to mention that the notice board on site will be refurbished and that rabbit proof fencing was under discussion and that the WI were keen to start up the Allotment Association once again and that she would be speaking with Mr Nic Haycock on the matter.

6.02

Cllr Bainbridge Reported that she had nothing to report but that an application by WASPS for signage which would be on the next agenda.

6.02.1 & 2

Cllr Bainbridge reported that she had sought two quotations for initial tree work, and that one tree she thought was on Mount land, should be reported to Amelia. She updated all on the initial work on grass cutting by the new contractor, saying that Riverlands would be delayed until conditions were better and that an area at Littleworth would be devoted to wild flowers. Cllr Okey mentioned that additional matting may be required at the play towers, but all agreed to wait until the next meeting to review the need for matting. Cllr Bainbridge asked that consideration be given to a solid surface under picnic tables. Cllrs White and Jones agreed to look at the issue. All agreed that mud due to poor weather was inevitable, but all effort would be put in to make sure this would not be excessive in future.

6.03

Cllr Jones

6.03.1

Updated all on the progress with removal of brash from the Mount by PayBack, which had been achieved successfully and that the work would be completed during the weekend commencing 27th March. He also outlined plans for pathway improvements around town, including Riverlands, where a circular walk over the north and south bridges across the Alne will be a feature.

6.03.2

Cllr Jones advised all that the training session on Parish Mapping, saying it would be an invaluable tool and that he would be asking all members to input to the system

6.03.3

Cllr Jones suggested that thought be given to the flagpole in terms of the operation and siting of the flagpole. Suggestions on how this is maintained and stored were discussed and possibly even a new site. Further discussions will be arranged to resolve the difficulties. The Clerk was asked to approach SDC with a new proposition for keeping the flagpole permanently erected.

6.05 moved to first item.

6.04

Cllr White

He asked the Clerk if he had to update from Amelia Sheldon on the matter of a quotation for ditch clearance sent to the Mount management to consider. The Clerk said he awaited a response but would chase up the following morning. Further discussions took place on car parks, Cllr Okey said that signage would be erected on the southern approach into Henley, designed to divert visitors to the north car park, rather than continue into the town where spaces were at a premium. A policy for all car parking facilities is being prepared for public scrutiny.

6.06

Cllr Woods updated members on town website that all was progressing well and that she would keep all updated as a rolling agenda item. She reported that Instagram account had attracted just under 1,000 followers.

6.07

Any other matters to be raised by Cllrs not listed above. **Resolved:** There were no further items.

Item 7.00

To approve the current Finance Report and Payments to creditors [Appended Documents]

[LGA 1972 s150 \(5\)\]](#)

7.01

Resolved: The Chair then requested that members approve the financial report again, posted on the website, and asked if members were satisfied that it was a true account of the financial situation at that point in time, the motion that it was accurate was moved by Cllr J Kingsnorth, seconded by Cllr Easton, and carried in favour by all members present.

7.02

Resolved: The Chair referred members to the Creditors List, which is posted under supporting documents on the website and asked if members were in favour of all creditors being paid, the motion to pay was moved by Cllr Woods, seconded by Cllr Easton, and carried in favour by all members present. The Clerk said that any payments made between meetings would be recorded on the creditors list going forward.

Item 8.00

Chair's Report

The Chair raised the planned arrangements for the Parish Assembly, having read 'guidance' from WALC which was hard to interpret. She said that she would instruct the Clerk on matters of forthcoming meetings, including the Parish Assembly [12th April], the Annual Meeting she proposed that 4th May be the date the meeting would be convened. All agreed that the rules were unworkable and that it was hoped the HM Gov will make better arrangements soon.

Resolved: The Chair requested that her proposal above be adopted, this was seconded by Cllr Kingsnorth and carried in favour unanimously by all members present.

Item 9.00

Clerk's Report

9.01

Henley Sports Facility Working Party meet again on the 7th of April, he reported that new and useful members of the public were offering their services. The agenda would be posted on the Clerk's Desk.

9.01

Some sub-committees will be dissolved at the Annual Meeting

9.02

ACV for Black Swan progressing well.

9.03

Clerk reported that he was being assessed by the IA on the 23rd and would report back.

Item 10.00

Notice of items to be taken into consideration at the next meeting.

Councillors are asked to highlight any further items.

Resolved: There were none.

Meeting ended at 20.30 hours

Date of next meeting: Monday 12th April at 7.00pm

**IF YOU HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY ACCESSING & DOWNLOADING SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS,
PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK**

Signed

Date.....