

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st August 2023 at 7:30pm at Bisham Abbey and via video conference.

Attendees

Councillors: Jim Cooke (JC)(Chair), Alan Keene (AK), Ged Wylie (GW), Derek Oliver (DO), Colin Lemmings (CL).

District Councillors: Cllr Mandy Brar.

Part One

Public Forum

One member of the Public noted that the works to the drainage culvert on the A404 had now been delayed until March. The Environment Agency has asked that designs need to be “fish friendly”.

The restoration works by Cain Bio-engineering, which were scheduled to run concurrently, will still take place in September as planned. Storage of equipment will be in the field adjacent to the playground. The work may require a Public Right of Way closure.

BM noted that RBWM would need to be notified about potential PROW closures as soon as possible.

Possible Tree thinning work may be identified prior to works commencing.

Action – Cllr Brar to send PROW contact details.

Action – BM to liaise with Cain Bio-engineering for method statements, liability insurance, Health and Safety documentation etc.

CL noted that the initial works undertaken by Highways England has damaged the new carpark surface as heavy vehicles have been using it as a turning circle.

Action – BM to liaise with the Highways Agency to repair.

One member of the Public reported that the School Hedge was still causing an issue for pedestrians, despite the accounts showing over £500,000 in funding. In addition to the Academy funding, there has often been additional fundraising through parents and local groups. Concern that RBWM had agreed to undertake the works on the school’s behalf.

BM clarified that RBWM would charge the School, if they undertook the works.

Cllr Brar stated that Cllr Howard had been dealing with the issue.

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Clerk: Barry Malki

Email: clerk@bishamparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 07751141223

52. Apologies for absence

Cllr Mark Howard (RBWM)

53. Declarations of Interest

DO declared a non-prejudicial interest in Planning Application 23/01794

AK declared a non-prejudicial interest in Planning Application 23/01790

54. Minutes of Meeting 17th July 2023

The Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting of the Council held on 17th July 2023.

55. Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that a member of the public had complained about the overgrown state of the Compleat Angler's hedge along Quarry Wood Road. It was noted that this hedge had now been pruned.

Bridge Restoration - BM reported that the contractor will provide a detailed schedule which would set out the proposed phases of the works. GW noted that at the July meeting, it had been decided to arrange for the contractor to carry out a survey of the bridge at a cost of £600 in order to enable the Council to decide the works that needed to be carried out and questioned why this had not been done. The Council needed to have reliable information on the work that was necessary and the costs involved before contracting. BM would circulate the detailed plan of works as soon as it had been received from the contractor.

GW noted that BM should notify the insurers regarding the current position, including the survey and prospective repairs to the bridge.

The Slipway - DO noted that the issue with the strakes that needed attention was that the remaining original strake was loose as the wood around the bolts had worn down. The strake itself looked to be in good order but two new bolts would be required to secure it in its proper position.

With regard to the damage caused to the surface of the Slipway near the entrance from Church Lane that had been caused by the contractors carrying out building works for the School, BM confirmed that he did not have any photos of the condition of the Slipway at the time the works were carried out or any correspondence with the School about this issue from that time. This unsatisfactory position was noted and it was agreed that BM should ask Holfords to provide a quote for levelling and re-seeding this area on the basis that the School would be responsible for the cost of the work.

Parking Space by the Playground - The contractors had carried out the work to restore and level the surface in this area but it was noted that the repaired surface had become rutted as a result of Highways England's vehicles turning on it.

Bins - BM reported that the bins had not been put in place as the bins that had been acquired were not compatible with the existing fittings. The supplier had agreed to exchange the bins and the replacements should be delivered for installation in a matter of days.

Temple Lane TPO - BM reported that there had been no progress on this. DO noted that it was important to ensure that matters of this nature were followed-up regularly until a satisfactory response had been secured. DO agreed to draft a letter to RBWM to escalate the matter.

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The Orchard - CL noted that two large branches had fallen in the Orchard and needed to be removed. He also reported that nothing had been done regarding a large tree near the footbridge and playground that was tilting badly or the apparently dead tree on The Green. BM stated that the trees on Parish Land were inspected annually and that this normally took place in the Autumn. GW expressed concern that trees are being left that are no longer viable and that the Council should deal with trees that are clearly decayed or that have suffered damage without waiting for an annual survey. JC directed BM to arrange for an arboriculturalist to inspect the three trees that had been identified and advise on the required remedial action.

