



Arborfield & Newland Parish Council
Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Council
Held on Tuesday 25th August 2020
Remotely via Zoom Conferencing: 7.30pm

In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held virtually via Zoom Conferencing.

Present: Cllrs Picken, Starkey, Murphy, Stevens, McIntosh, the Clerk.

Not Present: Cllr Clint, Kaiser, Hughes, Strong

The Clerk was the Zoom host of the meeting.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Picken the Parish Council Chairman

80/21 To receive and accept any apologies for absence – Cllrs Clint, Kaiser, Hughes, Strong

81/21 To receive any declarations of interest on items on the Agenda –

Cllr Picken regarding agenda item 85/21 – 201458 – Newlands – applicants known

Cllr Stevens regarding agenda item 85/21 – 201458 – Newlands - neighbouring property and 201813 – Arborfield Stores – Chairman of Arborfield Village Hall (neighbouring property)

It was noted at this point in the meeting that no decision could be reached regarding planning application 201458 – Newlands as there were insufficient members to be quorate. It was however noted that a discussion could still be held.

82/21 Public Participation (allotted time - 5 minutes) - None

83/21 To discuss and agree Freckles Pre-school termination arrangements - a briefing note was circulated by Cllr Clint prior to the meeting. After careful consideration it was agreed to accept the proposed recommendations as follows:

1. As legal costs are likely to exceed any amount that can be recovered the recommendation is that the Council doesn't pursue Freckles for any amounts that may be due for the notice period
2. As Freckles had confirmed they accepted and would pay the July invoice it is recommended that the Council deducts this amount from the deposit.
3. As the condition of the pavilion is considered reasonable with only minor cosmetic rectification required and considering likely building works and refurbishment that the Council intends to undertake, the recommendation is that it returns the balance of the deposit to Freckles after deduction of the outstanding rent due.

84/21 To accept and discuss the final Internal Audit Report 2020 from Claire Connell – it was noted that the internal audit had been carried out on 20th August, raised no matters of concern and will be unqualified with section L marked as not covered. This was due to the previous website provider no longer supporting the package, closing the site and not providing a back-up for the be viewed. The

report was accepted. The Clerk to arrange physical signing by the Chairman of the accounts and AGAR forms as agreed at the July meeting and send to the Internal Auditor for signing. The AGAR and accompanying paperwork will then be submitted before the 31st August 2020 deadline. The error in the Clerks wages will be rectified in the September pay.

85/21 To discuss and agree Planning Applications received by the date of the meeting – to include:

201813 – Arborfield Stores, Eversley Road – Full application for a proposed single storey front extension to enlarge the existing shop and a first floor rear extension to create 1 no. residential apartment, plus installation of external staircase to south side elevation and changes to fenestration – a query was raised regarding the number of parking spaces required per floor space of commercial use. It was confirmed that the current disabled access, which is excellent, will be retained. No objections.

201458 – Newlands, Mole Road - Full application for the proposed erection of an equestrian facility for training and livery purposes including fifty horseboxes, foaling yard, indoor and outdoor riding arenas, lunge ring and horse walker, reception, office, members clubhouse with bar, parking for 25 cars, three parking areas for HGV horse lorries, and three units of residential accommodation comprising manager’s three bedroomed house, staff two-bedroomed flat and staff five-bedroomed flat, with access via Gravel Pit Hill Lane and Ellis’s Hill.

Cllr Murphy had circulated a briefing note and Neighbourhood Plan Matrix Evaluation prior to the meeting. The briefing note included a list of 10 questions which require answers before the Parish Council has sufficient evidence to respond to the application. It was agreed that as several members of the Council weren’t present the information should be recirculated and any additional comments submitted to the Clerk by noon on Tuesday 1st September. A meeting is to be held on that evening to finalise and agree the list of questions to be submitted to WBC. *(post meeting note: the meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd September 2020)*

86/21 Any matters the Chairman considers urgent - none

87/21 Any items for consideration to include items for the next meeting agenda – information only – previously listed at the meeting held on 18th August 2020.

88/21 Date of next meeting – Full Council - Tuesday 15th September 2020

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.34pm