

West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum Committee meeting minutes

Location: Zoom teleconference
Date: 12 May 2021
Time: 7.00pm
Attendees: Wade Pollard (Chair), Nigel Badham, Sally Cantello, Mike Corbett (new member)
Keith Creswell, Emma Davis, Stewart Dick, Ian McAtamney, Roland Nevett, Dharma
Sivarajasingham, Richard Thomas, Bob Tilley
Amanda Boote, Mary Bridgman, Gary Elson (Councillors)
Apologies:
Chris Dougherty, Penny Hoskyn

Agenda items

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last meeting
3. Local election results
4. Sheer House Redevelopment Liaison Group - update
5. Recreation Ground Pavilion repairs - update
6. Harvester Pub car park evictions - update
7. Community Centre - proposed letter to Julie Fisher, CEO WBC, for approval
8. Wisley Airfield Garden Village - discussion of paper
9. AOB

ITEM NO:

1. Apologies were received as above. The Committee welcomed Mike Corbett, who moved to West Byfleet two months ago. He has a background in planning which will be invaluable to the Forum.
2. The Minutes of the 14 April 2021 meeting were approved subject to minor amendments.

Action: ED to upload in pdf format onto the website. SC and WP to sign printed copy.

3. Local election results

It was reported that Josh Brown (Con) was elected and has become a member of the Forum replacing John Bond (Independent) who retired. Josh was invited to this meeting but was unable to attend as he was in his induction to WBC. Graham Chrystie (Lib Dem) lost his seat in Pyrford to Steve Dorsett (Con), also in induction. Amanda Boote (Independent) was reelected to SCC as was Liz Bowes (Con), Pyrford. Lisa Townsend (Con) was elected Police Commissioner.

4. Sheer House Redevelopment Liaison Group - update

SD reported that demolition is in full progress. RVG is intending to duplicate the number of parking spaces currently in the SH complex in the railway car park, subject to a decision by Network Rail. These would be operational from 09.00 on the same tariff as the current one in SH. RVG have pledged to give three months' notice of the closure of the current car park. The construction contract is being negotiated but a final decision on the appointment of the contractor has not yet been made.

The group has decided to meet every three weeks as before but can defer if there are no matters to report.

Action: WBNF to inform residents when the car park is due to close.

5. Recreation Ground Pavilion Repairs - update

Aaron Henderson has emailed to say that WBC is on the case - they are "looking at it".

Action: WP to follow up if no action is being taken.

6. Harvester pub evictions - update

SD reported that the travellers left before the hearing date and the car parking area has been cleaned. SD thanked the CEO of Mitchells & Butler for taking action on this nuisance. RT thanked SD for following this up.

7. Community Centre - proposed letter to Julie Fisher, CEO WBC, for approval

The committee discussed WP's draft letter. RN suggested it should also signpost the work already done by committee members on identifying the needs of local groups for such a space. WP asked GE to get other councillors to support the case with Ms Fisher.

Action: SC to add para to the letter on the work identifying local needs.

8. Wisley Airfield Garden Village - discussion of paper

RN noted that he would wish to see the proposed infrastructure work brought forward to the beginning of the build programme, not the end (12-15yrs) or local infrastructure will be overrun. NB noted that the build will happen from West to East, and most of the proposed infrastructure is in the central section, and so 5-6 yrs away from the start, meaning that significant numbers of houses could be built without facilities.

SD noted that the effects of this development form part of the questions to the WBC infrastructure study.

KC noted that the A3/M25 improvements decision has been delayed until November 2021. It was not clear whether this would impact the planning application for the airfield site.

Action: Committee members to monitor Taylor Wimpey communications to check.

NB noted that the Ockham interchange will need adapting for the airfield development and that the Silvermere junction will be improved at the same time.

The committee thanked NB for his excellent work putting together this comprehensive paper.

Action: NB to add to the paper the possible effect of the delayed A3/M25 decision and WP to pass the paper to Pyrford and Byfleet Neighbourhood Forums.

9. AOB

Regarding changes to the planning legislation brought up by IM prior to this meeting, RN re-circulated the paperwork he produced for the Forum for the consultation on the planning changes.

Actions: GE to send the committee WBC's response to this consultation paper.
RN to bring the committee up to speed on the progress of the legislation at the next meeting.

RT asked whether CIL payments are up to date and whether any of these are likely to be time-expired. It seems the situation regarding expiry is not clear. SD noted that Ernest Amoako, WBC, replied to Pyrford NF that there is no time limit on the spending of Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL) but there is a concern that a developer may be able to reclaim CIL if the Council has not spent it within five years of its receipt. MC said that planning guidance says there is a five year limit for Parish Councils to spend CIL but it is not clear whether this applies to Neighbourhood Forums. RT understood that NCIL, if not used in the local neighbourhood in five years, can be used by the council as CIL. This might have the effect of no urgency on the local authority's part to help the Forum spend its current balance.

AB stated that she sits on a committee dealing with CIL and she and other councillors will defend NCIL strongly if it is threatened.

Action: GE to check if CIL is being paid by the developer of Marshalls Parade in Pyrford.

Date of next meeting:

Note: In 2021 meetings will be on the second Wednesday of each month. Next meeting Wednesday 9 June @7pm - full WBNF meeting via Zoom. **DS to send invitations.**