

A INKPEN PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday 16th March 2023 at 7.30pm at the pavilion
Those attending the meeting were: Dr D Thomas (Chairman), Councillors Bates, Hanna, Edwards, Jones and Marriott and Mrs Keene (Parish Clerk)

1. Apologies: Councillor May, who was unable to attend the meeting. The Chairman suspended standing orders to wish Councillor May a speedy recovery.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting – the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 31st January 2023 were approved as a true record and had been displayed on the Parish website.

3. Declaration of Interest: None recorded

3.1 Councillors are the Corporate and Custodian Trustees of the Inkpen Memorial Playing Field.

3.2 The following declaration is made on all minutes for clarification for residents.

Inkpen Parish Council is the Corporate & Custodian Trustee of the Memorial Playing Field Trust and registered with the Charity Commission as the Corporate and Custodian Trustee. Trust meetings and funds are held separately as required by the Charity Commission and confirmed annually to the External Auditors.

As confirmed by the Charity Commission: “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.” All information about the Charity can be viewed on the Charity Commission website.

4. Matters Arising: None recorded.

5. Planning Application:

23/00369 Walbury Cottage, Upper Green – replacement dwelling and associated works.

Councillors recorded: No objection by a majority vote of 4 no objection against 2 objections.

Concerns were raised regarding the proposed replacement dwelling which had increased the current 4 bedroom dwelling to a 5 bedroom dwelling, which was disproportionate to the original. Although the application had reduced in size from previous applications, the proposed development would be a considerable increase on the original. It was noted that the Tree Officer had reported that the current application had not provided the tree protection details.

23/00307/FUL Prossers Farm, West Woodhay – demolition of existing barns & construction of a four-bedroom holiday let.

Councillors recorded: Objection.

Strong concerns were raised regarding the use of agricultural land for a new dwelling albeit incorporating an existing barn and, the apparent annexation of agricultural land for the new dwelling. The proposed new dwelling is not linked to the existing dwelling and is outside of the curtilage of the existing farm house. In other words, this is the building of a new dwelling on agricultural land that is currently open countryside and in the NWD AONB.

23/00413/LBC Kirby House, Inkpen – installation of replacement beam and 2 support shoes.

Councillors recorded: No objection.

23/00555/FUL Park House, West Woodhay – Erection of single storey garage to serve replacement dwelling. Adjacent Parish Council planning application.

Councillors recorded: No objection

6. Inkpen Conservation Area Appraisal, – inkpenhistory.uk

6.1 The Chairman reported on the work undertaken to date. Funding has been set aside in the budget, as agreed at the last meeting, to undertake this work and has currently funded map scanning services at a cost of £240 and purchase of maps from the Berkshire Record Office at a cost of £39. These maps show how Inkpen has changed during the last 250 years.

7. Date of Parish & District Election = the key dates are listed below:.

Publication of Election Notice 24th March

Nominations must be submitted by hand by 4pm on Tuesday 4th April 202

Election 4th May 2023

Voter Photographic Identification – new for May 2023

Retiring Councillors continue in office until 9th May 2023.

Annual Parish Council Meeting for new Councillors will be on Wednesday 14th May 2023 with the current chairman presiding.

7.1 The clerk confirmed that applications had been invited for the election of the Parish Council & had been advertised in the Inkpen & Combe Bulletin and copy placed on the Inkpen Website. Further notices will be placed on the notice boards after the publication of the Election Notice on 24th March after which nominations can be submitted to West Berkshire Council. The eligibility conditions are listed on the nomination forms for candidates.

7.2 Following discussion Councillors agreed to post the notice of the Election on Facebook to increase awareness of the Parish Council election. Email notification will also sent in addition to the notices posted on the village notice boards.

7.3 All enquiries are via the Parish Clerk.

8. To approve the Expenditure & Financial Statement & Expenditure 2023

8.1 A financial statement to 28th February 2023 had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, showing the income and expenditure since the last meeting and the committed expenditure that was ringfenced for grant funding. No queries were raised.

8.2 The Statement was approved and items noted that were attributed to the conservation project.

Expenditure agreed was: Grass Maintenance £722.52; Inkpen Bulletin S137 £550.00; Mapping Services £240.00 Conservation Project; Drone Hire £187.98 History Grant: Purchase of Maps £39.00 Conservation Project; Self Accounting/quarter £36.00. Expenditure was approved.

9. It was noted that the booking in the pavilion for the Yoga session has changed and the new timing of the session is from 7-8pm which means that Parish Council meetings would potentially not be possible on future Thursday evenings.

The Date of the Next Meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting on **Tuesday 25th April at 7.30pm** in the Inkpen Pavilion. Village Groups will be invited to give a short report on activities. The Chairman will provide the Parish Council report for 2022/3 and Coucillor Jones will update the Inkpen Memorial Playing Field report for the same period.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th May 2023 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 20.10 hrs.

Signed:.....Date: