

INKPEN PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 21st March 2016 at 7 .30 pm at Inkpen Sports Club. **Those present were:** Dr D Thomas (Chairman), Mr K Evans, Mrs C Jones, Mr R May, Mrs V Tomlinson and Mrs. G Keene (Clerk). Also attending the meeting were: Mr J Bryant, Mr R Weeks and the Hungerford Police Team.

1. Apologies were received from: Mrs L Wild and Mr D Wilson

2. Hungerford Neighbourhood Police Report: A verbal report was given by PCSO Zoe Gibson. Local queries were raised on: speeding levels in Craven Rd. and aggressive and loose dogs.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 27th January 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record. The Draft minutes had been displayed on the Inkpen website. No comments were recorded.

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 The Clerk confirmed that two detailed objections had been sent to West Berkshire Council for the second round of the 'phase two' consultation on proposed budget cuts – the consultation was held between 15th February and 1st March and related to the cuts to the public bus service and the removal of the rural mobile Library Service.

4.2 Queries were raised about the Gigaclear advertising literature for superfast. The Chairman confirmed that phase 2 is funded by WBC and paid for by the Government. Private funding is not required at this stage.

5. Declarations of Interest:

5.1 Councillors are the sole Trustees of the Memorial Playing Field Trust and registered with the Charity Commission as the Corporate and Custodian Trustees. Trust meetings and funds are held separately as required by the Charity Commission and as confirmed annually to the External Auditors.

Note: "The Charity is simply managed and administered by the Council and is not a public sector organisation and not subject to the Freedom of Information Act." Information about the Charity can be viewed on the Charity Commission website.

6. Planning Application: 16/00484/House The Old Craven Arms
Swimming Pool to the rear of the property.

Following discussion, Councillors recorded: No objection.

7. WBC District/Parish Conference – 22nd March 2016 to note the date

7.1 As this meeting is scheduled prior to the District Council meeting on 24th March the outcome of the proposed budget cuts is unlikely to be disclosed. Further information will emerge next week. WBC will discuss 'devolution' to which 38 other local authorities submitted a bid to Govt. in 2015. (Berkshire authorities did not consider a bid in 2015).

8. Queen's Birthday –

- a) *Clean Up for the Queen 4/6th March* - an email message had informed the village of the initiative and residents had been encouraged to undertake this privately. A great deal of rubbish had been collected.
- b) *Beacon Bonfires 21st April* – it is unknown whether the Inkpen Beacon will be lit but enquiries have been made by the Clerk.
- c) *Village Celebration – 12th June 2016* to consider event, funding and ideas.

Following discussion the Councillors agreed that they were in favour of holding events for the children and would participate in any village discussions – appropriate funding could be made available as well as use of the playing field.

9. WBC Proposed Budget Cuts: – Announcement to be made after 24th March

9.1 The Clerk reported on feedback received from Ward Member, James Cole on the local meetings that had been held to discuss the issues and reported that no further action should be taken prior to the final announcement.

10. Annual Parish Meeting – to agree date, venue, order of events and speakers

10.1 The date provisionally agreed was Friday 22nd April subject to the availability of the village hall. The order of events would follow the same pattern as held in previous years i.e village groups would be invited to report back on activities. Hungerford Police will attend the meeting to meet Inkpen residents and respond to questions.

11. Financial update:

11.1 a) *The Clerk reported on the In-Month Expenditure* and outstanding invoices for payment: WBC Waste bin maintenance - £117.04; the replacement swing for the Children’s Play area the invoice was split between £1200 to be paid from the Greenham Grant funding and £963.60 from the Playing Field maintenance grant. Notes had been placed on file regarding the split in funding; Grass cutting at The Green - £50 for February. Expenditure was all agreed.

11.2 The clerk gave a financial report to the end of February 2016 and tabled a financial statement showing receipts, payments and reconciliation with the bank statements; the committed ring fenced funding includes the unspent grant funding.

11.3 *Cost of the May Elections 2015* had still not been invoiced by WBC – the delay means that £1500 must be ringfenced for the payment as soon as the invoice is received.

11.4 *Changes to Employment Law wef 1.4.16* – Pensions, Living wage and Health & Safety regulations etc. The chairman introduced the changes relevant to the Parish Council, which had been circulated to Councillors for consideration prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the Parish Council needed to be lawful in the provisions introduced by the Government wef the 1st April 2016. Agreed.

11.5 The replacement swing had now been installed at the Childrens’ play area and the protective barriers removed.

12. Next Parish Council Meeting is arranged for:

Annual Parish Meeting - Friday 22nd April 2016 at 7.30pm at Inkpen Village Hall

Annual Parish Council Meeting – Monday 16th May or Tuesday 17th May to be confirmed.

Annual Parish Council Meeting – confirmed date Wednesday 25th May 2016

Meeting closed 21.10hrs

Councillors are asked to note that all items for discussion and decision should be recorded on the Agenda to allow due consideration to be given prior to the meeting and to inform residents. Meeting closed at 21.10 hrs.

Residents attending the Council meeting are requested to limit comments or questions to the public question time interval when Standing Orders are suspended.

Signed:.....Date:
