

At a Meeting of the
COUNCIL for the **PARISH of WRAYSBURY**
held in the Colne Room of the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on
Monday 17th March 2014

Present: Councillors A. Davies (in the Chair) Mrs D. Hughes, Mrs M. Lenton, P. Lord, M. Williams and the Deputy Clerk.
8 members of the public were present.

14/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors C. Collins, J. Lenton, D. Martin, G. Sinclair and M. Smith.

14/19 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public.

14/20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

The Parish Council discussed the following applications and made representation to the Local Authority as shown.

14/00400 7 NURSERY WAY, WRAYSBURY

Erection of mono pitched roof to rear extension with alterations to rear elevation (retrospective).

No objection, subject to compliance with current policies.

**14/00467 PERDITA, FRIARY ISLAND, OLD FERRY
DRIVE, WRAYSBURY**

Two storey side extension and roof alterations following demolition of garage, porch and decking.

No objection, subject to compliance with current policies.

14/00595 3 RIVERSIDE, WRAYSBURY

Replacement dwelling.

No objection, subject to compliance with current policies.

Following a request from the applicant, Councillors requested that should the Borough be minded to approve, that this be granted at the earliest convenience.

Although not included on the agenda, the following were discussed due to time constraints and will be included on the next agenda for public interest.

14/00646 9 GARSON LANE, WRAYSBURY

First floor roof extension to front and continuation of side dormer.

No objection, subject to compliance with current policies.

14/00713 11 OAST HOUSE CLOSE, WRAYSBURY

Addition of dormers to the front and rear of the building.

No objection, subject to compliance with current policies.

Notices of results as detailed on the agenda were noted.

14/21 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 3rd March 2014 were agreed and signed as a correct record subject to one addition. It was noted that Councillor J Lenton had identified a possible alternative site for the proposed *shipping* style container.

14/22 MATTERS ARISING

In relation to sandbag storage, it was noted that RK Leisure had offered to store some at Wraysbury 1.

A proposal had been made to hold the by-election at the same time as the EU elections on Thursday 22nd May. The Chairman stated that this was a sensible suggestion, and the proposal was unanimously agreed.

14/23 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman reported that he had been contacted by a Shepperton resident who was a civil engineer with expertise in fluid dynamics. He was keen to share his expertise with the Parish.

He had received correspondence in relation to proposed bollards to protect properties on the High Street (next to Pennyfields). He recalled that the Parish had expressed support for this scheme many months ago, and that he would alert Councillor J Lenton, so that he might progress the matter with relevant Borough officers.

14/24 REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

There were no reports.

**REPORT FROM CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES
(INCLUDING THE FLOODING COMMITTEE)**

Properties

It was reported that the Acting clerk had commissioned a written report on damage to the affected Parish properties. The Cricket Club damage (doors and frames etc.) will be above the insurance excess (£2,500). The front steps to the Village Hall had shown signs of sinking. There appeared to be little damage to the football club, except for their equipment, which was not covered by Parish insurance.

There was a need to obtain quotes prior to approaching the insurance company. The importance of taking photographs was underlined.

Councillors briefly discussed their concerns that the football club had yet to settle its contribution to insurance costs, which was invoiced by the Acting Clerk in December 2013. It was suggested the matter could be progressed through Councillor G. Sinclair and Mr P. Jackson.

The new posts for the Parish noticeboard at Welley Road (Tanning Shop) had been purchased and would be installed within a fortnight of the date of this meeting.

Work was ongoing to move the water and electricity bills so that they were paid directly by the organisations that consumed them.

Greens

Discussions were ongoing as to who would fund the replacement of the fencing damaged by the Borough tree when it fell. Mr Sleep was contracted to replace the bark and would do so once he received the instruction.

It appeared that an area of ditch had been used for the disposal of grass cuttings, which was not helpful. Mr Sleep had quoted for works to clear the ditches, the main aim of which would be to improve water flows. Additionally, a tree on the edge of The Green (opposite Grange Close) was looking dangerous. Councillor Mrs D. Hughes agreed to contact the Borough tree officer.

The Acting Clerk had researched grant funding for sports facilities affected by flooding. This had resulted in her contacting Sport England about their fund. Up to £2,000 could be applied for, and the Parish appeared to meet the criteria, so an application would be submitted. The Cricket Club would also make their own application. A further grant funding opportunity was also being explored.

Progress on the environmental improvements led by Councillor Mrs D. Hughes, her volunteers and Colne Valley Park was noted. Once the project was completed the £1,200 grant funding would be released.

