

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Virtual Zoom meeting Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 7.30pm.

PC MEMBERS

Chairman	
Vice Chair	Mr. M. Smith - Chaired the meeting
	Mr. G. Botting
	Mr. S. Lawson
	Mr. R. Fletcher
	Miss. H. Booker
	Mrs B. Hough-Robbins
	Mr. D. Booth
Parish Clerk	Ms. Jenny Welham

1. To receive apologies for absence

Mr. R. Peirce, Mr. M. Aldridge, District Cllrs J. Rob, L. Hillier

2. To Received Declarations of Interest.

None.

3. Public Forum: Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council, the public may also speak about specific items of business as they arise, with the permission of the Chairman. 8 members of public present.

Member of public invited to speak regarding the anti social behaviour of a group of youths on the village green the evening of 31st October. He stated that they became very abusive and threatened him when he asked them to reduce the noise and stop setting of fireworks. They continued and also climbed on to the village hall flat roof and were firing fireworks at him and his house on Reading Rd. He called 101 and reported the issue, there is a crime number issued.

He advised that he has often cleared up the mess left by such gatherings from the VH car park, broken bottles, litter, drug taking items. He felt that the lack of a regular visiting PCSO has not helped as when Mark Bell was Woodcote PCSO he had names and knew addresses of many of the youths in the village and often dealt with such occurrences.

Another member of the public advised that the area around the VH car park is very dark and again youths had gathered on the green this evening and his wife felt intimidated when she collected children from the after school club.

It was felt that measures need to be investigated to try to prevent such gatherings, such as more lighting of the VH car park, CCTV cameras.

Chairman replied that there are street lights on the Reading Road, and that there are lights around the village hall triggered by movement sensors. There is always a balance to be met in the village as many residents do not want extra street lights and object to the light pollution they cause. CCTV cameras have been discussed in the past and advice was taken from the Police, offenders often wear hoodies or use other methods to not be recognised on cameras.

Cllr. Botting thanked the member of public for his efforts clearing the debris from the VH carpark. He also suggested that a working group be set up to discuss ideas of how to address this problem. Cllr. Hough-Robbins expressed that the PC need to connect more with the schools and youth club over this issue and involve them more in any measures going forward.

Cllr. Lawson suggest that the Security consultant who had been engaged to advise at Cllr. Bookers home on measures could be approached to offer suggestions and advise on measures to put in place. Cllr. Booker advised that she had seen a security consultant for her Mothers property where she resides and it was agreed that she should ask him to look at the VH and make some suggestions and observations on possible security measures.

In the meantime the PC should follow up with the Police regarding a more regular presence from PCSO and also encourage residents to always call 101 however small the incident.

4. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Virtual Meeting held on 21st October
Change to Item 8, paragraph regarding the Village Hall changing room project, note that the PC had previously been informed of the project, awaiting costings.
Approved as a true record.

5. Matters arising from those Minutes not on the agenda elsewhere.
None

6. Planning Applications to discuss and agree Councils response.

P20/S3655/FUL (Full Application) Minor Proposal: Proposed incorporation of existing manege into residential curtilage of new house with associated landscaping together with the proposed erection of ancillary buildings/structures and an external swimming pool Address: Fernwood House Goring Road Woodcote RG8 7SJ.

The Parish Council have no objections, however, have requested the following conditions be applied by SODC Planning Officer;

Removal of permitted development rights (as per the house plot)

That the buildings permitted be used only for the purposes ancillary to the domestic enjoyment of the existing residence and not for any other purposes.

That the land to be included as garden to be used only for purposes ancillary to the domestic enjoyment of the existing residence and not for any other purposes.

The eco unfriendly surface material of the manege to be disposed of carefully

P19/S4288/FUL Minor Amendment : No. 3 - dated 14th October 2020

Proposal : Erection two storey four-bed dwelling house (as amended by plans and information received 23 January 2020 proposing changes to the fenestration and internal layout of the existing dwelling 10 Wayside Green and letter from Thames Water and received 14 October 2020 changing the footprint of the proposed dwelling and parking layout and boundary location for the existing and proposed dwellings).
Address : 10 Wayside Green Woodcote RG8 0QJ.

The Chairman invited the MOP to speak who was representing the applicant. He advised that they had increased the space between the new dwelling and 10 Wayside green to 3 metres, also that they have changed the window configuration to allow light and privacy for 10 Wayside Green.

Cllrs asked him about the car parking spaces stating that the NHP policy requires 1 per bedroom and this plan showed only 3 for a 4 bed dwelling. He advised he would amended the drawing to 4 spaces. The Chairman advised that the PC can only consider the drawings present at the moment, but if such an amendment was processed the PC would remove this objection .

