

# MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

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Held: Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023, at 7.00pm  
at The Chapel School Room, Stock Lane, Whaddon, MK17 0LS

Present: Cllrs Sir Beville Stanier Bt (Chairman), Helen Hickman (Vice Chairman), Jane Herriman, Peter Lemagnen, Graham Stewart, Derek White. Cllr John Chilver.

Members of the Public: Ten  
Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

## 24/23 Public Forum

Parks Trust. Two representatives of Parks Trust advised their organisation undertook the care of outdoor spaces for the MKC area, funded by investments and property income. They advised they were both nominated and involved in the Shenley Park Spatial Planning Document with the remit to prioritise and care for the environmental aspects of the development. It was agreed in principle there were no barriers to their assuming this role for BC for Shenley Park. It was agreed that they supported WPC concerns over proper management and preservation of the green gap between the development and the village, disagreed with the concept of a cricket pitch and supported proper provision of connectivity for the nature corridors preferring a green bridge solution where H6 Childs Way would sever the North Bucks Way.

Enovus. A representative from Enovus presented a revised plan of the solar park at The Oaks Farm, Stratford Rd comprising 31 hectares. She advised that the planning application had been delayed whilst highway's investigation and planning work was undertaken regarding the provision of a new field gate to access the site off Stratford Rd which would serve as the main access for the proposed 40-year duration. Traffic counting was in progress, and she agreed to share the data once the study was completed. She advised that equipment for the construction would be delivered via Calverton Lane, and not through the village, and after initial construction had been completed maintenance traffic of one visit per month was expected. The life of the equipment was expected to be 40 years, after which the land would be reinstated, or further planning applications submitted for ongoing use as a solar park. A profit share agreement would be put in place for the benefit of the village, based on £250/megawatt of output (est. 27.5 per year) and funds for both this and the end-of-life removal of the equipment and reinstatement of the land would be ringfenced to protect it from any financial insolvency of the company. It was agreed new figures for the reduced area would be provided and confirmation of the details on how the money could be spent. It was agreed for the Enovus representative to attend the next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November with a further update following the proposed submission of the planning application.

## 25/23 Apologies

Cllr Georgina Geddes.

## 26/23 Declarations of Interest

None

## 27/23 Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Cllrs approved the minutes which were signed.

28/23 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

29/23 Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors

Cllr Chilver recommended residents participate in the online budget consultation to express their priorities for budget allocation. Cllr Chilver advised that dates for the resurfacing of Nash Rd were confirmed for 13-18<sup>th</sup> October.

30/23 Planning

- a. Crest Nicholson' Outline Planning Application 23/02180/AOP Shenley Park. Cllrs reviewed Cllr Stewarts planning report and proposed response. It was agreed to send this response ahead of the deadline on 21<sup>st</sup> September. It was noted that a representative of Crest Nicholson was present in the public area and took notes.
- b. Crest Nicholson' Outline Planning Application 23/02180/OUT Shenley Park. Cllr Stewart advised the MKC had refused to extend the deadline for this response submission, and he had gone ahead and provided a submission that covered the majority of the issues that Cllrs and residents had spoken about, ahead of the deadline.
- c. Review of BC SPD exhibition and response by 11<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr Stewart reported that the exhibition had been well attended with around 100 residents. Deep concern was expressed about the difficulties of communicating the complexity of the issues and the method of responding online to the SPD for ordinary residents to enable them to have their say on the planning document. It was agreed for Cllr Stewart to prepare the full response for submission by WPC, (before the 11<sup>th</sup> October deadline) and this should be condensed down and provided to residents along with submission instructions for them to help them make their submission using this very difficult process. Cllrs agreed assistance was needed for this.
- d. Update on the A421 Study. Cllrs Stanier (Chairman) and Stewart reported that they had attending presentations on the A421 study. Cllr Stanier highlighted the seeming unawareness about the problems that will be caused by the additional traffic from Shenley Park and Salden Chase developments. Cllr Stewart expressed concern that traffic studies undertaken by the Shenley Park developer must be properly designed with the results made available and subjected to independent scrutiny by both BC and MKCC and highlight the need for the A421 to be duelled.
- e. Review of Local Planning Applications. Cllr Stewart referred to his planning report and advised there were no new matters to report.
- f. Review of presentations by Parks Trust and Enovus. Cllrs had no further comments at this time.

31/23 Clerk's Update

- a. Administration and Whaddon Quarterly
  - i. The Clerk referred to the Update provided. The Clerk requested Cllrs to consider budget requirements for 2024/5 for the next meeting.
  - ii. Cllr Legmagnen advised that the current website provider would start to charge for website hosting shortly. He presented a review of three competitive quotes showing the current provider would be the cheapest under the new charges. It was agreed to go ahead as a short term solution. However, it was agreed that in the medium/longer term additional

functionality including email handling and sending of newsletters would be needed and he undertook to do further research in this regard.

- iii. It was agreed that old email facilities could be discontinued for Cllrs except for Cllrs Stanier (Chairman), Stewart and The Clerk were there remained a possibility these were still needed.
- iv. Whaddon Quarterly. The Clerk advised that the editor intended to resign after the next edition and advertising for a replacement was underway. Cllrs thanked the outgoing editor for the excellent publications and her hard work.

b. Highways

- i. Minor highway issues. The Clerk reported that repairs to the traffic calming buildout were expected before Christmas, and High St repairs had been identified. Cllrs discussed 20mph speed limits and noted the problems with speeding and lack of enforcement.
- ii. Cllrs reviewed MVAS traffic data. The Clerk reported that the A421 closure had resulted in a reduction of around 4000 vehicles through the village during August.

c. Property

- i. Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that the repairs identified in the annual safety inspection had been completed. It was noted that the equipment was starting to look faded but was in good mechanical condition. Regular inspections were taking place. The free play session had been well attended, although the absence of a bouncy castle was noted. It was agreed to go ahead again next year.
- ii. Allotments. The Clerk advised that the allotments were in relatively good condition, and it was agreed that there would be no rent increase in the coming year.

d. Finance

- i. Cllrs reviewed income and approved payments.

Income

The following payments have been received:

14/7/23	K Ambler – Allotment shed clearance	£20.00
2/8/23	Stony Stratford Plumbing – WQ Ad	52.00
	Total	£170.00

Expenditure

The following payments have been made since the last meeting:

7/7/23	SO	Freethought – Internet/email services	£9.50
17/7/23	DD	nPower – electricity	£46.82
17/7/23	BACS	R S Landscapes – spraying	£246.00
17/7/23	BACS	Oxfordshire Play Assoc. – play session on rec.	£450.00
17/7/23	BACS	Harlequin Press – printing WQ	£230.00
17/7/23	BACS	D Taylor – Mowing	£940.00
17/7/23	BACS	E.On – Street lighting maintenance	£57.60
17/7/23	BACS	S Lindsey – Clerks salary and expenses May-June	£1,219.36
19/7/23	BACS	R S Landscapes – invoice error correction	£162.00
3/8/23	BACS	Anglian Water – allotment water supply	£106.59
7/8/23	SO	Freethought – Internet/email services	£9.50
14/8/23	DD	nPower – electricity	£47.70
17/8/23	DD	Nest – pensions	£2.17
7/9/23	SO	Freethought – Internet/email services	£9.50

			£3,536.74
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The following future payments required approval:

BACS	Wave – Allotment Water	£23.11
BACS	CPRE – membership fee	£36.00
BACS	Dave Taylor – repairs to recreation ground	£434.00
BACS	Dave Taylor – mowing	£690.00
BACS	Harlequin Press – printing WQ	£305.00
BACS	Kompan – parts for recreation ground repairs	£51.03
BACS	Kompan – annual inspection	£264.00
BACS	S J Lindsey – Salary and Expenses Jul-Aug	£1,179.85
BACS	PKF Littlejohn – Audit fees	£252.00
	Total	£3,234.99

Bank Balances as at 13/9/23

Unity Bank – deposit	£43,681.23
Unity Bank – current	£4,692.63

### 32/23 Other Parish Matters

- a. The Clerk advised that the Christmas Tree had been ordered and the lighting up ceremony was scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> December.
- b. Cllrs Hickman (Vice Chairman) and Herriman reviewed plans and options for the D-D celebration on 6<sup>th</sup> June. It was agreed they would discuss involvement and options with the Village Hall.
- c. Yellow Line Project. Cllrs reviewed progress on approval and implementation of the yellow lines at the High St/Stock Lane junction. Concern was expressed about the lack of progress. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) agreed to follow up with BC.
- d. Cllrs reviewed an update on planning enforcement NC/22/00368/LB that there was a proposal to serve a formal notice shortly. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) agreed to follow this up with BC.
- e. Benches and Planters for Village Green. It was agreed to await the completion of the yellow lines and to proceed with this project.
- f. Salden Chase sec. 106 contribution. No further update.

### 33/23 Other Correspondence Requiring a Decision before the Next Meeting

- a. Cllrs reviewed two complaints regarding reckless driving of agricultural contractors vehicles through the village. It was agreed this matter was outside the remit of the Parish Council.
- b. Cllr Lemagnen tendered his resignation to take effect after the next meeting. He agreed to stay on and assist with the co-option of a replacement.

### 34/23 Date of Next Meetings

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will be at 7pm; 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (AGM), 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

Signed:

Chairman

Date: