

SUNNINGHILL & ASCOT PARISH COUNCIL

The Courtyard (Ascot Racecourse)

High Street

ASCOT

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Minutes of a meeting of Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council held at the Ascot Day Centre, Bagshot Road, Sunninghill, Ascot on Tuesday 13 September 2011 at 7pm.

Members Present: Councillors J Yong (Chairman), B Hilton (Vice-Chairman), M Duffield, R Ellison, D Hilton, S Humphrey, S Jones, C Lester, L Roberts, A Sharpe, B Story, M Turton,

In attendance: Elizabeth Yates, Clerk to the Council and Jane Shanahan, Assistant Parish Clerk

4260 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Peter Deason, Ajay Nehra and Daniel Whittall.

4261 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman asked to receive any Declarations of Interest in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct. None were given.

4262 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting, held on 2 August, were approved as a correct record and signed as such.

4263 FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

No formal announcements were made.

4264 THAMES HOSPICECARE

Helen Saich, the Trusts and Grants Fundraiser for Thames Hospicecare, informed the meeting about the work of Thames Hospicecare. Founded in 2005, the organisation supported over 1000 patients, their carers and families. Their aim was to provide patient led, holistic, flexible care both in patient's houses and within the Hospice. The annual running costs were £4 million, of which 22% was provided by the NHS, with the rest being made up by income received from their 16 shops, events, trusts and legacies.

The Councillors asked a number of questions regarding the expansion of the 'hospice at home' service, the effect of the recent changes to the facility at Heatherwood, the demand, the average length of stay within a Hospice and frequency of visits, the process of referral and links with related organisations such as Cruse Bereavement Care and MacMillan Nurses. Helen Saich replied to each question with additional information and left a series of leaflets and flyers for distribution to the public.

Councillor Jeffrey Yong thanked her for her time and informative presentation.

4265 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was not adjourned for a maximum of 15 minutes to allow Members of the Public, if present, to address the Council about matters of local concern as no members of the public were present.

4266 PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Planning Committee minutes of 16 August and 6 September were presented by Councillor Barbara Hilton and Councillor Christine Lester respectively. Councillor Allison Sharpe asked if any applications were particularly significant and a number were discussed.

The Leisure Committee minutes of 30 August were presented by Councillor Robert Ellison.

The Victorian Street Fayre Committee minutes of 17 August were presented by Councillor Barbara Hilton.

4267 FINANCE REPORT FOR JULY 2011

The report on the accounts for Month 4 was considered with no significant matters arising. The Clerk informed the meeting that the budget was on course, with the purchase of the truck being the most significant pending item of expenditure.

4268 THE MARKETING/ COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Councillor Spike Humphrey reported on suggestions for raising the profile of the Parish Council, including the management of the web site and an official 'opening' of the Fitness Equipment at Victory Field. After a lengthy debate it was agreed that a marketing sub-committee would be formed and that this committee would define its purpose and scope, identify actions and propose any budget needs, for consideration by full Council. It was agreed that £500 be approved with immediate effect to allow for the web site to be managed 'in house'. Councillor Robert Ellison suggested that the members of the Leisure Committee meet at Victory Field before the next Leisure Committee, to be held on 4 October, for an 'official launch' and photo/press opportunity for the newly installed Fitness Equipment.

4269 ITEMS RAISED AND ACTIONED WITH RBWM

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Local Budget proposals regarding the refurbishment of the public conveniences in Sunninghill High Street and inclusive play equipment had been submitted to the Borough and that on line voting commenced on 15 September. Possible improvements to the 'Three Castle Footpath' as discussed by the Leisure Committee had been submitted as part of the Parish Paths Initiative and the Clerk was due to meet the Borough's Footpath officer to consider all footpath improvements as identified by the Parish Councillors.

4270 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

Councillor Barbara Hilton went through a presentation regarding Neighbourhood Planning, as drafted by Councillor Peter Deason, and informed the committee of the Launch Event, to be held at Ascot Racecourse on Wednesday 28 September. Ways of publicising the event were discussed. All Parish Councillors were requested to attend.

It was confirmed that a separate meeting of Parish Councillors would take place in the Parish Office on Tuesday 20 September at 7.00pm, to consider the Government's Draft National Planning Policy Framework.

4271 OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Allison Sharpe suggested that the Parish Council consider ways of celebrating the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee. Councillor Jeffery Yong asked that this be discussed by the Leisure Committee and suggestions be put forward to full Council. Councillor Sharpe also expressed concern about the proposed loss of trees for parking in Sunninghill, despite the Borough's desire to plant new trees in other parts of the Parish.

The Clerk informed the meeting of a request for volunteers for the forthcoming Poppy Appeal and for the Charters Youth and Community Centre's Management Committee. She also informed the meeting that the Rotary Club of Ascot had informed the Parish Council of the arrangements for the Annual Sunninghill Wheelbarrow Race, to be held on Monday 2 January 2012.

Following a question from Councillor Robert Ellison, the Clerk informed the meeting that there was the possibility of a group of volunteers to assist on a 'one off' basis in carrying out a practical task within the Parish. Clearing footpaths had been suggested and the Clerk was awaiting agreement from the Police who had identified the group.

Councillor Jeffrey Yong asked the committee to consider and identify any potential sponsorship sources for the new Parish truck.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

Councillor Jeffrey Yong, Chairman