

WARREN AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

- Minutes of the virtual Committee meeting held via Zoom videoconference
- Date: Tuesday 9th March 2021 commencing 19.30hrs
- Present: Elisa Miles (Chair), Hayley Brommell (Treasurer), Martin Brommell (Secretary), Pam Reynolds, Alistair McLean, Bob O'Neill, Jane Bickerstaffe, John Heaps
- Apologies: Jan David

1220. New Committee Members

Elisa opened the meeting by welcoming two new committee members, John Heaps and Jan David. Sadly, Jan was unable to attend this meeting due to medical reasons but both new members were warmly greeted by existing committee members. John made a fitting contribution to the meeting.

1221. Phil Darlow

Elisa recently visited Phil and advised that his health continues to deteriorate. We were all saddened to hear this news and are always grateful for the work he has done to help in the Committee and for his outstanding knowledge of local history and matters particularly special for the Warren area.

1222. Minutes of Last Meeting:

Minutes of the committee meeting held 26th January 2021 were signed off by the committee as an accurate record of the meeting. Copy sent to Kevin Miles 11/3/21 to store on the WADRA website-

Action: Closed

1223. Treasurers Report of WADRA Accounts –

| | | IN | OUT | Details |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|---|
| Savings & Current Fundraising | £29,745.15 | - | £325.00 | MPF pavilion kitchen equipment & £22.00 interest |
| WADRA current | £888.74 | £10.00 | £38.60 | WADRA stationery £38.60 2 new members @£5 = £10.00 |
| Petty Cash | £57.00 | - | - | |
| Grand total | £30,690.89 | £10.00 | £363.60 | |

1224. Newsletter

WADRA will put out a short Newsletter on everything that is going to happen at the Mapledurham playing fields, car park and School over the next few Months. Also to include advice to report anti-social behaviour at MPF. The real WADRA Newsletter will go out after the MPFMC meeting.

Action: Elisa/Martin to organise

1225. Secretary Position

Martin has requested that he is replaced as secretary, before June 2021, to allow him to concentrate specifically on the growing commitments relating to MPF, MPFMC and the Safer Neighbourhood Forum. Chair is continuing the search for someone to take on this role. – **Action: Elisa ongoing**

1226. Website

Elisa to arrange for a testimonial of Robin Bentham to be put on the website. – **Action: Elisa ongoing**

1227. WADRA Historic Papers

Elisa has been through all of the papers that were kept by Robin. As previously agreed, she disposed of all of the historic planning applications. Ballihoo, and its helicopter pad, was a whole box alone!

Elisa retained planning papers on Chazey Farm so we have a historic trail from the beginning as it is still in progress and therefore relevant.

Elisa has kept the historic planning papers on the Chalk Pit - just in case it comes up again.

Elisa has kept and is going through the historic papers on the planning for the Paintball. She is not sure whether AirSoft put in another planning application or not but would think that they need additional permission because the projectiles are so dangerous, they also would need a license to play music. Airsoft has not put in another planning application. Elisa is currently communicating with South Oxfordshire Environmental Health, and their Planning and Development Enforcement Team. Elisa has been advised to contact the police for more information on guidelines on the use of Airsoft rifles.

The four boxes/archive will go into the new storage unit when it is installed. **Action: Elisa**

1228. Planning Applications

C – Commented P – Permitted W – Withdrawn R – Refused CD – Conditions Discharged
Con – Start of Consultation Period OS – Observations Sent