The Coffin Bier - JC reported that the position regarding the Coffin Bier was unclear and BM was asked to contact Reading Museum to confirm whether it still had this item in its possession.

Defibrillator training - BM should get confirmation of the dates for the next round of Defibrillator training and report to the next Meeting. BM should also check that the batteries in the Defibrillator are still viable.

Temple Footbridge - BM reported that the Environment Agency had confirmed that the footbridge would definitely be repaired but that no indication had been given as to the time at which these works would be carried out.

Quarry Wood Road Parking - BM confirmed that there had been no response from RBWM Highways to our letter of 7 July on this matter. Similarly there had been no response regarding the overgrown vegetation on the A308 on the approach to the Bisham roundabout. BM to follow up these matters and press for a response.

Co-option to fill the Casual Vacancy - the proposed deadline for expressions of interest in this position was 8 September and BM was instructed to take the necessary steps to advertise the vacancy and inform interested parties of the procedure to be followed.

Electronic Banking - BM confirmed that the arrangements for the transfer to electronic banking were in progress and that Direct Debits could be set up by two Councillors once the new arrangements were in place.

Slate Fence at Temple - BM had nothing to report on this matter. AK's suggestion that the Council should write to Historic England regarding the state of this listed structure was agreed and BM was instructed to send a letter to Historic England.

Temple Footpath diversion - There had been no further news on this matter and it was agreed that BM should write to the RBWM's Rights of Way Officer to establish the position.

Bisham Wood - JC agreed to raise the question of spaces for cars to park at the entrance to Bisham Woods from the A308 once BM had confirmed the identity of the new responsible officer.

BPC Website - It was noted that there were several errors in the information provided on the website, including a statement that ROSPA inspections are carried out annually while the last inspection referred to was in 2016. BM to review and correct.

Flooding in Burchetts Green - GW reported that although the main problem had been sorted, there was a continuing but less severe problem with water leaking from pipes further along the stretch of the road.

56. Ongoing Actions

See matters arising.

57. Planning

Appn. Date: 17th July 2023 Appn No.: 23/01664

Type: Full

Proposal: Replacement pontoon.

Location: White Walls Quarry Wood Road Marlow SL7 1RE

Determination Date: 11 September 2023

Clrs comments: Clrs had no Objection subject to Environment Agency approval.

Appn. Date: 19th July 2023 Appn No.: 23/01744

Type: Full

Proposal: Garage conversion, 4 no. new rooflights and alterations to fenestration.

Location: 33 Temple Mill Island Bisham Marlow SL7 1SQ

Determination Date: 13 September 2023

Clrs comments: Clrs were Neutral, and had no objection

Appn. Date: 20th July 2023 Appn No.: 23/01769

Type: Cert of Lawfulness of Proposed Dev

Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness to determine whether the proposed replacement side dormer is lawful.

Location: Woods End Grubwood Lane Cookham Maidenhead SL6 9UD

Determination Date: 14 September 2023

Clrs comments: Already Refused

Appn. Date: 24th July 2023 Appn No.: 23/01790

Type: Discharge of Condition

Proposal: Details required by Condition 2 (Method of protection), 6 (Oak frame), 7 (Re use of

materials) and 10 (External lighting) of Planning Permission 19/00919 for the Erection of a replacement B1use class building.

Location: The Long Barn Hyde Farm Marlow Road Pinkneys Green Maidenhead

Determination Date: 18 September 2023

Clrs comments: Clrs had no comment

Appn. Date: 24th July 2023 Appn No.: 23/01794

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Type: Full

Proposal: Single storey rear extension and 1no. new gate to rear.

Location: Rosemary End Church Lane Bisham Marlow SL7 1RW

Determination Date: 18 September 2023

Cllrs comments: Cllrs were Neutral, and had no objection

Appn. Date: 28th July 2023 Appn No.: 23/01587

Type: Works To Trees In Conservation Area

Proposal: Refer to BI Tree Works Specification

Location: Bisham CE Primary School Church Lane Bisham Marlow SL7 1RW

Determination Date: 8 September 2023

Cllrs comments: Cllrs had no objection subject to Tree Officer approval, and asked that trees be replaced with appropriate native species.

Appn. Date: 9th August 2023 Appn No.: 23/01995

Type: Class R - Prior Approval

Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building to flexible commercial use (Class E).

Location: Challen's Chickens Land Adjacent Honey House Winter Hill Road Cookham Maidenhead SL6 6PJ

Determination Date: 4 October 2023

Cllrs comments: Cllrs Object to this application on the grounds that there is no apparent planning permission for the existing building.

