

# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Waltham St Lawrence Parish Council on Tuesday 9 February 2016 in the Neville Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Mike Kay (acting Chairman)  
Clive Scott-Hopkins  
Mark Hipgrave  
Maggi Bevan  
Suzy Young  
Sally Burtenshaw - ( Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Borough Councillor Evans + 5 members of the public  
the Vice Chairman in the absence of the Chairman chaired the meeting

## ACTION

### Public Question Time:

- A member of the public reported an increase in fly tipping along Callins Lane. Suzy Young will contact Streetcare to report the rubbish and to request it is collected SUZY YOUNG
- There was a further report of heavy lorries coming through the village causing damage to verges and at times exceeding the speed limit. Suzy Young will report to Highways SUZY YOUNG
- A member of the public asked several questions about the proposed open space along Shurlock Road. The acting Chairman advised that there is no set timetable and that general opinion is currently being collated
- A resident asked if there was a update on the Travellers (this will be reported on in FC/108/02/2016 below).

FC/105/02/2016 Apologies: Received from The Chairman & Katie Sarsfield

FC/106/02/2016 Minutes:  
The minutes of a meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January were approved by the Council and signed by the acting Chairman

FC/107/02/2016 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

- Drainage Halls Lane – works will be carried out in the lane from 15/17February and that part of the road will be closed
- Gas – the Chairman has written to British Gas to establish whether the Parish can be connected to mains gas – a response is awaited. To be carried forward to March meeting CLERK
- Open Space along Shurlock Road – the overall response has been mainly positive, there have been many suggestions for further improvements which have been welcomed and a number of responses expressing concerns. The proposal is very much at an outline idea stage and interest is being gauged. Maggi Bevan will give an update at next meeting where it will be decided if it is worth taking the idea further into a public consultation meeting. MAGGI BEVAN
- Cricket Ground – Clive Scott-Hopkins advised that he

had spoken to the Exec Chairman of the Club to enquire whether it would be possible to have a childrens' play area in the grounds of the cricket club. He advised that he was attending a committee meeting the same day so would revert back once consulting the other members. The feedback was negative on grounds on the maintenance and supervision. A letter will be sent to the cricket club trustees to see if they will agree to a play area at the ground

MAGGI  
BEVAN/CLERK

- o Waltham St Lawrence School update plus parking – Suzy Young advised that she and Maggi Bevan had had a meeting on 28 January to discuss options from the parental and residential survey with various parties including BC David Evans, the headmistress, neighbours and RBWM. There does not seem to be a clear remedy as yet but a working party will press on. This will be discussed again at the March meeting. BC David Evans was thanked for his efforts in this matter

CLERK

- o Litter pick – Suzy Young has established that there is a litter pick scheduled for mid March by the RBWM. The Parish Council will then consider the effectiveness of this. If the Parish elect to do one also the equipment needed can be sought from Highways

SUZY YOUNG

- o 1 Milley Road Cottages – the Chairman had written to Housing Solutions a few months ago to enquire why this house was standing empty when there are people in the village on a waiting list for housing. A response has finally been received advising that the house is going to be sold to generate income to reinvest in more homes

- o FOI Information request – Another request have been sent to RBWM as the current FOI responses have thrown up other questions. The Parish Council wishes to hold RBWM to account on why they spent £270,000 fitting out and installing the seven year old temporary building as this money could have been spent more wisely on providing a brick permanent structure which would have been more in keeping with the location and the original school building. This will be discussed once the follow up response has been received.

- o Horse walker Twyford Road – in the absence of Katie Sarsfield this will be discussed at the March meeting

KATIE SARSEFIELD  
& CLERK

FC/108/02/2016

Travellers update:

It is noted that the sentencing of Mark Pickett for breaching planning enforcement at the site had been adjourned until May 2016. This will enable the magistrates to consider the decisions from the Planning Inspectorate on the retrospective planning appeals. A resident advised that Enforcement Officers were due to visit the site as more caravans and structures had appeared

FC/109a/02/2016

Planning applications:

16/00115: The Shurlock Inn, Shurlock Row  
The Parish Council supported this application

JB

16/00171: 4 Beenhams Farm Cottages, Beenhams Heath  
The Parish Council object to this application for the reasons stated before on grounds of GB3 (4) as the building is materially larger than the original property, and also 2.1.25 inappropriate development of scale and bulk compared to the original  
They note that planning application 14/03249 states that the floor space on the original house was 32.7 sq mtrs. They also noted that neither this extension nor the PDR under 15/01018 have been undertaken.

