

WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Waltham St Lawrence Parish Council on Tuesday 11 March 2014 in the Neville Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Clive Scott-Hopkins - (Chairman)
John Birkett - (Vice Chairman)
Jenny Baish
Martin Hayes
Katie Sarsfield
Stuart Craig
Sally Burtenshaw - (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Cllr Cox, Cllr Evans, 1 member of the press & 44 members of the public
ACTION

Public Question Time:

Don Anderson asked the Parish Council if there was anything the Parishoners can do to assist with getting the drainage and flooding issues resolved. It is clear that Thames Water have been guilty on a number of occasions dealing with problems from effluent in The Street and across the Parish in general. The main issues are that Thames Water need to be badgered daily to get them to resolve the issues and to make sure that the people responsible for ditches keep them clear.

Cllr Cox has been dealing with all areas within the Borough that have been affected by the flooding and has asked for a review of all these areas to see what can be done. With regard to the works to the broken culverts around the Broadmoor Road area a new survey needs to be completed before works can be put in place.

Cllr Evans advised that he has been in constant contact with Thames Water and will on 11 April be meeting a senior officer and asked for emails to be sent to himself so that a comprehensive list can be produced and what needs to be done. Don Anderson was asked to get a petition started so that we can lobby the RBWM with hoped over 1,000 signatures.

Extra pressure will be put on Thames Water. The public were encouraged to apply pressure by writing to Wendy Tugwell or Bob Collington who is the Operations Director. E mails can be sent to customer.feedback@thameswater.co.uk The Chairman will write to Rt Hon Theresa May asking for her support

CHAIRMAN

FC/117/03/2014 Apologies: received from Sandy Quinn

FC/118/03/2014 Minutes:
The minutes of a meeting held on 4 February were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman

FC/119/03/2014 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

- AED update – several members of the public expressed concerns about the location of and the cost of acquiring one of these machines. It was agreed that Katie Sarsfield would speak to Wargrave Surgery to get their opinion and will be re-addressed next month
- Gate & Tree in Burial Ground – these have both now

KATIE
SARFIELD

been dealt with

- *Repair to pavement at end of Downfield Road – Martin Hayes advised that the work that has been carried out so far will be the only repairs done as there is insufficient money to have them redone. Cllr Cox expressed his surprise and asked that the e mail from the RBWM should be forwarded onto him.*

MARTIN HAYES

FC/120/03/2014

Travellers update:

The Chairman advised that he had just been handed a copy of a letter from the Leader of the Council to the Lord Chancellor regarding the ongoing delay and constant appeals as regards the Traveller Site judicial review. It is noted that further activity has been ongoing at the site which is in breach of the enforcement notice and has been reported. It was also noted that Cllr Evans has worked very hard in trying to get the unauthorised travellers removed from the village

FC/121a/03/2014

Planning applications

14/00350: Bellman Hanger, Waltham St Lawrence

The Parish Council have a strong objection against this planning application for the following reasons:

- 1. Conflict with existing policy GB2 in that the application would have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt by reason of the scale of development throughout the site and a material increase in level of activity compared to previous long term low key storage use.*
- 2. In 1995 application 426529 for 3 (not 4) houses was refused on the additional ground of 'cramped and intrusive form of development with an urban appearance harmful to the open rural character of the area'. This still applies.*
- 3. It was also stated that 'the proposed development would result in an increased use of an access which is sub-standard in visibility at its junction with Shurlock Road. This would adversely affect the convenience and safety of road users'. With increased traffic and outside the new 40mph speed limit vehicles now accelerate on the same side as the entrance.*
- 4. Neither the NPPF (para 89) on replacement 'in the same use', nor the emerging Local Plan (para 6.6.1) indicates this site as acceptable for a major redevelopment.*
- 5. In view of the total inability of our sewage system to cope even in more normal winter rain conditions (arising out of the Knowl Hill overflow and failure of adequate pumping combined with a high water table prone to flooding) no further development , other than a one for one replacement, is acceptable.*

NB: Please bring to the Panel if recommended for approval and reproduce our submission in full.

If the Borough are minded to approve this application Section 106 monies would need to be increased and negotiated for the benefit of the Parish

14/00331: Borlases Barn, Waltham St Lawrence
The Parish Council object to the retrospective amendments as they are not in keeping with the original plan or the character of the barn and its surrounding area.

We would wish to see all the original conditions adhered to. The inclusion of the roof lights adds to the light pollution since condition 5 of the Inspector's Decision has not been complied with

- FC/121b/03/2014 Trees in a Conservation Area:
None received
- FC/121c/03/2013 Plans that have arrived in the last couple of days:
14/00664: South Lodge, Manor Drive, Shurlock Row
This application arrived too late to be included but will be discussed at the April meeting. The Clerk to advise the Case Officer
- FC/121d/03/2014 District Planning Agenda/Other Planning Matters:
Certificate of Lawfulness to determine whether the existing use of the Old Post Office as a part of the rear residential dwelling is lawful at the Old Post Office, Waltham St Lawrence – noted
- FC/121e/03/2014 Enforcement Notices & Appeals:
Appeals received from
- Holly Cottage, Halls Lane, Waltham St Lawrence,
 - Heath Lodge Bungalow, Beenhams Heath
 - Sunbeam House, Broadmoor Road, Waltham St Lawrence
- FC/122/03/2014 Borough Plan :
The Chairman produced a draft consultation response. This was agreed by all Councillors present and the Clerk will send it off
- FC/123/03/2014 Finance:
- The cheques issued in February were agreed and signed by the Chairman
 - The RFO Hilda Holder will be asked to produce some accounts before the next meeting and also make contact with Barrie Dancer the auditor requesting his services for the 2013/14 audit
- FC/124/03/2014 Neighbourhood Plan update:
It was noted that there will be another Steering Group meeting later this month

CLERK

CLERK

CLERK

- FC/125/03/2014 *Reports from Representatives:*
Stuart Craig advised that the willow tree that has come down in the Borlases ditch will be removed shortly by the RBWM. There is a lot of water at the corner of Halls Lane which is owned by Shottesbrook. The Chairman said he would again speak to the estate manager Mrs Allard. He also advised that some of the rubbish in the Broadmoor Road ditches has been cleared by RBWM. There is a possibility that the Parish could clear out culverts annually if some money is set aside each year. The piece of machinery required will be costed and will be discussed next month
- CHAIRMAN
- STUART CRAIG
- The Vice Chairman advised that the memorial garden in the burial ground can be tidied up a couple of times a week the costs were approved by all Councillors present. A debate was held about how often the War Memorial needed cleaning – this will be discussed fully at the April meeting. The Chairman asked that it be cleaned in July before the 100th WW1 anniversary in August.*
- VICE
CHAIRMAN
- FC/126/03/2014 *Date of Next Site Visits:*
Saturday 5 April at 9.30am
- FC/127/03/2014 *Correspondence:*
Community Assets – e.g village halls, pubs, churches etc these will need registering with the Royal Borough -Kate Sarsfield will compile a list
- KATIE
SARFIELD
- FC/128/03/2014 *A.O.B.*
Nothing to report
- FC/129/03/2014 *Next meeting: 8 April 2014 at 7.00pm in the Neville Hall*

The meeting closed at 21.22 & the Confidential meeting commenced

*J.S. - Mrs.
8-4-14.*