

REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held face-to-face on 10th October 2022 starting at 6:00pm and finishing at 8:18pm (circulated 18th October 2022)

PRESENT Cllrs Bill Ronald (BR) (Chairman)
Franky Cookson (FC)
John Halsall (JH)
Polly Hogan (PH)
John Merkel (JM)
Darrel Poulos (DP)
Nigel Williams (NW)
The Clerk: Paul Sermon (TC)

In attendance: Kristian Jenkins (KH; GigaClear; virtually), Lorence Pjetri (LP; Village Manager at Thamesfield), Felicity Rutland (FR)

074/22: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

075/22: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

076/22: MINUTES OF THE MEETING

May 2022 minutes and APM notes were AGREED and signed by JH. June-July 2022 minutes were AGREED and signed by BR. There were no minutes for September 2022 as the meeting was cancelled as it fell in the period of National Mourning for HM Queen Elizabeth II.

077/22: MATTERS ARISING & ACTION LIST

The actions taken by The Chairman and The Clerk were noted. It was noted that WBC Governance had reached a decision on the May election and would be writing to those involved. There was discussion about WBC advice on the number of Cllrs. It was thought that all Cllrs should receive a Parish Councillor handbook. JH subsequently suggested such a book was on Amazon. TC found that this was out of stock currently.

078/22: e-/TELEPHONE UPDATE FROM GIGACLEAR

The Chair welcomed Kristian Jenkins from GigaClear (virtually) who indicated that any issue with damage caused by contractors should be raised with the Company. He said that roll out on White Hill was expected in November. PH tested the website at the meeting but said that it was not functioning. KJ said he would look into this.

079/22: INTRODUCTION TO THAMESFIELD

The Chairman welcomed Lorence Pjetri to the meeting. LP showed some introductory slides indicating the mission, organisational and structural changes at Thamesfield under Axa ownership. JM said that RPC might wish to comment when an application was made for an extension close to the river. The Clerk reminded the meeting that in May there had been comments about the need for improvements to pavements near the bridge. He hoped that LP would encourage residents at Thamesfield to continue to send comments to RPC.

080/22: PLANNING

There was a brief discussion on 222524 (Green Isle) where it was decided RPC wished to make no comment.

081/22: CIL PROJECTS

TC provided the meeting with an updated quote for the block paving in front of the Parish Hall. The production of a drawn map for £1600 for the planning application was not approved. TC thought he could do this with Architect 3D software. There was a brief discussion about the noticeboard. JH pointed out that RPC had purchased this as it was legally required to place agendas,

Chairman



14th Nov 2022

minutes and accounts there. TC said that the board needed a repair to stop water ingress.

JM updated the meeting on the wild trail parallel to the A321. It was AGREED that ECOSA should be paid and that 5 days ground work should be undertaken by Oscar Sly before the end of 2022.

PH and DP updated the meeting on the riverside bench and the defibrillator on Copas land. The meeting was reminded that PSI had suggested this might be added (with the one at the Flower Pot) to the maintenance plan already used by the Parish Hall.

082/22: WEBSITE

FC updated the meeting on website activity.

083/22: LICENSING AND EVENTS

JH indicated that on that very morning he had received comments from Kings Chambers and AGREED to circulate this to Cllrs and interested residents.

084/22: TOWPATH, FOOTPATHS, TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS

It was noted that a virtual meeting between RPC (JH, PH, JM, FC, TC)-WBC Highways (Matt Gould; Chris Easton) had taken place in August 2022 with the following outcomes:

(i) WBC Highways said double white lines were to be installed shortly on the A4130 at Middle Culham/Culham Court entrance to reduce numbers of overtaking incidents at the junction.

(ii) On Aston Lane, WBC Highways said they undertook routine highway inspections and reactive maintenance, saying that the next inspection is on/around 14 Sept (and then 3 months later) and offered that Gareth Wiseman meet PH on site. The Clerk raised issues of cyclist safety with gravel on some current Aston Lane surfaces.

(iii) On Ferry Lane, Aston WBC Highways outlined a proposal for parking control with a single sign at the entry point to the lane, which will prohibit parking at any time, except in one of 5/6 marked bays at the slipway car park. This is to prevent campers, poor parking and to maintain access along the lane for residents. The Clerk mentioned new tree planting near the slipway and hedges/fences at the pinch point in Ferry Lane. JH suggested that BR and PH should coordinate matters going forward. WBC Highways said that traffic cones etc would be recovered after use.

(iv) WBC Highways said that WBC Properties would need to be involved in the wild trail alongside the A321 (Wargrave Road) and that a change of use approval may be needed. Work on clearing the trail of debris could proceed.

It was noted that double white lines near Middle Culham and actions on Aston Lane (promised in the 8th August notes below) had not materialised and that Matt Gould and Martin Heath at WBC Highways should be chased up by FC and PH. There was a discussion of the need for fresh hatching on the road where the A4130 and Remenham Lane and Leander meet. PH raised the issue of the state of the gate and cows in Ferry Lane Field. JH thought this was a reflection of living in a rural area. BR said he would contact Culden Faw. BR/PH AGREED to produce a parking strategy for Aston/Ferry Lane. PH said that for some reason Uber were not collecting passengers from Aston/Remenham.

085/22: COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITIES

On Townlands, Henley, Traffic and NAG committees/meetings BR, PH, DP and NW AGREED to represent RPC.

086/22: FUTURE STRATEGY

The Chairman said he thought that RPC ought to move forward a strategy for the future. He said he would circulate an invitation. Subsequently, The Clerk said the ECOSA biodiversity survey might feed into this and that in addition the following might also be relevant (i) Govt promoted

Chairman



14th Nov 2022

Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP) giving communities direct power to develop a shared vision, and (ii) Community Assets (Localism Act 2011)

087/22: FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reported that the accounts had been audited. After a discussion it was AGREED that donations for the Parish Hall, Churchyard maintenance and the Newsletter should be £3000. PH said that she would like RPC financial support for purchasing items for a mother & toddler group in the Parish Hall. JM suggested she make a case for the numbers that would use the facility, where the items could be stored and what would be the cost involved.

088/22: ANY OTHER MATTERS

FR mentioned that the street light near Leander was now working.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Mon 14th Nov 2022 at 6:00pm.

ACTIONS:

BR/PH/DP/NW to represent RPC on Townlands, Henley, Traffic and NAG committees/meetings

BR to organise a meeting on the RPC strategy for the future

BR/PH to produce a parking strategy for Aston/Ferry Lane.

JH: circulate comments from Kings Chambers

FC/PH: to chase up Matt Gould & Martin Heath (WBC Highways) on actions promised in August 2022

TC: purchase a Parish Councillor handbook for each councillor
initiate payments to ECOSA and work by Oscar Sly on the wild trail
make donation of £3000 for the Parish Hall/Newsletter/Churchyard

Chairman



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14th Nov 2022