| | | WADRA | Current Planning Applications | | | | 18/01/2021 |
|-------------|------------|--|--|-----|--------|---|------------|
| | | Key: O: Objected: C: Commented: N/A: No action: P: Permitted, R: Refused, W: Withdrawn | | | | | |
| | | CD: Conditions Discharged | Con: Start of Consultation Period | | | | |
| | | C: Committee Decision | D: Delegated Decision | | | | |
| Number | Property | Road | Description | C/D | Dated | Result | |
| 2020 | | | | | | | |
| 192055 | 167 | Upr Woodcote Road | 2- storeyside, rear roof Ext'n | D | 08-Jan | P:28/06 | |
| 200033 | 19 | Westdene Drive | Cert. of Lawfulness | D | 09-Jan | P: 4/3 | |
| 200334 | 192a | Upr Woodcote Road | Single Storey Side Ext'n | D | 02-Mar | P: 17/07 | |
| 200047 | 3 | Hewett Ave | Cert of Law/ness,Hip Gable Roof Ext'n | D | 13-Jan | P:28/09 | |
| 200057 | Aynsley Ho | Upr Warren Ave | Form Integral Granny Annex | D | 24-Jan | P:02/07 | |
| 200102 | 8 | Kelmscott Cl | Demolition/ Replace with new | D | 06-Feb | Withdrawn | |
| 200117 | Spinney | Upr Warren Ave | New Window on east Elev | D | 06-Jun | P: 31/03 | |
| 200166 | 8 | Hewett Close | New Window on East Elevation | D | 03-Feb | P: 9/06 | |
| 200302 | 7 | Woodford Close | Front Balcony infill Ext'n | D | 24-Apr | P: 24/4 | |
| 200613 | 10 | Ridge Hall Close | New Pitched Roof to Garage | D | 28-Apr | P: 22/06 | |
| 200736 | 2 | Hewett Ave | Ext'n loft & Garage conv , new garage | C/D | 31-May | P:23/11 | |
| 200876 | 9 | Hewett Ave | Proposed Large Shed | D | 27-Jul | P: 21/09 | |
| 201284 | 93 | Woodcote Road | Front and Side Extensions | D | 21-Sep | P: 13/11 | |
| 201026 | 7 | Hewett Avenue | Garage Conv, Front & Rear Ext'ns | C | 03-Aug | P:14/09 | |
| 201074 | | MPF | Drainage Prop: Deep Borehole Disch | D | 18-Aug | P:09/11 | |
| 200718 | Pump Stn | Chazey Road | Demolition/ Replace with new House | C | 03-Aug | R/01/02/21 | |
| 201131 | 3 | St Peters Ave | Timber Building : Use as a Gym | D | 24-Aug | P: 18/01 | |
| 201151 | 21 | Chazey Road | Annex to main dwelling for parents | C | 08-Sep | Withdrawn | |
| 201233 | 5 | Grass Hill | 2N0, 3Bed Flats with Garages | C | 21-Sep | | |
| 201331 | High Ridge | Upper Warren Rd | Replacement Dwelling | C | 12-Sep | P :15/02/21 | |
| 201387 | 54 | Chazey Rd | Single side Storey Ext'n | C | 12-Oct | | |
| 201472 | MPF | Tennis Club | Extension to Floodlighting Hours- 8-10pm | D | 09-Nov | R: 15/02/21 | |
| 201521 | 1 | River Road | Single Storey Rear Ext'n | D | 09-Nov | P:11/01 | |
| 201714 | 27a | Hewett Ave | Conv. of Bungalow to 2 Floors | C | 14-Dec | | |
| 201751 | 1 | Westdene Drive | Single StoreyRear & Side Ext'n | D | 21-Dec | | |
| 201763 | 31 | Chazey Road | Loft Ext'n- 4 Roof Windows | D | 21-Dec | P: 15/02/21 | |
| 2021 | | | | | | | |
| 201876 | Blewgarth | The Warren | Demolition & replacement of Boathouse | C | 18-Jan | | |
| 210142 | 6 | Mapledene | Single Storey Side Extension | D | 08-Feb | | |
| 210213 | | MPF: Heights School | Increase working hours on Saturdays to 4pm | D | 28-Jan | Reason given w orks are 3 w eeks behind | |
| 210286 | 132 | St Peters Ave | Amendment to existing application | C | | | |

(NB: No action to be taken on planning applications unless a resident/member requests our assistance on one of the current proposals.)

In response to a question from Alistair regarding MPF car park closures, Martin gave a precis of his virtual meeting with Ben Stanesby held 4/3/21 in which he described how the MPF car park would be closed to users on and off for a period of 3 months. This would include works

to the opening of the access road into MPF, block paving that road, installing a Zebra Crossing and Pedestrian Refuge Island on the A4074, school markings on the road and further works to the pitches involving sharp sand, more grass seed and top soil. It was felt important that WADRA kept its members informed by an interim Newsletter (see action 1223 above).

1229. Footpaths on The Caversham Golf Course

Discussions took place regarding a proposal by The Caversham Golf Course, although not officially within WADRA's catchment, to install additional boundary footpaths which would not be officially designated as Public Rights of Way. These would be to encourage dog walkers to remain off the golf course. Concerns were raised by Bob who wanted to know more about the proposals and possible loss of privacy.

Action: Bob

1230. Bluebell Woods

Concern was expressed over proposals by Airsoft to open a new shooting business involving high powered pellet rifles, non-biodegradable pellets and loud music. Elisa offered to contact SODC's Environmental Team to establish whether a proper risk assessment has been conducted of the proposed 100 metre exclusion zone and whether this business is lawful and licenced.

Action: Elisa

1231. Mapledurham Playing Field Pavilion Kitchen Equipment (Community Hub)

Awaiting final approval from the Trustees. Luke Lloyd RBC is getting the ok from everyone and foresees no problem. He would like (although doubtful) to have all of the equipment in the kitchen before the end of March.

Funds - Caversham Treants will put forward £1000 for the kitchen. Stuart Bartletts have already provided £3k of equipment and work. MLTC has declined to input any funds to the kitchen, WADRA to carry the bulk.

Disposal of unusable items - Elisa will be organising the disposal of equipment that we are not using now in the kitchen. Our tables, which are at the Packhorse, will come back to MPF when we have a storage unit.

