

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 22nd April 2025 at 7:30pm at Bisham Abbey.

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

Ward Councillors: Cllr Brar.

Public Forum

One Member of the Public raised an issue with the recent traffic assessment, suggesting that the process was not robust, noting that buses, coaches and trailers were regularly using Quarry Wood Road, and that pedestrians, including young children, frequently walk along the 40mph portion, but that this hadn't factored into the consultation.

One Member of the Public raised an issue with the Little Croft planning application, noting that a stipulation for a call-in to the development panel was only request in the event of a refusal. Cllr Brar confirmed that she had asked for application to be called in but would need to check her exact wording. The resident stated that a Revocation Order can be enacted to reverse the permission granted, and noted that concerns about the increased ridge height were not factored in.

One Member of the Public wanted to speak about Marlow Rowing Club and how the proposed parking restrictions would affect the organisation. An overview of the club's membership and activities was presented, and it was highlighted that the club itself had thirty parking places but would regularly see sixty vehicles parked on Quarry Wood Road before those restrictions were put in place. There are spaces for twenty specific vehicles in the Compleat Angler, and these are managed by ANPR cameras. The club representative asked that the Council seek a compromise whereby some parking bays are allowed along Bisham Road, instead of solid yellow lines.

Cllr Brar asked if there was an opportunity to use local land such as the Abbey, the School and local farms. The representative stated that alternatives had been looked into and even the possibility of a second site had been discussed, and that there had been a significant increase in cycling and car sharing.

CL noted that the farmer often rents out the fields for parking. The representative stated that they had tried to engage the farmer but had made no progress.

AK asked if parking at Court Garden was an option. The representative stated that reserved spaces were £7,000 per year.

Part One

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Derek Oliver (DO)

Cllr Jo Kersey (JK)

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of Meeting 17th March 2025

CL asked that it be minuted that BM had said that the bin move was to be attended to on 28th March. It was agreed that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

BM reported that the playground and noticeboard cleaning would take place on 6th May by Core Clean.

BM updated on Local Nature Recovery Strategy and asked Cllrs to attend a meeting with the officer in May.

CL shared a picture of a No Cycling sign from Marlow Lock. BM to investigate if a similar sign is possible near the footway of Marlow Bridge.

5. Planning

Appn. Date: 31st March 2025 Appn No.: 25/00863

Type: Discharge of Condition

Proposal: Details required by Condition 3 (BNG), 4 (external lighting scheme), 5 (Biodiversity enhancements) and 8 (Details of air source heat pump and PV panels) of planning permission 24/00651/VAR for a Variation (under Section 73) of Condition 13 to substitute those plans approved under 23/01696/FULL for a new dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings with amended plans.

Location: Pentangle East Paddock Cookham Maidenhead SL6 9UP

Determination Date: 26 May 2025

Cllrs Comments: Cllrs had no comment but stressed that RBWM be satisfied that it is appropriate for the rural setting.

Appn. Date: 31st March 2025 Appn No.: 25/00880

Type: Cert of Lawfulness of Proposed Dev

Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness to determine whether the proposed front porch, 2no. single storey side extensions, 1no. single storey rear extension, 1no. two storey rear extension, 1no. rear dormer and a detached outbuilding ancillary to the main dwelling are lawful.

Location: Robin Hill Hockett Lane Cookham Maidenhead SL6 9UF

Determination Date: 26 May 2025

Cllrs Comments: Cllrs had no comment but asked that RBWM pay particular attention to the proximity to the boundary.

Appn. Date: 17th March 2025 Appn No.: 25/00625

Type: Full

Proposal: Partially raised ridge, 1 no. front dormer and 6 no. rear rooflights
Location: Cliveden Cottage Quarry Wood Road Cookham Maidenhead SL6 9UA
Determination Date: 12 May 2025

Cllrs Comments: Cllrs were neutral to this application had no objection.

Appn. Date: 12th March 2025 Appn No.: 25/00618

Type: Full

Proposal: Part single part two storey side/rear extension, single storey side extension with balcony, column and glass balustrade above, first floor side/rear extension, single storey rear extension, rear pergola, alterations to fenestration and flood voids/new door to the existing detached garage.

Location: Orchard House Bisham Road Bisham Marlow SL7 1RP

Determination Date: 7 May 2025

Cllrs Comments: Cllrs were neutral to this application had no objection.

