

Minutes of a meeting of Full Council
Held on Wednesday, 26th February 2025
At School Green Centre commencing at 19:30

Present: Cllrs Boyer, Grimes (Chair), Hoyle, Jahromi, James, Jones, Lias, Masseron, Matic, Montgomery, Peer and Tatla

Attending: BCllr Rance
B Winton (Clerk), S Herring (Deputy Clerk)

25/12 Public Questions

- 12.1 There were no public questions

25/13 Apologies and declarations of Members' Interest

- 13.1 Apologies had been received from Cllrs Clarke and Johnson and BCllrs Glover and Gray
- 13.2 There were no declarations of interest
- 13.3 There were no changes to members' declarations of pecuniary interests

25/14 Minutes of the Meetings held on 29th January 2025

- 14.1 The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29th January 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr Jahromi
Seconded: Cllr Montgomery
Approved: Unanimously

14.2 The following matters arising were discussed:

- 25/1.1** Clerk to set up a public meeting in two weeks and to invite the MP, representatives of Anthem Trust and WBC

A meeting had been held on 13th February with approximately 45 members of the public, BCllr Prue Bray and Yuan Yang MP in attendance. The next public meeting is scheduled for Friday 28th March at 18.00 in the School Green Centre. It is hoped that the Chief Executive of Greenshaw Learning Trust (the interim Trust) will be attending that meeting.

ACTION – Clerk to circulate the name of the new trust to all members once it has been announced



25/4.2

- 24/128.1 Deputy Clerk to send calendar invitation to all members for a tour of High Copse Pavilion

This had been done.

- 24/129.1 Clerk to add the lease between SPC and Crumbs Café to the agenda of the Full Council in February 2025

The Clerk apologised for not tabling for this meeting and advised that he would expect it to be on the agenda for the March Full Council after the catering quarterly meeting on 28th February.

- 25/6.6** Clerk to add Corporate Governance Working Party to the agenda in May

This would be done.

- 25/8.1** Deputy Clerk to issue calendar updates to councillors for meetings 2025/26

This had been done.

- 25/9.1** Deputy Clerk to confirm training date and time for Public Speaking training course

This had been arranged for 13th March 2025 at 18:30.

- 25/9.1** Deputy Clerk to send a diary entry to all councillors for the Public Speaking training course

This had been done.

- 25/9.1** Deputy Clerk to open the training session up to other local parish councils

This had been done and to date there had been 11 people booked onto the course, these included Earley Town Council, Twyford Parish Council, Arborfield Parish Council, Wokingham Town Council, Barkham Parish Council, Wokingham Without Parish Council, Winnersh Parish Council.

25/15

Reports from Borough Councillors

- 15.1 Members **NOTED** the written reports from BCLrs Glover, Gray and Rance

- 15.2 The following matters were raised:

- BCLr Glover reported that there was a plan to install solar panel canopies at MereOak Park and Ride.
- BCLr Rance had been speaking to the neighbours of 52 Oaklands Road. Concern was expressed that Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) Enforcement were not addressing the problems.



Members expressed concerns that not all BCllrs were taking an active role and working closely with the parish council. It was recognised that there were sometimes clashes with meetings and they had to give WBC meeting priority, however, it was felt that a report on their work would help to strengthen the relationship.

ACTION –

- Clerk to invite BCllrs to the next joint meeting with the University of Reading (UoR)
- Clerk to prepare a report detailing BCllr attendance at Shinfield Parish Council (SPC) meetings, their submission of a written report and whether apologies had been submitted

19:58 BCllr Rance left the meeting

25/16

Reports from Committees and associated Working Parties

16.1 **Facilities Committee**

Members **NOTED** the minutes of Facilities Committee held on 5th February 2025

16.2 **Arts, Culture and Events Committee**

Cllr Matic formally thanked the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and all members of the council staff for their work in making the Shinfield Art Showcase a successful event. The preview evening had been a fantastic start to the exhibition. Of the 305 paintings exhibited, 48 had been sold. £575 had been raised for the Alexander Devine Hospice (from the sale of David Cotton's art work) and 20% commission from the remainder of the sales would be put towards SPC public art. Two paintings had been donated to SPC that would be added to the SPC inventory, these were

- 1) 'Perhaps' by Trish Roberts – donated by SPC Facilities Officer
- 2) 'Talinka' by Michael Jay Hibbit – donated by the artist

The Clerk also thanked all staff who had worked hard to ensure the event was a success.