Cllrs also noted that the application was lacking in detail, and contradictory in places.

Cllrs wish to draw the Planning officer's attention to possible Health & Safety and traffic access issues.

Appn. Date: 11th August 2023 Appn No.: 23/01982

Type: Full

Proposal: Erection of green waste store.

Location: National Sports Centre Bisham Village Bisham Abbey Marlow Road Bisham Marlow SL7 1RR

Determination Date: 6 October 2023

Cllrs comments: Cllrs were positive towards this application, and hoped that the applicant consider natural screening for the units. Cllrs also asked that a stipulation be placed on any approval that ensures that no external waste from other sites is placed in the units.

Appn. Date: 11th August 2023 Appn No.: 23/01983

Type: Works To Trees In Conservation Area

Proposal: (T1) Yew - reduce by 1.2m all over to retain shape.

Location: Meadow House Stoney Ware Bisham Road Bisham Marlow SL7 1RN

Determination Date: 22 September 2023

Cllrs comments: Cllrs had no objection subject to Tree Officer approval

Appn. Date: 14th August 2023 Appn No.: 23/02000

Type: Works To Trees In Conservation Area

Proposal: T1 and T2 - Cypress - fell, T3 - Walnut - prune back side lateral branches 1.5- 2m as

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per photograph.

Location: The Bridge House Bisham Road Bisham Marlow SL7 1RP

Determination Date: 25 September 2023

CLLrs comments: CLLrs had no objection subject to the Tree Officer being satisfied that the trees do need to be felled, and asked for a stipulation for replacement trees.

Appn. Date: 17 August 2023 Appn. No.: 23/01978

Type: Listed Building Consent

Proposal: Consent to illuminate the suspension chains and metal supports of the bridge structure.

Location: Bisham Side Marlow Bridge Bisham Road Bisham Marlow

CLLrs comments: CLLrs objected to this application on the following grounds:

- **That there is insufficient detail about the potential impact on pedestrians and drivers and there was no evidence of any meaningful consultation with the relevant highways authorities regarding these issues.**
- **That there is no justification of necessity, or of the benefit that it will provide.**
- **That the scheme is inconsistent with local street-lighting policy.**
- **That ownership of the structure is not explicit within the application. The application refers to Marlow Parish Council, which is presumed to be an incorrect reference to Marlow Town Council, the status of which in respect of the bridge needs to be clarified.**
- **There was no evidence that the Environment Agency or Historic England had been consulted regarding the impact of the proposed works on this listed structure**

Appn. Date: 17 August 2023 Appn. No.: 23/01977

Type: Full

Proposal: Illumination of the suspension chains and metal supports of the bridge structure.

Location: Bisham Side Marlow Bridge Bisham Road Bisham Marlow

CLLrs comments: CLLrs objected to this application on the following grounds:

- **That there is insufficient detail about the potential impact on pedestrians and drivers and there was no evidence of any meaningful consultation with the relevant highways authorities regarding these issues.**
- **That there is no justification of necessity, or of the benefit that it will provide.**
- **That the scheme is inconsistent with local street-lighting policy.**
- **That ownership of the structure is not explicit within the application. The application refers to Marlow Parish Council, which is presumed to be an incorrect reference to Marlow Town Council, the status of which in respect of the bridge needs to be clarified.**
- **There was no evidence that the Environment Agency or Historic England had been consulted regarding the impact of the proposed works on this listed structure**

AK reported that there was an abandoned caravan in the laybay of the South Bound A404. BM to report.

AK noted that many road signs are obscured.

GW noted that there was an encroachment of debris on the north side of Burchetts Green Road.

GW noted that there were overgrown sightlines at a number of junctions.

59. Parish Land

See Matters Arising.

60. Playground

GW reported that the order for the playground works was in with HAGS and he was awaiting a timeframe for the project.

GW liaising with Sovereign over the damage to the slide.

BM noted that the funding from RBWM had arrived.

61. Flooding

No update

62. Finance

BM updated the Cllrs with the latest financial report.

63. Correspondence

None.

64. Information Reports

GW noted that BGVA had asked him to investigate a seemingly unoccupied house, which was beginning to show signs of dilapidation. RBWM confirmed that there were no powers of enforcement, but could ask the owner to tidy the property.

Part 1 of the meeting closed at 22:00

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Date Agreed:

Signed:

Position: – Chair/Vice Chair/Councillor