Appn. Date: 14th April 2025 Appn No.: 25/00980/CLASSR

Type: Change of use

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: N/A

Cllrs Comments: Cllrs were negative to this application and cited the following issues:

- **Planning application 23/02573/CLASSR established without doubt that the polytunnels are not “buildings” and therefore cannot be converted under CLASS R permitted development.**
- **Planning application 24/02421/CLU established only that the current use is agricultural. It did not reverse the previous decision that the polytunnels are not “buildings.”**

Therefore, the current application 25/00980/CLASSR should be refused for the same reasons as 23/02573/CLASSR.

6. Highways

BM gave an update on the parking consultation, thanking JK for delivering the envelopes. There were seven responses to the consultation, with five AGREEING and two DISAGREEING to the proposals. CL recommended sending an additional letter out with an extended deadline to ensure people who had been away for Easter were able to respond. BM to draft new consultation letter with deadline of 30th April. BM to speak to RBWM parking officer about safety implications of parking bays along Bisham Road.

BM gave an update on the proposed Quarry Wood Road speed limit, noting that the Bisham Road section of the changes had been agreed upon. GW proposed writing to RBWM cabinet seeking support for Option 1 (full 30mph limit along length of road). GW also noted that the current speed sign was missing.

AK reiterated that the Henley Road/A404 junction sign was still not replaced, but that the old sign had been removed.

AK reported that the black bags containing litter picked by volunteers were still waiting for collection.

CL reported that, following assurances from the RBWM Traffic Safety Officer, there had been no temporary speed measures, and no additional Police activity.

CL reported that the bus that passed through the village was to be stopped. Cllr Brar said it was not financially viable but would look into possible subsidy.

7. Parish Land

BM reported that Holdfords were looking at the Orchard debris on 25th April to gauge if it could be removed in a single trailer load.

BM reported that the bin move and the strake replacement were to take place on 9th May by the same team as a specialist piece of equipment needed to be hired.

AK asked BM to request information regarding the Berkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy to disseminate.

BM shared pictures of the collapsing Orchard fence by Bisham Court. AK suggested removing altogether. GW to visit and assess impact of removal or repair.

GW gave an update on further tree works and recommended a meeting with M&J trees for the next stage of ash removal.

GW noted that there were trees near to powerlines that need to be cut back, but that M&J would not take on the work. BM to speak to SSE for guidance.

GW looked at the phone box door and believes it needs a repair to the hinge. BM to source a contractor and get prices based on GW's specifications. CL offered to clean the Perspex panels in the interim.

AK noted that one of the apple trees in the Orchard is severely canted. BM to speak to Holdfords to prop.

CL noted that the Bisham Brook Restoration Group had six volunteers and would be attending a site clearance on 1st May.

8. Orchard Management Strategy

Cllrs asked that this be kept as a main agenda item and not deferred to a sub-committee.

9. Notice Board Policy

BM to draft a policy to send out prior to the May meeting.

10. Playground

GW gave an update on the weekly checks of the playground. BM thanked GW and CL for conducting the checks.

GW noted that there is a canted tree in the back hedge of the playground that needs to be inspected.

CL reported that TVP are conducting sporadic checks of the Orchard and Playground for drug-related activity.

AK asked about the person camping in the Orchard. CL reported that he was still there and that local residents were looking after him.

11. Flooding

CL reported that there were still no answers regarding the changes to the culvert and had been told that it was a low priority because there were assurances that an appropriate study had been conducted.

Cllr Brar reported that the landowner that had agreed to have the Lee Lane flood water diverted onto his land had pulled out of the agreement. RBWM will be putting cameras into the drainage to investigate issues.

12. Finance

BM gave an update on the finances which are available on the website and refreshed for the new financial year.

BM noted that all of the paperwork and opening balance cheque had been sent to Unity Trust.

13. Correspondence

BM reported that a local resident had enquired about volunteering opportunities, and he was due to speak to her on 25th April about potential projects.

14. Information Reports

GW noted that some residents were concerned that a footpath across the BCA land had been seeded over but reported that the path was still clearly visible.

CL reported that the Annual Parish Meeting coincided with a Church event and suggested moving the meeting to 29th May. Cllrs agreed. AK reported that residents would prefer an old fashioned Chair's report. AK suggested screening the Millennium Walk film. BM to speak to Highways about a potential talk on the future of the A404.

GW reported that there had been a burglary in Burchetts Green with the perpetrators entering from BCA land.

15. News Items

None

Part 1 of the meeting closed at 22:45

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Date Agreed:

Signed:

Position: – Chair/Vice Chair/Councillor

DRAFT