Members **NOTED** the minutes of Arts, Culture and Events Committee held on 6th February 2025

16.3 **Minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee**

Cllr Lias reported that he had been following the planning inquiry for PA233038 - Land East of Hayes Drive North of Three Mile Cross. From the information to date it would appear that the DEPZ was not going to block the application. Cllr Lias would be raising questions including concerns over flooding issues.

Cllr Lias raised concerns over the future of the land adjacent to Aldergrove School that had been identified for an extension to the school. Members requested that more information be requested from WBC regarding the future


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intentions of primary school expansion, including the proposed Spencers Wood Primary School in Shinfield Parish.

ACTION –

- Cllr Lias to report back on the planning inquiry for PA233038
- Clerk to contact UoR regarding the land adjacent to Aldergrove Primary School
- Clerk to contact WBC regarding future primary school provision in the parish

Members **NOTED** the minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee held on 12th February 2025

16.4 Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllr James reported that the following meetings would be taking place

- Meeting with the Facilities Manager regarding a long term maintenance plan for SPC assets
- Finance group meeting with WBC regarding S106 money
- Meeting with Martin Alder, WBC regarding outstanding traffic issues

Members **NOTED** the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 19th February 2025

16.5 Corporate Governance Working Party

The Corporate Governance Working Party was meeting fortnightly to update the Standing Orders and were working towards the updated document being adopted by Annual Council Meeting in May.

ACTION – Clerk to add to the agenda of the meeting in May

16.6 Chairman's Report

AG advised that

- He had recently moved house and would continue as a SPC Councillor and Chairman of the Council until May 2025.
- He would be meeting with Martin Alder, WBC regarding the number 3 bus operating every 30 minutes to Wokingham, and discussing the issues around school buses
- He would be monitoring the uptake of spaces at Oakbank School that should be announced next week
- He had developed a good relationship with Yuan Yang, MP and was in contact with Clive Jones, MP

16.7 Reports from Outside Bodies

- 1) Cllrs Montgomery and Matic had met with Reading BCllrs for the South Whitley and Church Wards on Saturday, 22nd February 2025.

Three areas of potentially common interest were discussed

- Building of one of two possible pathways from Whitley Wood Community Centre (Lexington Drive) to Whitley Wood Lane, to meet up with a proposed



road crossing to facilitate access to both sides of this busy road. This would necessitate further hedge cutting in the direction of the Lower Earley Relief Road junction, on the Western side of the road to match up with that already achieved recently by Reading Borough Council (RBC). Exact locations to be determined.

Discussion also centred on proposals to install a roundabout on this very busy, and in some eyes, dangerous junction. The late Former WBC and SPC Councillor, Normand Gould, mentioned that S106 monies should have been used 12 /13 years ago for this)

- Discussion on better, more coherent phasing of traffic lights on the two junctions on Shinfield Road, (possibly also installing crossings) would/could produce better traffic flow in both directions. This was agreed as a RBC issue but that we are happy to explore options.
 - A review of an area known as Shinfield Community Park, adjacent to Linden Drive and Blagdon Road in Whitley, currently very under used, with a view to installing a multi-gym and/ or a running track to encourage youngsters to be active. If linked with "2" This could attract youngsters from Shinfield Rise area?
 - It was suggested that discussions could be carried out between SPC Planning and Highways Committee, RBC councillors and Mark Redfearn on a way forward for joint working and possibly funding using CIL or S106 monies.
- 2) Cllr Peer had attended the Borough Liaison meeting:-
- Tension between WBC and RBC on traffic issues
 - Proposed M4 bridge to be for buses, pedestrians and cyclists only
 - Traffic will no longer impede on planning

25/17

Appointments to outside bodies

- 17.1 Cllr Montgomery and David Purton were **RE-APPOINTED** as representatives to serve on Shinfield United Charities.

Proposed: Cllr Lias
Seconded: Cllr Boyer
Approved: Unanimously

ACTION – Clerk to inform Shinfield United Charities of the reappointments

25/18

Millworth

- 18.1 This item would be deferred to the meeting in March in order for all the information to be collated and circulated to Cllrs so they could make an informed decision.

