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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 19 APRIL 2010 AT
SHINFIELD PARISH MEETING ROOM, COMMENCING 19.30 HRS**

PRESENT: Cllrs A Atkins, M Bisset, I N Clarke (Ch.), N Gould, J M Heggadon,
P Hughes, J Hunt, S Madigan (V/Ch.), D Peer, R Ponsford, R Pike, P Ratcliffe,
A Seville, A A C Waite.
ATTENDING: J Barnes (Clerk).

09/95 PUBLIC QUESTIONS - There were none.

09/96 APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

- 96.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Gough.
- 96.2 There were no declarations of members' interests.

09/97 MINUTES

- 97.1 The minutes of the meeting of 15 March 2010 were approved as a correct record.
- 97.2 MATTERS ARISING
 - 97.2.1 It was noted that a scheduled police liaison meeting for town and parish councils had been postponed and would be re scheduled.
 - 97.2.2 It was noted that a local community litter pick had taken place at Shinfield Park (new estate) and at Ryeish Green.
 - 97.2.3 Cllr Gould reported that the type of resurfacing proposed for Hyde End Road is not yet determined by WBC.

09/98 REPORTS

98.1 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Gould reported on a requirement to expand capacity at Lambs Lane County Primary School due to a miscalculation on pupil numbers and across the borough there is a shortfall of 78 pupil places.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Head of Children's Services recording members' dismay at the level of poor planning and draw attention to the Ryeish Green School site being a viable site for primary schooling post July 2010. The Clerk was asked to copy the correspondence to the Wokingham Times and to the Borough Councillors.

98.2 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported on the following items:

- 98.2.1 Attendance at a SLCC Regional training conference.
- 98.2.2 A meeting at Ryeish Green Leisure Centre at which the Borough Councillors and B/Cllr Angus Ross attended to gain first hand knowledge of the amenities.
- 98.2.3 A joint meeting with WBC examining the needs and options available for provision of a new community centre at Hillside Park in Shinfield Rise.
- 98.2.4 A meeting held with leisure facility consultants relating to this council's requirements regarding management of Ryeish Green Leisure Centre.
- 98.2.5 A meeting with MereOak Park residents' association in respect of their needs.

*Shinfield Parish includes the rural communities of Grazeley, Ryeish Green,
School Green, Shinfield Rise, Spencers Wood and Three Mile Cross*

- 98.2.6 Attendance at Shinfield Rise Residents' Association Annual General Meeting. He raised the issue of Loddon Reach magazine distribution to their community and received confirmation that residents would wish to receive the magazine in its entirety, rather than an abridged version. There followed discussion on the merits and costs and Cllr Ponsford confirmed that the magazine is valued by residents of Shinfield Park.
- 98.2.7 A question had arisen about adding names to the War Memorial at St Michael and All Angels Church and the Clerk was asked to discuss the matter with the Royal British Legion.

09/99 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES

99.1 COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Cllr Bisset reported on a recent meeting of the Communications Group and the following points were noted:

- 99.1.1 The cost of additional copies of the Loddon Reach magazine had risen significantly from £2,500 to £3,900 and the group was considering alternative solutions. It was proposed and RESOLVED that the purchase of additional Loddon Reach magazine copies for Shinfield North circulation be approved. It was noted that efforts to reduce costs would continue. It was noted that the project could not be progressed without the permission of the churches north of the M4 and this consent was pending.
- 99.1.2 The Welcome leaflet is now available and the Clerk was asked to circulate it amongst members.
- 99.1.3 Cllr Ponsford agreed to join the Working Group as representative of the community of Shinfield North.

99.2 GATEWAY WORKING GROUP

It was noted that WBC had published policy guidance on village gateway signage and Cllr Ponsford agreed to re-convene the gateway group to consider these.

99.3 RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Cllr Clarke reported on a meeting held on 8 April 2010. Cllr Heggadon asked it be noted that in light of a proposed improved finish and style of the new footpath noticeboards, Grazeley Village Hall Management Committee would be likely to give their consent to the erection of a Noticeboard on their land at the village green.

Cllr Clarke reported on proposals for the use of Playbuilder grant funding.

It was proposed and RESOLVED that the minutes of 8 April 2010 be adopted.

99.4 PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

- 99.4.1 Cllr Heggadon reported on the meeting of 11 March and it was proposed and RESOLVED that the minutes be adopted.
- 99.4.2 Cllr Heggadon reported on the meeting of 7 April.
- 99.4.2.1 He drew members' attention to an opportunity to join the committee as Cllr Gough had indicated he would be willing to vacate his seat if required as a result of difficulties he was experiencing in attending all meetings. In the absence of volunteer new members, it was agreed that Cllr Gould's membership remain in tact and it would be noted and acknowledged that his ability to attend all meetings may be diminished.
- 99.4.2.2 It was noted that a major application for a Science Park and associated roads had been approved by committee at WBC and that a decision notice and planning conditions had not yet been issued.
- 99.4.2.3 Cllr Heggadon reported that the working hours of an engaged planning consultant had exceeded those indicated prior to engagement and that subsequently the invoice was in excess of £2,400. Whilst it was recognised that the time taken was accurate and the outcome was most satisfactory, it was of concern to

the committee that the invoice was significantly in excess of the estimate.

Cllr Pike intimated he considered the minute PT/94.2 to be incorrect and he had a clear understanding payment of the invoice should be deferred to council. He expressed concern that there was a failure to ensure sufficient control of public money in relation to this matter.