FC/109b/02/2016

Trees in a Conservation Area:  
16/00277: Coltmans, Waltham St Lawrence  
The Parish Council had no objection to this application

FC/109c/02/2016

Plans that have arrived in the last couple of days:  
None received

FC/109d/02/2016

District Planning Agenda/Other Planning Matters:

- 15/00020: Certificate of Lawfulness to determine whether a detached outbuilding with open car ports and storage is lawful at Glen Cottage, Beenhams Heath – it was noted that this had been withdrawn
- The acting Chairman advised that the developer of Bellmans Hanger had asked the Parish if they would be interested in an alternative development of affordable housing instead of the approved planning permission for 3 detached houses. The general feeling was that the traffic that would be generated from such a site on an already dangerous road would need to be addressed. A meeting will be arranged with the developer

FC/109e/02/2016

Enforcement Notices & Appeals:  
Nothing to report

FC/110/02/2016

Finance:

- The cheques issued in second half January were agreed and signed by the acting Chairman

FC/111/02/2016

Neighbourhood Plan update:  
Clive Scott-Hopkins advised that the consultation sessions in Hurley & Woodlands Park were not well attended. The feedback from these meetings plus online and postal comments will be collated and made available to the public. The next steering group will be held in March

FC/112/02/2016

Reports from Representatives:

- Suzy Young – speed limits – work still being actioned
- Maggi Bevan – There has been a lot of interest by local residents as to what Network Rail are developing at Milley Bridge. An application which the Parish Council strongly opposed was approved by RBWM. This is needed for an access road and temporary storage area. The location is key as it offers the ability to divert trains from one track to another if there ever was a breakdown

JB.

or an accident. Network Rail own 1 acre of land but have leased another 2 acres. There is confusion as to whether the whole site will be returned to the original condition by the end of 2017. There is also rumour that the area will be floodlit so a watching brief will kept on the land and Enforcement to be contacted if the planning permission is breached. The Chairman/Vice Chairman will action if required

CHAIRMAN/VICE  
CHAIRMAN

- Mark Hipgrave – advised that the ditches along Broadmoor Road and up to Mire Lane on the Twyford Road have now been cleared and water is flowing well. The ditch opposite Paradise Cottages still needs to be cleared out. RBWM will be working at Uncles Lane on drainage and surface improvements but no fixed date has been given for works to start The Clerk will remind him to chase up the notice board quotes before the March meeting
- Mark Hipgrave Devolution of Services - he reported that he and Maggi Bevan had recently attended a planning parish forum to meet the new Borough Planning Manager (Jenifer Jackson). This was a good opportunity to raise several concerns over planning processes i.e late receipt of planning papers and the apparent disregard of the parish councils' comments on what they consider contentious applications. It was noted that this was a common opinion of all Parish councils who were represented. If the Parish Council took on board the devolved service of planning this would overcome many of the concerns they have with the planning process. It was agreed to ask for written confirmation of the details with a view to taking this matter further.
- The Vice Chairman requested that the Clerk send out letters to the unsuccessful companies that had tendered for the parish maintenance contract – the Clerk advised that the letters are ready to go

CLERK/MARK  
HIPGRAVE

MARK HIPGRAVE

CLERK

FC/113/02/2016

Correspondence:

- Rights of Way Management & Improvement Plan 2016 – 2026 The Parish Council will raise the possibility of upgrading Footpath 25 to a bridleway and looking again at Footpaths 4,9 and 12. A resident requested that accessibility on the parish footpaths could be made more wheelchair friendly by replacing stiles with kissing gates where possible

KATIE SARSFIELI

FC/114/02/2016

A.O.B.

The Clerk requested that the July meeting be moved forward by a week which was unanimously agreed. The Clerk will contact all the relevant parties to advise of the date change

FC/115/02/2016

Date of next site visit: 5 March at 9am

FC/116/02/2016

Next meeting: 8 March 2016 at 7.00pm in the Neville Hall

JB

*The meeting closed at 20.52 & the Confidential meeting  
commenced*

*J. Birkett*

*8th March 2016*