The Acting Clerk had requested the Borough to confirm its 2014/15 grant for grass cutting. It was also noted that Councillor D. Martin was working with Mr Sleep on the maintenance/grass cutting budget, and that savings were expected.

Watercourses

No report.

Flood Committee

No report.

14/26 TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL GROUP MEMBERS

None

14/27 FINANCE

The following accounts were notified to members of the Parish Council, recommended for payment and cheques issued and signed accordingly:

		NET	VAT	GROSS
E.Marlow	Clerk	516.60		516.60
M.Keily	Clerk	719.19		719.19
HMRC	PAYE	158.37		158.37
LA Advisory Service	Legal	336.00		336.00
E.Marlow	Office	151.50		151.50
M.Kiely	Office	236.83		236.83
R.Colgate	Labour	198.00		198.00
Metro Signs	Posts	145.00	29.00	174.00
TOTAL		2,461.49	29.00	2490.49
Received				
Flood Donation		500.00		500.00

In a brief discussion, the Chairman highlighted the availability of charitable funding for those who suffered hardship during the recent floods. Residents were encouraged to apply for themselves, or for people they knew that might otherwise find the process difficult.

A particularly generous donation had been received from a resident in Weston-Super-Mare. He had observed the news items about Wraysbury. Further consideration would be given to how best to spend the money.

The Council had invoiced the Borough for £1,700 to cover purchases during the floods. Other claims for vehicle repairs etc. had been forwarded directly to the Borough.

New Finance Regulations. These had been approved by central Government and covered areas such as electronic payments, new internal and external financial controls, internal and external audit. The Acting Clerk and the Deputy Clerk would prepare a briefing paper for the Council meeting in May 2014.

14/28 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Members were advised that Philip Gill was the new Borough officer providing assistance on the Horton and Wraysbury Neighbourhood Plan. A business related paper had been drafted but required further expansion. A further meeting was planned. This would consider papers on community, planning and environment.

14/29 **LOCAL PLAN**

The Borough Local Plan had identified five new areas for development in Wraysbury. Of these, three were under water in the recent floods. Councillor Mrs D. Hughes had prepared and circulated a response paper which rejected all five sites. The Council unanimously adopted the paper and thanked the Councillor for her work.

Councillor Mrs D. Hughes considered that her paper would be improved by a map, which Councillor M. Williams agreed to provide, and photos of the flooding. Councillors were asked for any photos they took and a request for further photos would be published to residents, via social media.

14/30 **ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE PARISH MEETING ON FLOODING HELD ON 12TH MARCH 2014**

During the discussion, the following comments were made:

- It was explained that the proposed *shipping* style container could be moved to where it was needed during emergencies. It would

also be possible to use it as an office. The Chairman advised of the need to receive a formal proposal that could be considered at a future Council meeting, as an agenda item. A suggestion was made that the former Garden Club building could become the store.

- There was a need to implement the clearance of ditches and drains.
- There was a need to press for the Lower Thames Scheme to go ahead, as well as the reintroduction of full dredging on the Thames. The Chairman advised that he had written to the Prime Minister, to make those points.
- The Chairman advised that he had been in contact with the Borough's Head of Streetcare and Operations (Dave Perkins), about the Wraysbury Drain. There was a lot of material to be removed.
- Thames Water needed to progress their works on flood bunds, electrics etc., as described at the flooding meeting.
- Discussion took place on the possibility of an additional meeting on flooding.

14/31 WRAYSBURY LAKES

RK Leisure was progressing its development plans. It was confirmed that they would be agreeable to attend a future Council meeting to outline their plans.

14/32 MOTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MEETING

None.

14/33 ITEMS FOR PLACEMENT UPON FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items suggested for placement upon future agendas.

14/34 ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

A policing matter was discussed.

14/35 CORRESPONDENCE

An email had been received from Berkshire Community Foundation (BCF). BCF had moved into a disbursement phase of its Flood Fund. Applications were encouraged, particularly from or on behalf of vulnerable individuals. Additionally, BCF had requested information on the number of flooded homes, the number of flooded homes where vulnerable people lived, the number of affected businesses, and any suggestions on what the priorities should be for the Flood Recovery Fund.

14/36

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Lenton that the press and the public be excluded from the next item on the agenda as the business to be discussed (Parish Administration, Appointment of Clerk) was of a confidential nature and would be prejudicially affected by public interest. This proposal was made in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to meeting) Act 1960. LGA 1972 ss 100 and 106. This was seconded by Councillor Mrs. Hughes and agreed without dissension. The Deputy Clerk declared a prejudicial interest in the item Appointment of Clerk, and was absent for the remainder of the meeting.

..... Chairman

..... Date