

WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL

The Old School, The Street, Shurlock Row, Berkshire RG10 0PR
 Clerk to the Council: Mrs MJ Streater
 Telephone: 07956 217783
 Email: parishclerk@wslpc.uk

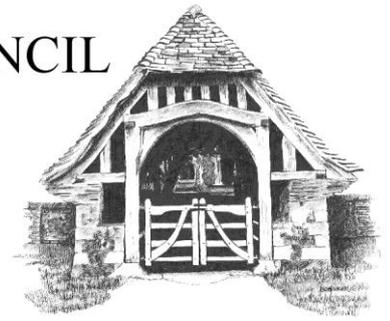


Minutes of the Waltham St Lawrence Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th November 2023
 Present: Mike Kay (Chairman), Mark Hipgrave, Charles Williams, Sarah Goodchild, MJ Streater (Clerk).
 Also present: Cllr Hunt and 6 Members of the Public.

	<p>Public Question Time: A member of the public requested an update on Wicks Lane. He asked what was happening regarding the of the application for sewage works: Mark Hipgrave confirmed that comments have been made to the Planning Officer, but he would follow up his previous concerns with the Environment Agency (the only thing that the Parish Council can do).</p> <p>The second issue was the apparent blocking of Hungerford Lane to facilitate deliveries to the Barns site, the Parish Council have written to PROW (Sharon Wootten) to request that she detail to the applicant the correct processes due to be followed. The question was whether or not she has done this. i.e. has this been followed up. The Clerk was requested to follow this up with PROW.</p> <p>A short discussion ensued relating to the development in Wicks Lane; the Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council, whilst sympathetic to both parties, have directed the parties to the relevant departments at RBWM for support on this but would not get involved in any disagreements between neighbours.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Chairman</p>
FC/103/11/2023	Apologies: Noted from: Cllr Blundell, Rupe Patel, Herman Bleekendaal, Angelique Hathaway	
FC/104/11/2023	<p>Minutes: A clean copy of the previously approved minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 5th September were signed by the Chairman. The minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 10th October were agreed by the Council and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
FC/105/11/2023	<p>Declaration of Interests: Mike Kay Hillbury Sarah Goodchild Andrews Yard</p>	
FC/106/11/2023	Significant Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes: There were none.	
FC/107/11/2023	<p>Planning Applications: Reference 23/02409/FULL Address Hilarion Shurlock Road Waltham St Lawrence Reading RG10 0HP Proposal New front canopy and extended existing canopy, 1 new no. front dormer and alterations to existing dormers, part single, part two storey rear extension and alterations to fenestration. Parish Council Comments: The Parish Council have concerns that this represents overdevelopment in the Green Belt and note that there has been flooding on this site previously. Reference 23/02597/FULL Address Orchard End Sill Bridge Lane Waltham St Lawrence Reading RG10 0NT Proposal Replacement dwelling, 1no. detached garage and relocation of vehicular access with new gates following demolition of existing elements. Parish Council Comments: The Parish Council object for the following reasons</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

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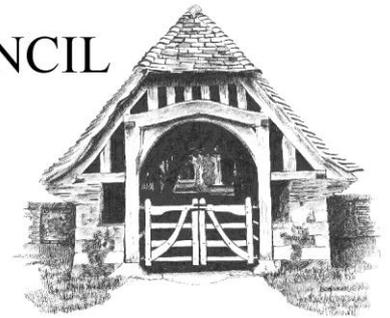
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	The property is not in keeping with surrounding properties and will dramatically change the street scene. The proposed building is 2m higher than the existing property this is only necessary to allow for the roof to become a living space. The height of the roof will have a detrimental effect on the openness of the green belt and should be reduced in height.	Clerk
FC/108/11/2023	Trees in a Conservation Area: There were none.	
FC/109/11/2023	Plans that have arrived in the last couple of days: 23/02680 Hill Bury Parish Council Comments: The Parish Council request to be allowed to comment following the meeting 5 th December 2023.	
	Other Planning Matters: 23/02252/OUT; The Polo Centre, Billingbear Park Polo Parish Council comments: Having reviewed the plans, the Parish Council Comments remain: The Parish Council has no objection to this application in principle, provided that there are no more looseboxes accommodated here. It would ask that the skylights are examined with regard to the impact of light pollution in this rural location. 22/02820/FULL Solar Farm Planning approval. The Planning Team of the Parish Council will continue to monitor this project. The Planning Team will look to continue to monitor new information/developments which occur on major planning applications within the Parish	Mark Hipgrave
	Enforcement Notices and Appeals 23/60047 Bellman Hanger Hearing: No final decision has been reached, (8.11.23) though several new pieces of documentation are available on the Planning portal. Please refer to the comment above. Adrien Waite: Has responded to the request for clarification on the new Triage system in operation. Whilst the Parish Council appreciate the speeding up of the planning process, we would draw attention to the concerns regarding statement of fact where for example the applicant is claiming use for say 4 years, where a PC may be able to assist a Planning Officer with alternative information. Further investigation is required to understand which types of application are being triaged outside the consultation process. This point to be raised with neighbouring parish clerks at the forthcoming Clerks' Form. Enforcement Andrews Yard: Clerk to liaise with Enforcement to ensure the wall issues are not lost with the transfer of ownership thus ensuring that new residents are aware of the picket fence clause. Cllr Hunt to also liaise with Enforcement. Valentines It has been highlighted that Valentines on the Straight Mile Shurlock Row has a new building that appears to have no planning permission. The Parish Council understands that Enforcement are investigating.	Mark Hipgrave Clerk Clerk/Cllr Hunt
	Finance: Online Payments for £1,472.47 ANB dog poo, Clerk salary, Clerk expenses (toner and parking), legal fees relating to the Nature Reserve received late, Memorial Garden maintenance approved October but not paid were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.	Clerk

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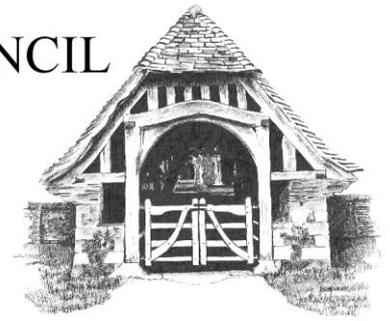
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	<p>Budget Planning and Preparation: Given the cost of living crisis and inflation still running higher than anticipated, a further look at projected costs for next year will be undertaken before any decision is made re maintenance tenders and other expenditure etc. It was discussed that there may be ways to revise scopes of works.</p> <p>Chairman will circulate comparison of precepts for surrounding parishes (published on the RBWM website).</p> <p>In addition the Parish Council were keen to engage with the community over their desire to reduce financial outlay or to maintain or even enhance services given RBWM cut backs. Sarah Goodchild will look at publicity and obtaining feedback for the December meeting.</p>	<p>Sarah Goodchild/ Chairman</p> <p>Chairman</p>
	<p>Reports from Representatives:</p> <p>Clerk: RBWM are beginning a process of sharing information on their Corporate Plan and Sustainability project. When details are known, they will be shared Parish Council meeting dates for 2024 were agreed and will be posted end of November. Clerk to notify Neville Hall for room booking.</p> <p>RBWM Borough Councillors Cllr Hunt expressed her appreciation for the support from the Parish at the Panel consideration of the Solar Farm in Shurlock Row. She considered that the result was disappointing.</p> <p>Communications: Sarah Goodchild updated the meeting that there had been a positive response to casual Parish Council engagement at WSL Café (3rd Sunday), some good ideas including working parties etc Sarah Goodchild to encourage further participation Sunday Nov 19th from Parish Council.</p> <p>Burial Ground: Nothing to report.</p> <p>Memorial Garden It is agreed that the box hedge needs to be replaced between Nov and March, this to be CIL funded, Sarah Goodchild to liaise with ANB</p> <p>Bridleways and Footpaths: Nothing to report.</p> <p>Allotments: Nothing to report</p> <p>Ditches: Mark Hipgrave to investigate whether the ditch and the drain outside the start of Halls Lane can be cleared to prevent continuous flooding</p> <p>Highways: Pot hole on Milley Road reported. Photographs of over grown verges to be supplied to RBWM</p> <p>Parish Maintenance: Maintenance contract scope to be re-reviewed as part of budget planning WSL Christmas lights to be tested pre end of November Shurlock Row Christmas lights: a more sustainable solution to be sought instead of buying new each year. Short term Sarah Goodchild to discuss with ANB</p> <p>Footpaths/Bridleways: Nothing to report</p> <p>CIL Monies Approved to purchase new Defibrillator for West End. (c£2,500). Mark Hipgrave to progress.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Sarah Goodchild</p> <p>Sarah Goodchild</p> <p>Mark Hipgrave</p> <p>Sarah Goodchild/ Chairman Sarah Goodchild</p> <p>Mark Hipgrave</p>

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	Nature Reserve: As part of overall Budget preparation, a clearer understanding of 'hidden costs' needs to be undertaken before any final decision is taken. Meeting to be called with Jacqui Wheeler	<i>Mike Kay/Sarah Goodchild</i>
	Other Forestry Commission have highlighted OPM is present on the Oak at the Pound. ANB to quote for removal and spraying. (c£500-700)	<i>Sarah Goodchild</i>
	Reports from Representatives who attended meetings representing the Parish Council: Nothing to report from Clerks Forum. Next meeting 8.12.23 when it is hoped that RBWM Budget information may be available	
	Correspondence: None	
	AOB: None	
	Date of Next Site Visits: 9am Saturday 2 nd December 2023 Neville Hall	
	Date of Next Meeting: 7pm Tuesday 5 th December 2023 Parish Council Meeting Neville Hall.	
	The meeting closed at 9.15pm and a Confidential Meeting was held	

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