ACTION – Clerk to circulate details of the revised plans to members prior to the Full Council meeting in March

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26/3/2025

25/19

Correspondence

- 19.1 The Clerk had received an email from Molli Cleaver, UoR regarding Hall Farm/Loddon Garden Village extending an invitation to SPC as well as Borough Councillors and "Representatives from local community and interest groups e.g. schools, churches and healthcare providers".

ACTION – Clerk to circulate date of meeting with UoR regarding Hall Farm/Loddon Garden Village once this had been set

25/20

Wokingham Borough Council

20.1 **WBC's Community Governance Review**

Members considered the questions raised in WBC's Community Governance Review and agreed to respond as follows:-

- Do you think the boundary of your town or parish should be changed? YES
- Please provide a narrative description of the changes you would like
 - Expand SPC boundary to encompass the group of houses at the end of Ryhill Way
 - Expand SPC boundary along the River Loddon to the Hampshire County Boundary towards Swallowfield to encompass the properties on Lambs Lane
- Why do you think the boundary should change?
So that properties in the same area fall under one local council
- Do you think the name of your town or parish should change? NO
- Do you think the warding arrangements in your area should be changed?
YES
- How do you think the warding arrangements should be changed? Wards are not necessary, Shinfield Parish is one community

Proposed: Cllr Boyer
Seconded: Cllr Lias
Agreed: 10 For, 2 Abstentions

- Do you think the number of town or parish councillors in your area should be changed? YES
- How many councillors do you think there should be? Please also tell us your rationale. Change from 15 to 18 Councillors due to the increase in the number of properties.

Proposed: Cllr Lias
Seconded: Cllr Hoyle
Agreed: Unanimously

ACTION – Clerk to complete and return the Community Governance Review on behalf of the Council

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26/03/2025

20.2 **WBC's Plan 2025-2030**

Members considered the WBC's Plan. The following initial comments were made:-

- Fairness Mission – Shinfield Parish does not seem to have been treated fairly, for example, “everyone in Wokingham Borough has equitable access to opportunities, support and leisure regardless of their circumstances” and
- “Residents across the borough have access to a range of education, skills and services and opportunities . . .”

ACTION – Members to submit comments to the Clerk by the 7th March 2025

25/21

Invoices for Payment

21.1 **Payments made within the Clerk's financial delegation**

Members **NOTED** the payments made within the Clerk's financial delegation

21.2 **Payments made on Barclaycard within the Clerk's financial delegation**

Members **NOTED** the payments made on Barclaycard within the Clerk's financial delegation

21.3 **Payments outside the Clerk's financial delegation**

There were no payments outside the Clerk's delegation.

25/22

Date of Next Meeting

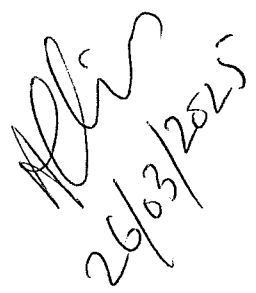
22.1 The date of the next meeting was Wednesday, 26th March 2025

Meeting ended at 21:22

[Handwritten signature]
26/03/2025

List of Actions

25/14.2		
25/1.1	Clerk to circulate the name of the new trust for Oakbank School to all members once it had been announced	Clerk
25/15.2	Clerk to invite BCLRs to the next joint meeting with the University of Reading (UoR)	Clerk
25/15.2	Clerk to prepare a report detailing BCLr attendance at Shinfield Parish Council (SPC) meetings, their submission of a written report and whether apologies had been submitted	Clerk
25/16.3	Cllr Lias to report back on the planning inquiry for PA233038, Land East of Hayes Drive North of Three Mile Cross	Cllr Lias
25/16.3	Clerk to contact UoR regarding the land adjacent to Aldergrove Primary School	Clerk
25/16.3	Clerk to contact WBC regarding future primary school provision in the parish	Clerk
25/16.5	Clerk to add the updated Standing Orders to the agenda of the Full Council meeting in May	Clerk
25/17.1	Clerk to inform Shinfield United Charities of the reappoint of Cllr Montgomery and David Purton	Clerk
25/18.1	Clerk to circulate details of the revised plans for Millworth Sports Park to members prior to the Full Council meeting in March	Clerk
25/19.1	Clerk to circulate date of meeting with UoR regarding Hall Farm/Loddon Garden Village once this had been set	Clerk
25/20.1	Clerk to complete and return the Community Governance Review on behalf of the Council	Clerk
25/20.2	Members to submit comments on WBC's Plan to the Clerk by the 7 th March 2025	All members / Clerk


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