It was agreed that the invoice represented value for money and that a lesson on the use of consultants had been learnt and the amount of hours required had been under-estimated. It was also noted that a fixed fee would not be appropriate in this complex case.

It was proposed and RESOLVED that the minutes of 7 April 2010 be adopted.

99.5 WOKINGHAM AREA ACCESS GROUP (WAAG)

Cllr Ponsford reported on the work of WAAG, adding that the group had been nominated for a Queen's Award for their work across Wokingham district.

She reported that the groups was considering seeking a Judicial Review of WBC's decision to close public conveniences in Wokingham.

99.6 WOKINGHAM VETERAN TREE ASSOCIATION

Cllr Heggadon reported he had attended a committee meeting on 24 March 2010.

99.7 AWE Liaison Committee

Cllr Heggadon reported he had attended a committee meeting on 25 March 2010.

99.8 CAMPAIGN AGAINST WASTE

Cllr Heggadon reported he had attended a Campaign Against Waste meeting on 29 March 2010.

99.9 WOKINGHAM ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (WDALC)

Cllr Heggadon reported on a WDALC meeting of 15 April and that here had been a presentation on flooding. He added that the meeting had been poorly attended.

99.10 NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

Cllr Heggadon reported that due to a poorly communicated change of date, he had been unable to attend the recent NAG meeting held on 30 March.

99.11 VOLUNTEER GROUP

The Clerk reported on a meeting of the Volunteer Group held on 15 April 2010 and that Cllr Hughes had been welcomed as the council's representative.

99.12 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on the following:

99.12.1 Shinfield Tennis Club – the new chairman, Mr Rob Walter had requested an opportunity to come and speak to the council

99.12.2 A liaison meeting with Laing O'Rourke regarding Junction 11 works update had been confirmed for 20 April.

99.12.3 The results of a survey of needs on behalf of the NAG was being collated.

99.12.4 Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting were in place and a site visit to ECMRWF is to be confirmed.

99.12.5 The Planning & Transportation Committee was asked to review the date of its next meeting. This was not done.

99.12.6 The Clerk asked to review the date of the Finance & General Purposes Committee and it was changed to 29 April.

09/100 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

100.1 A list of invoices for payment in late March 2010 was presented. It was proposed and RESOLVED that invoices 352 – 270, totaling £6,708.57 be paid (appendix 1).

100.2 A preliminary list of invoices for payment for April 2010 was presented. The Clerk explained that due to a lack of information from the Inland Revenue, she had been unable to prepare the payroll and the April payroll would require separate authorization. It was proposed and RESOLVED that a list of invoices 1-12, totaling £3,018.69 be paid and that invoices 13 – 23 be deferred for approval at the next meeting.

100.3 The Clerk was asked to explore competitive quotes for street lighting services

09/101 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (LDF)

101.1 The Chairman withdrew from the Chair, and invited Cllr Heggadon to lead discussion on the LDF Strategic Development Locations (SDL) and this council's challenge to WBC's final options consultation. Cllr Heggadon set the scene and advised members that a joint group of southern parishes affected by two of the four SDL's had formed and that it transpires each of the southern parishes have objections similar to this council's.

101.2 There was discussion on how best to raise this council's concerns and it was agreed that a strategy for publicity and media engagement be considered. Furthermore it was reported that the southern parishes group were seeking an initial pledge of £500, with the potential for a further sum of £500 if required to engage a planning consultant to explore a legal challenge against WBC on behalf of the joint parties.

101.3 It was proposed and RESOLVED that correspondence be directed to:

- a) selected media – local and national
- b) borough councillors (prospective and sitting) – invite to a meeting between 3rd and 10th May.
- c) Local radio and television
- d) Selected national investigative journalists

It was also proposed and RESOLVED that release of up to £1,000 be approved as a fighting fund for use jointly with other parishes.

101.4 There followed discussion on the release of land for a Gypsy Traveller transit site, although no conclusions were reached and information was speculative.

09/102 LATE SESSION

It was proposed and RESOLVED that that the meeting be continued beyond 22.00 hrs.

Cllr Pike and Cllr Ponsford left the meeting.

09/103 RYEISH GREEN LEISURE CENTRE

Members considered competitive quotations from Leisure Services consultants but no conclusion was reached and the matter deferred until a future meeting. In the meantime the Clerk was asked to liaise with the University of Reading seeking clarification on available support. The Clerk was asked to re-order a future agenda to ensure this matter be considered early at the next meeting.

09/104 MEREOAK PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

It was proposed and resolved that a further sum of £400 be approved to cover the cost of legal representation and support in support of the residents legal challenges with the site owner.

09/105 RYEISH GREEN SCHOOL

A letter requesting the council to reclaim prize trophies following closure of the school was considered and it was proposed and RESOLVED that the trophies be accepted by the council and that the council adopt becomes custodian of three large engraved wooden shields bearing the names of Head Boy/ Head Girl and a range of Academic Excellence.

09/106 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 17 May 2010.

APPENDIX 3:

ACTIONS

98.1	Write to Head of Children's Services	Clerk
98.2.7	Liaise with Royal British Legion	Clerk
99.1.3	Cllr Ponsford to join Communications Working Grp	Cllr Ponsford
99.2	Cllr Ponsford to arrange Gateways Working Grp meeting.	Cllr Ponsford
104	Clerk to notify residents and IPHAS	Clerk
105	School trophies and displays – confirm acceptance	Clerk