

PURLEY ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at the Parish Office,

on Thursday 16th January 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr S Briscoe (Chairman) Cllr C Collier Cllr R Jones Cllr J Langford
 Cllr P Beddoes Cllr R Farrow Cllr M Bishop Cllr B Nix Cllr J Chapman
 Cllr S Sinclair Cllr G Adams

Public: Two members of the public attended.

In attendance: Mrs C Thompson, Clerk

P20/01 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

Apologies received from Cllr B Ayling and Cllr N Haughton

P20/02 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Cllr S Sinclair – Forest School Business, P20/10-2 - Forest School
Cllr M Bishop – PSSO, P20/10-1 – PSSO Lease
Cllr R Farrow – PSSO, P20/10-1 – PSSO Lease
Cllr R Jones – PSSO, P20/10-1 – PSSO Lease

The chairman proposed moving items on the agenda and to start with resolution P20/10 – 2, as a member of the public had attended the meeting with Cllr S Sinclair regarding the Forest School at Pikeshaw. The committee agreed.

P20/10 -2 To agree to Pikeshaw being used by a private Forest School Business.

Chairman suspended standing orders for a member of public to speak with Cllr S Sinclair.

Cllr S Sinclair and Alison Turner, manager of Purley Pre-School and Lead Forest School Teacher, would like to ask permission to use a section of Pikeshaw as a designated forest school area and to improve the environment by planting trees, encouraging wildlife by putting up birdboxes, bat houses and insect houses. Currently, Pikeshaw is used by local schools such as Long Lane, Purley Pre-School and Brookfields. Alison noted at present, there is little to none in the way of wildlife residing in the woodland and although the children enjoy their visits to Pikeshaw, there is little to show and look at in the woods. Alison would like to involve the children from the pre-school with the enhancements and liaise with the Foundation Stage teacher at Long Lane, to join in with this project.

Cllr S Sinclair confirmed her business would be entirely separate to Alison Turner and would be for children ages between 5-11. Cllr Sinclair confirmed she will be charging for the forest school she will be running.

Chairman reinstated standing orders.

It was agreed for Cllr Sinclair to come back and present to the council, when she has finished her business proposal, and this will be looked at separately to the proposal of the improvements to the environment in Pikeshaw.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree to schools making Pikeshaw a more interesting and stimulating place, but the council will need to be consulted in advance of any enhancements that wish to be made. (9 support, 2 abstention).

One member of the public left the meeting.

P20/03 TO RECEIVE ANY STATEMENT OR QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Chairman suspended standing orders for the member of public to speak.

Member of the public posed a question to the council around transparency of the council:

- Are the council complying with the obligations to publicise all documentation on their website? For example, expenditure and decisions made on expenses and agendas to the council meetings available 5 days before the meeting takes place.

Chairman reinstated standing orders.

The chairman thanked the member of public for the question and confirmed that this issue would be addressed. The work on updating the website this year would be an ideal time to make sure of compliance in all areas.

P20/04 TO RECEIVE AND CONFIRM THE MINUTES – to confirm as a correct record the Minutes from the meeting held on the 12th December 2019.

It was agreed that the wording to bullet point 3 on Resolution P19/113 should be changed to '*Cllr J Chapman and Cllr N Haughton would be please to help the council to a satisfactory conclusion*'. The typing error to the word Purley in the title of P19/119-2 also corrected.

P20/05 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR REPORT ONLY (that are not already on the agenda).

- Farmers Market – Cllr Sinclair reported another seven businesses have expressed interest in having a stall at the farmers market and had passed on their details to the contact at the Farmers Market. Cllr Briscoe thanked Cllr Sinclair for all the hard work she had put into getting potential new businesses to the farmers market.
- Tree Planting – Cllr Briscoe reported that she would be meeting the contact who is interested in planting trees, tomorrow (17th January) with Cllr Chapman.
- Goosecroft Development Working Group – Nothing to report from the consultant although an update had been requested. It was noted that the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) needed to be done. Cllr Farrow to contact the consultant again.
- It was reported from Cllr Bishop that progress has been made on the new website and a first design has been created by D P Solutions. It is compatible with computers, tablets and mobile phones. Cllr

Bishop invited all councillors to attend the parish office on Monday 20th January at 6pm to view the progress of the new website and give feedback.

P20/06 TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES AND TO NOTE THEIR DECISIONS THERETO:

Planning Committee – 16th December 2019

Noted

P20/07 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Rick Jones gave his report:

- Budgets will still be challenging but should ease slightly and no savings or service cuts to be made.
- Outcome from West Berkshire Council to the Petition to increase plastic recycling, is that it will not be increased.
- Environment strategy to be produced – look out on West Berkshire Council’s website to find out further information.
- Neighborhood Action Group (NAG) – Council highways officer came to the meeting last Wednesday 8th January. Complaints from residents in the Beech Road area about speeding on the A329. Unfortunately, there is not a lot the council can do, it may be possible to give parish council permission to use speed camera device.
- Discussion regarding the issues with Purley Primary School parking, possible solutions to be put to the schools governing body.

P20/08 CLERKS REPORT

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| i) Payments and receipts for month 9 | NOTED |
| ii) Budget – to receive the latest budget report | NOTED |
| iii) Correspondence not already circulated – <i>if any</i> . | None not already circulated. |

The Clerk apologised to councilors as payment and receipts and latest budget for month 9 had not been completed, as training is still taking place to learn the procedure from the previous clerk. It will be completed next week, when training continues and will be reported in the next meeting.

P20/09 TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Cllr Sue Briscoe presented her chairman’s report to the council.

- NAG Group meeting on 8th January, PCSO shared crime statistics since October 2019; 4 burglaries (domestic), 4 reports of criminal damage and 1 burglary (non-domestic).
- Flooding update – official Flood Warning issued by Environmental Agency in the week to Christmas until Boxing Day. Some gardens flooded but no homes or roads. A repair was necessary on one of the valves on the bund. Flood Wardens procedure came into action, wardens visited all homes at risk from flooding or inconvenienced from floodwater. Fortunately, nothing more was necessary.
- Unadopted roads – Contact received from two residents living on unadopted roads and issues it has caused them. West Berkshire Highways are not required to give permission for works on unadopted roads.
- Community Shop/Post Office. Post Office Change Manager has had no feedback from postmaster about the outreach mobile service, this is being pursued. The community shop steering group has set up a Facebook page ‘Purley on Thames community shop’. There is a survey for residents to

complete on the page regarding the shop. Hard copies of the survey are available in the parish office.

- Annual Parish Assembly is booked for 16th April. Work to be started on the annual report. A volunteer has agreed to organise distribution of the report. A request for any suggestions for a guest speaker at the second half of the annual parish assembly are to be given to Cllr Briscoe.

P20/10 RESOLUTIONS

P20/10-1 To adopt the draft lease with Purley Sports and Social Club.

It was reported that the lease has been updated and sent onto our solicitor; therefore, the resolution would be addressed at the Parish Council's February meeting.

P20/10-3 To adopt the proposed Parish Council Precept for 2020/21

It was **RESOLVED** to agree a precept request of £157,000.00. (10 support, 1 abstention)

P20/11 TO RECEIVE ANY MEMBERS ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PC MEETING

- Parish Council Website
- PSSO Lease
- Goosecroft Development Working Group
- Climate Change Response Group
- Community Post Office and Shop Location.

NEXT MEETING:

Parish Council: Thursday 27th February 2020.