



Winnersh Parish Council

Winnersh Community Centre
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINNERSH PARISH COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY ON TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2021

PRESENT: Cllrs P Fishwick (Chairman); P Bray; S Hanna; G Harper; R Shepherd-DuBey; J Southgate; C Taylor; L Wooldridge.

IN ATTENDANCE: P Stoneman (Clerk) and K Lang (Assistant Clerk).

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs K Bradeepan and Cllr B Krauze.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

3.1 The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 9 February 2021 were **APPROVED**, and the Parish Council **RESOLVED** that the Chairman should sign them as a true record.

3.2 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting.

4 PUBLIC SESSION: There were no members of the public or press in attendance.

5 COVID-19 PANDEMIC

5.1 The Clerk gave an update on how the government's roadmap to lifting lockdown would affect the Parish Council. Key dates were 29 March, 12 April, 17 May and 21 June.

5.2 29 March - Step 1

Outdoor gatherings (including in private gardens) of either 6 people (the Rule of 6) or 2 households will be allowed, making it easier for friends and families to meet outside.

5.2.1 Outdoor sports facilities such as tennis and basketball courts, and open-air swimming pools, will also be allowed to reopen, and people will be able to take part in formally organised outdoor sports. The outdoor gym will open at this point.

- 5.2.2 The 'stay at home' rule will end on 29 March but many restrictions will remain in place. People are being advised to continue working from home where they can, and minimise the number of journeys they make where possible, avoiding travel at the busiest times and routes.
- 5.3 **12 April - Step 2**
No earlier than 12 April, will see the opening of non-essential retail; personal care premises such as hairdressers and nail salons; and public buildings, including libraries and community centres. The Winnersh Community Centre can reopen at this point.
- 5.4 **17 May - Step 3**
No earlier than 17 May, the government will look to continue easing limits on seeing friends and family wherever possible, allowing people to decide on the appropriate level of risk for their circumstances.
- 5.5 This means that most legal restrictions on meeting others outdoors will be lifted - although gatherings of over 30 people will remain illegal. Indoors, the Rule of 6 or 2 households will apply and the government will keep this under review and decide whether it is safe to increase this.
- 5.6 **21 June - Step 4**
No earlier than 21 June, the government hopes to be in a position to remove all legal limits on social contact.
- 5.7 R&A Committee had agreed that priority would be given to regular hirers returning to continue their activities in the time slots they had previously been allocated. The CELO was in the process of contacting all existing hirers to establish their plans after the lifting of lockdown rules. Only after these plans were known would the council consider releasing space to new regular and casual hirers.
- 5.8 R&A Committee had agreed that the accessible toilet in the Allnatt Pavilion would reopen from the 8 March 2021.

6 WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

- 6.1 Borough Cllrs Bray, Fishwick and Shepherd-DuBey had circulated reports in advance of the meeting relating to WBC matters (Appendix 1), and these were noted.
- 6.2 Cllr Harper raised a question about the removal of the trees at Bearwood Park and how many had been cut down. Cllr Fishwick explained that between 400 and 500 semi mature, mature and veteran trees had been felled to approximately half a meter above ground level. The trees had been growing for up to 150 years.
- 6.3 Cllr Harper expressed that he was appalled by the destruction of the trees and in response, Cllr Fishwick advised that he was putting a question to WBC (Full Council) on the 18 March. He also explained that WPC Planning Committee had sent a letter to WBC expressing concern about the devastation resulting from these works.
- 6.4 Cllr Bray gave a presentation on the briefing that ward councillors had received from Sarah Morgan (WBC) about the proposed SEND School to be located in Winnersh.

- 6.5 The school, which would be a free school for up to 150 pupils of all ages, would be for children designated with autism (ASD) and Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) difficulties.
- 6.6 This would be a joint project with Reading BC and the DfE, with the DfE building and funding the school and progressing the planning application.
- 6.7 The Maiden Erlegh Trust had been appointed by the DfE to run the school and the revenue costs would be funded by Local Authorities that commission places.
- 6.8 The school would be located next to Wheatfield Primary School, accessed from Woodward Close. The design was in the process of being finalised currently, at which point a consultation document would be sent out and that was anticipated to be within the next two weeks. A separate consultation on the school itself would come out in April from the DfE. Planning applications would then be submitted after the May elections.
- 6.9 Traffic modelling information had not yet been provided. The ward councillors explained that this would be an important report as it would set out the the impact of additional vehicles (cars, taxis, mini-buses etc.) as a result of the school and housing development. This would be a necessary part of the planning application process.
- 6.10 The school would be a modular build and it was anticipated, subject to due process, that the build would be complete to allow the school to be ready to accept pupils by September 2022.
- 6.11 It was explained that there would be two planning applications, one for the SEND school and the other for a WBC housing development of 95 houses and flats on the remainder of the land adjacent to the school.
- 6.12 Some concern was expressed about the two spur roads (shown on the plan) that had been incorporated into the design, as these would lead directly into land on which a developer had an option on for further housing development.
- 6.13 Cllr Bray confirmed that the planning applications for the SEND school and housing development were separate and not reliant on each other.
- 6.14 The issue of affordable housing was raised and Cllr Bray advised that WBC's policy was 40% affordable but it was possible that this could be increased.
- 6.15 Cllr Fishwick explained that the existing track to the allotments was to be replaced with a new access road that would serve the SEND school, allotments and WBC housing development. There was a commitment to ensure vehicular access to the allotments was maintained at all times and that would mean constructing the new access road before removing the existing track.
- 6.16 Cllr Harper asked about the land between the allotments and the British Legion building and what that was to be used for. Cllr Bray explained there were no plans at this stage but it wouldn't be used for housing as it was the wrong shape and it would be difficult to access. Options such as a park, additional allotments, grazing land etc. could all potentially be considered.

6.17 Cllr Harper asked about how allotment holders could be informed about the proposals and Cllr Fishwick suggested that a similar presentation could be given to them when the proposals were in the public domain. The CELO would be asked to arrange a meeting with Winnersh Allotment Association. **ACTION: CLERK/CELO**

6.18 Cllr Bray and Cllr Fishwick were thanked for what was a very informative presentation.

6.19 Cllr Bray advised that government had not made up its mind about legislation to allow virtual meetings after the 6 May. The LGA and NALC, and other national organisations, had written to ministers to encourage legislation to be put in place allowing the continuation of virtual meetings.

6.20 It was understood that Hertfordshire CC, and two other public sector organisations had gone to court for a declaration and legal ruling to say virtual meetings would be legal after the 6 May. Such a ruling would avoid the need to get primary legislation in place given the limited amount of time available. The alternative is that virtual meetings will not be able to take place after the 6 May 2021.

7 PARISH COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON PARISH MATTERS

7.1 There were no questions on Parish matters.

8 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

8.1 Cllr Harper reported that he and the Clerk had attended the BALC AGM on the 24 February 2021, that had been postponed from 2020. Having organised the event Cllr Harper felt it had gone well. He explained that a company called Parish On-Line (mapping software) had given a good presentation and potentially the mapping service they offer could be worth exploring further. It had been agreed by the AGM to keep the BALC subscriptions frozen for 2021/22.

9 PLANNING COMMITTEE

9.1 The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 1 March 2021 were **APPROVED**, and the Parish Council **RESOLVED** that they be signed as a true record.

9.2 The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 8 February 2021, were noted having been approved by the Planning Committee on the 1 March, 2021.

10 RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

10.1 The minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Committee meeting held on the 2 March 2021 were **APPROVED**, subject to the insertion of the word 'initially' in para 9.2, and the Parish Council **RESOLVED** that they be signed as a true record.

10.2 Cllr Harper raised a question about communication between plot holders and the newly formed Winnersh Allotment Association (WAA). It was explained that the CELO had been asked by the WAA about the use of a winnersh.gov.uk email address but given that such an email addresses could not be allocated to non-local authority organisations, they were advised to set up their own email account and address.

11 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

- 11.1 The schedule of payments, due since the last meeting, was circulated in advance of the meeting (Appendix 2), and upon the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Fishwick, **SECONDED** by Cllr Harper, the Parish Council **RESOLVED** to make payments totalling £11,819.99.
- 11.2 The bank balance at the 28 February 2021 was confirmed as £162,176.90.
- 11.3 The Clerk explained that there were three invoices awaited from Berkshire Construction (Initial stage payment for cladding work), Glasdon UK (Recycling bins) and Jay Printers (Stationary / business cards) totalling around £13,500. It was **RESOLVED** that these payments could be authorised by Cllr Fishwick and Cllr Harper in order that payment could be processed in the current financial year.
- 11.4 Cllr Shepherd-DuBey asked if the Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service (BFRS) had been consulted on the type of cladding to be used to ensure there were no fire risks. The Clerk explained that he had already asked the architect to contact BFRS and would follow that up for response.

ACTION: CLERK

12 CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY

- 12.1 The Chairman had circulated a Climate Change Emergency Report (Appendix 3) in advance of the meeting. The report was noted and there were no questions.

13 THE WINNERSH SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT GROUP (WINNERSH & WINNERSH TRIANGLE RAILWAY STATIONS ADOPTION)

- 13.1 The Chairman had circulated a Station Adoptions report (Appendix 4) in advance of the meeting and the report was noted.
- 13.2 Cllr Harper commented that there had been some good progress with the station's adoption. Cllr Fishwick explained that despite the pandemic slowing progress, actions were progressing. He had spoken with Forest School about artwork for the shelters on Winnersh Station and had received a very positive response that the school was keen to produce the artwork. Confirmation had also been received from Network Rail that they would be clearing the litter and removing graffiti (track side) during March.

14 HISTORY PROJECT

- 14.1 Cllr Wooldridge had circulated a History Project report (Appendix 5) in advance of the meeting. Cllr Wooldridge explained that Cllr Obileye had stood down as chairman at the last meeting of the History Group and, with the agreement of the group members, was voted in to take over the role.
- 14.2 Cllr Wooldridge explained that headway was being made in ensuring the work of the group was more widely visible on social media and Cllr Southgate had provided some text for the WPC website. One of the objectives being to encourage other people from the community to get involved, share their experiences of being in Winnersh, and potentially getting actively involved. The report was noted and there were no questions.

15 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

- 15.1 The Clerk informed the meeting that following the public notification of a vacancy, as a result of former Councillor Amanda Greenwood standing down, Wokingham Borough Council had confirmed that the seat could be filled by co-option.

16 OPERATION BRIDGE

- 16.1 An email had been circulated relating to Operation Bridge, the code name for the passing of a Senior Royal, to inform a discussion on the parish councils policy.
- 16.2 The Clerk explained that local authorities were reviewing their policies in relation to Operation Bridge given the age of senior royals and the current health condition and hospitalisation of Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh.
- 16.3 It was explained that Wokingham Town Council and Wokingham Borough Council would jointly take the lead in local arrangements including the proclamation that would take place at Wokingham Town Hall.
- 16.4 A book of condolence was discussed and whilst that did receive support it was felt that a virtual book would be more appropriate. It was also agreed that a letter of sympathy would be sent from the council to senior royals at Buckingham Palace.
- 16.5 It was further agreed that ghost pages should be written for the parish website expressing sympathy and deepest condolences. **ACTION: CLERK/CELO**
- 16.6 It was noted that the WPC does not have a flagpole so would be unable to fly the union flag at half-mast.

17 CORRESPONDENCE

- 17.1 Four items of correspondence had been received and circulated in advance of the meeting.
- 17.2 **5 March 2021** - Email from NALC
Subject: Chief Executives Bulletin
The bulletin was noted and the Changing Places toilets fund was highlighted.
- 17.3 **4 March 2021** - Email from The Greenwood Pre-school
Subject: Application for a grant.
- 17.3.1 The Clerk presented an application for a grant to provide a path to the rear entrance of the pre-school. The school had responded to the pandemic by changing the entrance and exit to the pre-school to assist with social distancing. To enable this to be as safe as possible a new path needed to be installed to replace the muddy and slippery surface.
- 17.3.2 Whilst applications would normally be considered by F&GP, the Council agreed to consider the application and awarded a grant of £250. It was noted that more fund raising would be necessary to enable the project to proceed and consequently the applicant would be advised that if the grant was not used for the purpose it would need to be repaid within 12 months. **ACTION: CLERK**

17.4 **5 March 2021** - Email from BT

Subject: Broadband quote.

17.4.1 The Clerk updated the Council on the problems with broadband drop-out that was happening on a daily basis and potentially was a result of REIN (Repetitive Electrical Impulse Noise). As Openreach had been unable to identify the source of the problem it was considered that fibre (rather than copper) to the Parish Office should resolve it. The quotation from BT was discussed and it was agreed to progress with a 24-month contract (£32.50 for 9 months, and £59.95 for 15 months) that would cost slightly less than the current supplier. **ACTION: CLERK**

17.5 **4 March 2021** - Email from the Clerk at Finchampstead Parish Council

Subject: Letter to Government re. virtual meeting legislation

17.5.1 At the Clerks Forum on the 3 March the issue of virtual meetings legislation was discussed. Concerns were raised about the safety and practicalities of holding meetings in person after the 6 May when the coronavirus legislation ends.

17.5.2 It was agreed that a draft letter be written to government and local MP's on behalf of all Town and Parish Councils within the Borough of Wokingham, expressing concerns over a return to 'in person' meetings and the need to extend or make permanent the legislation permitting virtual meetings.

17.5.3 Clerks were asked to share the suggestion with their respective council and to confirm support or not.

The Council unanimously supported the proposal that Winnersh Parish Council be added to the letter. **ACTION: CLERK**

18 URGENT MATTERS: There were no urgent matters.

19 DATES OF UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

19.1 The following dates were noted:-

Winnersh Fete Working Group - Thursday 11 March 2021 at 19.30

Planning Committee - Monday 22 March 2021 at 19.30

Recreation & Amenities Working Group - Wednesday 24 March 2021 at 19.30

Recreation & Amenities Committee - Tuesday 6 April 2021 at 19.30

Planning Committee - Monday 12 April 2021 at 19.30

20 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

20.1 The next meeting would be held on Tuesday **13 APRIL 2021** at 19:30.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.53.

Signed: Cllr P Fishwick _____

Chairman of Winnersh Parish Council

Borough Councillor Report's to the Parish Council Meeting on the 9 March 2021

Cllr Paul Fishwick

Borough Council committee meetings

The following are a summary from meetings held at the Borough Council that I have attended since the Winnersh Parish Full Council meeting on 9th February 2021.

10th February 2021 – Planning Committee

I raised an objection to the Planning Application 203439 related to Groveland's Park mobile home site and the proposal by Wokingham Borough Council to remove 12 single storey units and replace them with 11 two storey units. The You tube video should be viewed from 1 hour 7 minutes and 30 seconds for this item.

Further details can be found here:

[Agenda for Planning Committee on Wednesday, 10th February, 2021, 7.00 pm - Wokingham Borough Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

18th February 2021 – Full Council

This was generally about the budget for 2021/22.

Further details can be found here:

[Agenda for Council on Thursday, 18th February, 2021, 8.00 pm - Wokingham Borough Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

22nd February – Extraordinary Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The key items on the agenda were.

Item 76 Flood Risk Management Strategy

Item 77 Arts and Culture Strategy – I asked amongst many other questions, if Winnersh Parish Council can be included in the Alliance Partnership going forward and this has been accepted and Cllr Linda Wooldridge will be our representative.

Item 78 Update on May 2021 Elections

Further details can be found here:

[Agenda for Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday, 22nd February, 2021, 7.00 pm - Wokingham Borough Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

24th February 2021 – Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

The key items on the agenda were:-

Item 75 – Quarterly 2020/21 Performance Report

Item 76 – Improving O & S Work programming, monitoring and reporting

Item 77 – Overview and Scrutiny Annual Reports

Item 78 – Consideration of current Executive and IEMD Forward Programmes

Further details can be found here:

[Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on Wednesday, 24th February, 2021, 7.00 pm - Wokingham Borough Council \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

Winnersh specific

Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2 – opening in early 2021

Work continues to extend Longdon Road to a new roundabout on Reading Road by the M4 overbridge (Winnersh side). The new roundabout is substantially complete but will not come into operation until the extended Longdon Road is ready. Both the roundabout and the new bit of road are anticipated to be to be open at some point between mid and late March 2021.

As a reminder, when the Phase 2 section opens, the current temporary right-turn facility at King Street Lane to Hatch Farm Way will cease and this movement will be banned. This is because the traffic signal cycles will change to allow more ‘ahead’ traffic flows and make the junction more efficient.

Temporary traffic lights will remain in operation at Woodward Close junction until late April 2021. However, a right-turn ban on traffic entering Woodward Close from the A329 Reading Road will be brought into operation when the new roundabout opens.

B3030 King Street Lane Zebra crossing

Just a reminder that the petition is still available to sign and can be found on Winnersh and Sindlesham Forum [Winnersh and Sindlesham Forum Group | Facebook](#) or [Make King Street Lane Safer \(wokinghamlibdems.org.uk\)](#)

Bearwood Park – Felling of between 400 and 500 trees

At Full Council on 18th March 2021 I will be asking the Executive Member for Planning and Enforcement about the destruction of so many semi mature, mature and veteran trees that were covered by a Tree Preservation Order.

Cllr Prue Bray

Council Tax and Parish Precepts

At the budget council meeting on 18th February, a Council Tax increase of 4.99% was passed. This consists of 1.99% as a general Council Tax rise and 3% for adult social care.

The table of town and parish council precepts shows a wide variety of decisions. Of the 17 parishes, 3 reduced their precept, one remained static and the other 13 raised their Band D precept. The range was -8.34% (Ruscombe) to +32.52% (Charvil). Winnersh had the 3rd

highest increase. However, in terms of the actual precept charged per Band D property, Winnersh is the 5th lowest, with 4 councils having charges which are more than double ours.

Local Election arrangements

It has been confirmed that local elections will be taking place on 6th May, along with the Police & Crime Commissioner elections. Guidance has been issued by the government about political campaigning for those elections. Delivery of leaflets by volunteers and canvassing are both permitted activities as of 8th March, provided that risk assessments are done and sensible precautions taken, such as observing social distancing, wearing masks, and not entering houses. There has been some confusion since the last lockdown started about what was and was not permitted, so this clarity is welcome.

The Borough Council is preparing guidance for the safe operation of polling stations. Some polling stations have had to be changed due to the usual locations not being able to be made covid-safe. The polling stations in Winnersh remain the same, including the one in the Parish Council's Community Centre.

The Borough Council will be contacting people who currently do not have postal votes shortly, to encourage them to switch from voting in person for this election. Rules on proxy voting are also being relaxed, for this election, to enable anyone who finds themselves suddenly unable to vote in person (for example, due to having to self-isolate) to apply for a proxy vote up to 5 pm on polling day itself.

The council will take place in stages, with priority given to the Police & Crime Commissioner count, due to the fact that there is a deadline by law for the announcement of that result. Counting is expected to take several days.

SEND school

On Friday 5th March the 3 Winnersh borough councillors had a briefing on the plans for the new SEND school at Winnersh Farm and we will provide a verbal update to the parish council at the full council meeting on Tuesday 9th.

Cllr Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey

The local plan update is stalled because Grazley was rejected because AWE enlarges the DPZ (the area possibly affected if they have a problem). The officers are evaluating two larger areas in the Southern part of the Borough to replace Grazley. Two housing sites are still proposed for Winnersh the 250 Houses in Winnersh Farm (that was the site refused by planning officers twice) and 100 houses behind the new SEND school in Winnersh Farm including a three-story block of flats (which I said is out of keeping with The Winnersh Farm area and Winnersh). There are also a few other sites in Winnersh that will be coming to the Parish Planning committee in the next few months. Also planning for the future has not been completely u-turned there are still proposals to remove some of local control over planning.

The second area is the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Authority has chosen a new chief. He will be confirmed at the next management committee. The Fire minister in a zoom meeting said there are a few proposals to combine a few of the local fire authorities into a Thames Valley Fire and Rescue Authority and the possibility of a combined Fire and Police Crime commissioner. Another proposal is that The Fire authority may also take on some social care functions as well.

APPENDIX 2

Winnersh Parish Council Meeting - 9 March 2021 Schedule of payments March 2021

Payee	Description	Amount	Comments	Approved by
Salaries (PS-CF-KL-JN)	Salaries for March	£ 4,319.75		
HM Revenue & Customs	Month 11 Year 2020/21	£ 1,123.43		
The Berkshire Pension Fund	Pension Contributions March 2021	£ 1,643.16		
Dave Knight	Window cleaning March	£ 100.00		
Web Marketing Matters	March website maintenance	£ 164.00		
Louise King	Allotment Deposit return	£ 35.00		
Helen Snow	Allotment Damage compensation	£ 126.78		
A1 Locksmiths	Allotment Toilet Locks	£ 129.00		
Introduction to CILCA training	Training for Kate and Joanne	£ 108.00		
ITQED	March Support	£ 98.80		
ITQED	Anti-virus & Back ups March	£ 35.64		
ITQED	365 & Exchange March	£ 133.02		
ITQED	365 & Sharepoint Backup March	£ 55.20		
Richard Tilbe	Allotment Deposit return	£ 35.00		
Rachael Bichard-Marshall	Interim Caretaker	£ 83.52		
Nick Robbins	February maintenance	£ 982.80		
Butler Signs	Sign Creation and installation	£ 2,089.58	The deposit was paid last month, this is the balance	
TOTAL		£ 11,262.68		
Direct Debits				
R Collard	January Invoices	£ 117.50		
Daisy	Caretaker Mobile Phone bill	£ 11.09		
Hub Energy	Electricity - Allnatt Pavilion	£ 32.79	Gulf is now Hub Energy	
Hub Energy	Gas - Allnatt Pavilion	£ 14.94		
Sage	March - Sage accounts	£ 54.00		
Hub Energy	Gas Community Centre	£ 86.88		
TOTAL		£ 199.70		
MONTHLY TOTAL SPEND		£ 11,462.38		
Paid since the last meeting				
Plusnet		£ 63.84		
Hub Energy		£ 293.77	We are in discussions with Hub currently regarding over payments	
Total		£ 357.61		
Bank Balance				
Unity Bank Balance		£ 149,304.35		
Natwest Current Account		£ 2,500.00		
Natwest Reserve Account		£ 10,372.55		
Bank Total		£ 162,176.90		

APPENDIX 3

Annex A

Winnersh Parish Council

Climate Change Emergency –

Actions and Forward Planning items (3rd March 2021)

Present: Cllrs Fishwick and Krauze

Apologies: Cllrs Caston and Shepherd-DuBey

Item

Education / Publicity

Cllr Ben Krauze

Cllr Krauze has contacted Bearwood School and The Forest School. Looking to prepare talks on Climate Change. This links in with our Station Adoptions as well.

Action: Cllr Krauze, propose roll out Winnersh and Wheatfield schools once the process has been adopted.

Update – 3rd March 2021 – Cllr Krauze has written to the Head of the Forest School in advance of them returning to school on 8th March and is awaiting a response and action accordingly.

Paperless meetings

Cllr Alex Caston

Whilst meetings are currently ‘virtual’ and copies of reports are being sent electronically, if meetings return to ‘in person’ what measures can be introduced so that the Parish Council can reduce the paper copies required for meetings to zero.

Update - Cllr Caston will be investigating this topic. No update at this meeting.

Energy of the future

Cllr Alex Caston

This topic is to look at what the Parish Council could do to generate its own energy requirements in the future. Cllr Krauze to assist.

Update - Cllr Caston to update at next meeting.

Environmental Efficiency of the Parish Councils buildings

Cllr Ben Krauze

This topic area is to look at the environmental efficiency of the buildings and what improvements could be made and at what cost.

Update – Cllr Krauze will investigate once the outline plans are available for the facilities improvements. Commence on 24th March at R & A working group.

Waste recycling bins

Cllr Paul Fishwick

To replace existing litter bins with recycling and waste bins to match the new Collards contract.

Update: 5 dual use recycling and waste bins ordered from supplier and are due to be installed during March 2021.

EV charge points

Cllr Paul Fishwick

Investigate the feasibility of installing Electric vehicle charging points at Bearwood Recreation Ground car parking area.

Update – Awaiting feasibility study ordered with Hampshire CC.

Secure cycle storage

Cllr Paul Fishwick

Investigate the feasibility of secure cycle storage at Bearwood Recreation Ground.

Update: Consider with any of the facilities improvements.

Wildflower Seeding –

Cllr Paul Fishwick

Consider wildflower seeding at Bearwood Recreation Ground and Hatch Farm Way ‘bund’.

Cllr Fishwick had made enquiries as to the possibility that the developer/Management Company will allow the earth bund located adjacent to Hatch Farm Way to be seeded with wildflowers.

Update - The developers have agreed in principle and would like a Maintenance Management Agreement (MMA). Joanne Yeomans and Cllr Fishwick to meet with a representative of Earley Town Council on 11th March to discuss options for wildflower seeding and an MMA.

Additional Hedging at Bearwood Recreation Ground

Cllr Paul Fishwick

Nick Robbins has been asked to consider locations for additional hedging around the Recreation Ground. These include but not full inclusive to Mole Road (opposite Mayfields to Bearwood Road). Bearwood Road (Mole Road to New Road), New Road (gaps in existing hedging).

Update – Planting of hedging has commenced on Mole Road.

River Loddon Flood prevention scheme –

Cllr Paul Fishwick

At the 8th December 2020 Full Council were given a presentation by Fran Hobson on the River Loddon Flood Prevention scheme. It was agreed that a possible contribution would be considered at the February 2021 Full Council.

Update: Resolved at 9th February Full Council meeting (minute ref 8.1 refers); Whilst the Parish Council supports the River Loddon Flood Relief scheme in principle, it is with regret that it is not able to provide a financial contribution during 2021/22 due to the continued significant impact on its income from the Covid pandemic. However, the Council will consider a financial contribution when setting its budget for the 2022/23 financial year.

Completed topics:-

External street lighting – The existing street lighting in the car park and walkway to the Parish Council facilities were replaced from low pressure sodium lighting (orange) to LED in 2016.

64- panel solar system – Fully functioning from April 2019 generated approximately 13.56 MWh in the 12-month period ending March 2020.

Conversion of lighting to LED – replacement of the more ‘energy hungry’ fluorescent tube lighting in the Main Hall, Sindlesham Room, Allnatt Pavilion, the John Grobler Room, and office were all completed during the period January to May 2020.

Waste collection – contract of waste collection mixed with recycling material terminated May 2020. New recycled waste collection and general waste contract operational from September 2020.

Food Recycling – Wokingham Borough Council cannot include Food Recycling from the Parish Council as it is not within their contract. Food Recycling now being investigated within Waste Collection.

Bonfires – Eradicate bonfires from all Winnersh Parish Council controlled land.

Bearwood Recreation Ground – Bonfires are prohibited

Woodward Close Allotments – New allotment agreements issued September 2020 prohibit bonfires.

Single use plastic cups – No single use cups to be purchased/used in Council facilities by staff or members of the council.

Energy supply – The energy supply for ‘green’ electricity and gas was completed in September 2020.

Tree Replacement at Bearwood Recreation Ground – 7 new trees have been planted at Bearwood Recreation Ground. 6 supplied by Nick Robbins and 1 grown from an acorn taken from the Sindlesham Oak.

APPENDIX 4

The Winnersh Sustainable Transport Group – Stations Adoptions Report

As reported at Full Council on 9th February 2021, Covid has restricted the involvement of The Forest School in committing to the Artwork design for any of the shelters. It is unknown until the school returns whether they will be able to commit to this phase of the work and this will be reported in a later update.

However, CLASP [CLASP | Caring, Listening And Supporting Partnership \(wokinghamclasp.org.uk\)](http://wokinghamclasp.org.uk) have agreed to carry out this work for the first shelter (platform 1) at Winnersh Triangle station, following the South East Communities Rail Partnership officer Maddy Mills, meeting the charity a couple of weeks ago.



As previously reported, we have been engaging with Network Rail for some time over the litter and graffiti issues at Winnersh station, but it has always been categorized as 'low priority'.

However, following the formal adoption of the station, Network Rail have now committed to removing the litter and graffiti trackside over a weekend during March 2021 whilst there are no trains running.

This is excellent news, and it will make the station a much more attractive gateway for our residents and visitors.

We are also aware of anti-social behaviour (particularly at Winnersh) including drug related activity and contact continues to be made with South West Railways, British Transport Police and Thames Valley Police.

Councillor Paul Fishwick, Chair of the Winnersh Sustainable Transport Group.

APPENDIX 5

History Project Report for Full Council Meeting on 9th March 2021

- Work on validating and indexing artifacts is progressing apace.
- Group looking at getting some professional conservation advice as some of the documents are very fragile – this is in hand.
- Femi stood down as Chairman of this working group and Linda was voted in.
- There is now a page for this project on the WPC website – first posting is asking for people who are interested to make contact.