The Parish Council object to this amendment for the following reasons;

The proposals as at the time of discussion, fail to meet policy requirements of T8 of the Woodcote Neighbourhood Plan to provide 1 off street parking space per bedroom. This policy seeks prevent problems historically seen in this cul de sac of excess parking on the road and in doing so, obstructing the turning area for the cul de sac. We therefore strongly object to any failure to meet that policy. Should plans showing 4 off street parking spaces be submitted, then the Parish Council would withdraw the objection regarding policy T8.

The PC would also like to note that we do still have concerns about the proposal due to close proximity to 10 Wayside Green and the consequential effect in line with the comments made by the inspector in the appeal regarding P19/S2307/FUL.

We note that the siting of the proposed house and distance between the 2 storey elevations of the houses remains the same as dismissed at appeal, albeit with removed garage, revised boundary line & new fenestration details for 10 Wayside Green.

6.1 Applications Granted by SODC

P20/S2164/HH Application proposal, including any amendments Construction of 1.5 storey extensions to existing dwelling. Site Location 2 Oakdene Woodcote RG8 0RQ.

P20/S2810/HH Application proposal, including any amendments Removal of existing garage, repair base and replace with similar concrete section garage with brick effect door side panels and white garage door. White PVC rainwater accessories. Site Location 29 Croft Way Woodcote RG8 0RS.

The Chairman raised the matter of two planning applications;

P20/S2510/FUL that the PC had asked to be called into planning committee. The SODC planning officer had sent an email stating that he was going to approve this application as it had not been called in and he also gave reasons for not accepting the PC objections. The formal decision notice has not yet been issued, The Chairman has sent a further reply email to the Planning Officer detailing the reasons for the planning objections and copied our District Councillor.

P20/S2494/FUL this also had been requested to be called in but had not, the SODC Officer had sent an email stating his reasons for approving, and on the same day issued the formal decision granted.

The Chairman advised that this is happening to other Parishes due to the SODC backlog in planning.

6.2 Applications Refused by SODC

None.

6.3 Other Planning Matters

Cllr. Booker commented that works to the car park area have started in the field where the equestrian cross country course is planned. Planning application is granted, she asked that it was something all members keep an eye on to ensure works are carried out as drawings approved.

7. Finance To approve payments, note receipts.

List of payments 29th Oct to 5th Nov 2020

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Detail
29/10/2020	British Telecom Mr. T.	DD	£112.90	Monthly line & BB
05/11/2020	Smallbone	TRANSFER	£32.89	Plants for War Mem Gdn
05/11/2020	Glasdon UK Ltd	TRANSFER	£17.87	keyless bobbins for bin lids
05/11/2020	J. Welham	Transfer	£59.99	Microsoft annual renewal software
			£223.65	

APPROVED

Noted receipts			
Date	Cash received from	Receipt Description	Receipt Total
30/10/2020	CCLA	Lamit Property Fund	£1,118.56
03/11/2020	CCLA	Deposit Acct	£6.60
29/10/2020	SODC	Cil Funds	£9,710.59
			£10,835.75

7.1. Quotations/Grants

Quotation for planting of 11 new trees to the Goring Rd side of the Village Green. Resolved to discuss at the Budget meeting 12th November 2020.

Quotation for emptying of Dog Waste Bins from an outside company. SODC costs have risen to £358.80 for 13 weeks, this company cost is £13.40 per visit if weekly for 13 weeks would be £174.20. PC resolved to change to this company, Clerk to check frequency of SODC collection first.

8. Reports from Other Groups

Village Green Committee – Nothing new to report.

Village Hall Trustees

The Trustees will instigate the same procedure as for the last lock down for Lockdown 2. The only hall users will be the Pre School. The cleaner will be on furlough and return when lock down finishes 2nd December.

During a visit on Monday it was noted that there is considerable damp to the entrance area of the hall. Certain repairs to the exterior are required, the Trustees feel that the PC should commission a building surveyor to inspect the entire building to check conditions of the premises to ascertain the areas that need urgent maintenance attention. PC resolved to action, Clerk to contact Surveyors for quotes.

NPAG – work is progressing on the landscape and visual impact report, when completed the draft plan can be presented to the PC.

Volunteer Group – Cllr. Booker reported that they are still operating and will be available for requests during this second lockdown.

Police – Cllr. Booker has had contacted and Barbara Taylor she is happy to meet with councillors to discuss matters. Suggested this be with 2/3 councillors and not be a public meeting due to shift timings, and are operationally deployable so if something big comes in they have to respond.

9. Other Matters for the Chairman

Clerk advised that she has drawn up the Planning Application documents to send to SODC for planning of the realignment of the baseball pitch and 2nd hoop (first planning granted has expired). The cost is £231, PC to decide if they pay the cost or the VGC for this project. Resolved that the PC would pay as they own the land and also paid for the first application.

Clerk advised that SSE this week had fitted a new Smart Electricity Meter into the Function Room/YC end of the VH, this was free of charge.

10. Correspondence – to consider & review any received.

11. To note date of the next PC meeting: Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 18th November 2020. Meeting closed at 21.16