



Winnersh Parish Council

Winnersh Community Centre
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Minutes of the **Informal** meeting of the **RECREATION & AMENITIES COMMITTEE** held remotely on **Tuesday 6 September 2022 at 19.30.**

PRESENT: Cllr Hanna, Cllr Doyle, Cllr Southgate, Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Green, Cllr Bradeepan

1. Election of Chairman and Vice- Chairman: Cllr Hanna to open the meeting and seek nominations. – ***POSTPONED / held over until next full council meeting (13 September). In the absence of an elected Chairman, Cllr Hanna to chair this R&A meeting.***
2. Apologies for absence. – ***None received***
3. Declarations of Interest. – ***None***
4. Berkshire Youth: to receive an update from Gareth Mephram on detached youth service provision and to consider the principle of funding a Youth Club. – ***Gareth Mephram is on leave so could not make the meeting. He had requested financial support from the Council for Berkshire Youth activities. In response, Cllr Hanna had contacted GM asking for 1. more detail of the proposed youth worker delivery; 2. A rationale for the high cost of £132 per week. No response has yet been received.***
5. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting held on the 6 June 2022, approved at Full Council on the 13 June 2022.
Noted.
6. Public Session (15 minutes): to receive and respond to questions and comments from the public and press. – ***No members of the public were present.***
7. Winnersh Allotments: to receive an update.
 - 7.1 To receive an update Annual rent renewals and recent inspection. ***Cllr Green asked if local charity Freely Fruity could be granted access to vacant allotment plots to grow produce. This to be suggested to CELO.***
 - 7.2 To consider a rent increase for the 2023/24 year. ***Due to the cost of living crisis, councillors unanimously supported keeping price the same. This is to be recommended to full Council on 13 September.***
 - 7.3 Update on work taking place in autumn 2022 by Highways England. ***Cllr Harper attended the meeting on 5 September to represent WPC. Discussions are ongoing.***
 - 7.4 To receive an update on thefts of produce on the allotment site. ***Councillors agreed that CELO and Winnersh Allotments Association should be asked to come up with a costed proposal to address this (to be paid for out of WPC-allocated funds for the allotments).***

7.5 Allotment Code of Conduct.

Councillors to request that CELO look at the existing lease agreement with WPC and assess if anything else needs to be added to this, in consultation with the Winnersh Allotments Association. CELO to report back to us at next R&A.

8. Abandoned and unattended cars in the community centre car park: to consider measures to address the use of cars left in the community centre car park.

It was not known how big a problem this is – Chris to be asked to provide some indication of this. WPC Office to be asked to put up a notice which states that overnight parking is not allowed. WPC Office should also ensure that the car park is kept locked overnight, in accordance with WPC's existing policy.

9. Secure store cupboard in parish office: to receive and consider a quote for a secure cupboard in the parish office to be built.

A quote for this has been provided by Berkshire Construction for £2,038.92 + VAT. Need to investigate this further – is there already any lockable storage?

10. Kenyan Festival: to consider request for the annual Kenyan Festival to go ahead next year.

There were concerns about negative PR if WPC withdrew their support completely. Joanne to be asked to give feedback at the next R&A meeting (4 October) regarding the issues and how we might combat them in future (e.g. by requesting a larger deposit in advance).

11. Playground inspection: to receive an update from the quarterly playground inspection.
– ***Noted.***

12. Wokingham Borough Council Playing Pitch Strategy Survey: to consider a response to the survey.

Cllr Hanna has reviewed the survey. Agreed that the best course of action is for the WPC Office to complete and return it, ahead of the deadline.

13. Request from The Gate Church, Sindlesham: to receive and consider a request from the church to use the community centre for community events over the winter.

Councillors all supportive of making a warm space available to residents this winter. It was agreed that we should liaise with The Gate Church regarding this. Cllr Green suggested applying for support from the Winnersh Fuel Allotment Trust to support this initiative.

14. Correspondence: to receive items of correspondence.

- Council moves forward to deliver Leisure Strategy. – ***Noted.***
- Neighbourhood Police tackling Anti Social behaviour in play parks – ***Noted.***
- South Western Railway Customer and Communities Improvement Fund. ***This needs to be passed to the Sustainable Transport Working Group.***
- Cycle September – ***Noted.***

15. Any other matters considered urgent by the Chairman.

Cllr Green asked about ongoing R&A project expenditure. Update to be requested from Assistant Clerk regarding monies spent and monies left in the pot.

16. Date and time of the next meeting: Tuesday 4 October 2022, 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.