Action: Elisa ongoing

1232. Kitchen volunteers

We have a handful of kitchen volunteers and need at least one person with a hygiene certificate while we are open. Elisa looked into getting Alan Reynolds re-certified to instruct but it would cost about £1000 - and each certificate would cost about £80. WADRA will look to get certificates for between 6-8 people. We only need one in the kitchen with a certificate.

Action: Elisa to organise

1233. Activities volunteers

Elisa spoke to Kate Angwin and discussed the organisation of activities or the reason "why" people would be attracted to the Pavilion on Thursday afternoons. Kate to come back to Elisa with her ideas.

Action: Elisa to chase response

1234. Crockery

Elisa collected a lot of mugs from Phil Darlow. He has a tea set (6 x plates/cups/saucers) that was commissioned for a visit by the Queen Mother to Reading. There is quite a lot of history there. Jenny (Phil's daughter) and Phil are going to record the information about the history of it as well as a bit about early WADRA. Phil's mother was one of the people who started WADRA. Elisa to get

permission from Jenny, Phil's daughter. to phone him on her phone as his does not seem to be working. **Action: Elisa ongoing**

1235. Deed of Dedication / Storage at MPF

Elisa advised that the storage issue had now been agreed with Daniel Mander representing CTFC, who has also agreed the arrangements with several MPFMC members. The agreement has been notified to the chair of the MPFMC Cllr Isobel Ballsdon to formalize. To follow on the storage area plan - we need to ensure that the 5% of land for further development is not included in the DoD. **Action: Martin to advise Ben Stanesby**

1236. Pavilion Naming

WADRA propose the Bentham Community Hall. It may be beneficial to start a [change.org](https://www.change.org) or something similar to get a lot of signatures to have the pavilion named after Robin. A Trents Whitehouse (<https://www.readingchronicle.co.uk/news/13385019.trent-remembered-20-years-on/>) memorial sign was found for a Caversham Trents person and Daniel would like to see it put-up in the changing rooms.

MPF - Re-naming for Charles Hewett is an ongoing discussion. Perhaps it will also need a petition or perhaps it should be the same one with two questions.

Action: Committee/Martin ongoing

1237. MPF Pavilion Grand Opening Event

It was suggested by Daniel Mander, CTFC, September 5th with the football awards ceremony and perhaps a good time to do the 're-opening. If this goes ahead we can do a camping sale as well.

Action: Elisa ongoing

1238. Fundraising

Yard Sale Trail - Elisa has suggested on social media another Yard Sale Trail for late April. It appears that it may be popular - so will run sometime after the school holidays.

Action: Elisa to organise

A package of events has also been presented to Luke Lloyd, RBC Parks & Leisure, by the chair but are subject to Covid restrictions. These include :

- Easter Parade w/c 29th March,
- Movie Night end July/early Aug
- Summer Fete & Camping Gear Sale 4 Sep,
- Christmas Fayre 18 Dec
- Weekly MPF Community Hubs every Thursday 12.00-17.00hrs.

The Community Hubs will be supported by Ways & Means and will require eight volunteers to support the afternoons. The question of public liability insurance to be raised by Elisa with Luke Lloyd along with seeking support to the overall WADRA Fundraising plan. - **Action: Elisa ongoing**

1239. Local Elections

Elisa asked committee members to provide suggestions regarding the minimum standards WADRA would expect to see in a suitable candidate. John advised that it was unlikely there would be any change to elected members during the May'21 Local Election but that we should have our standards in place and communicated prior to the boundary change elections due 2022.

Action: All committee

1240. Hewett Avenue Verge Scheme & Tree Planting:

Baby trees and shrubs were planted surrounded with fabric matting and wood chips weekend of 6th March. These will hopefully prevent the council grass cutters from mowing them down and help to discourage turning the area into a school carpark. More trees are due week commencing 8th March for planting weekend 13th March. Jane would welcome volunteers willing to help with planting.

Action: Jane ongoing

1241. Amendments to the Constitution

- Dealing with digital distribution and the ‘unsubscribed’
- Once a year review of the constitution
- Vote at AGM on installing an annual fee

Action: Elisa to write a draft of the digital amendments

1242. The Heights Community Engagement & School Streets

Martin to attend a meeting 10th March 21 with representatives from The Heights, CTFC, MLTC, MPF User Group and Mapledurham Parrish. The purpose of the meeting being to review the Heights Travel Plan and to discuss key issues such as traffic & parking.

Action: Martin

1243. North Reading Safer Neighbourhood Forum

Martin updated the committee with feedback from the NRSNF held 18th Feb’21 and sent a document containing a precis report. The next NRSNF is scheduled for 25th March’21. Committee members to feed any concerns, including those raised by local residents, relating to crime, ASB’s, begging etc to Martin prior to 25th.

Action: Martin/committee ongoing

1244. Environmental Concerns in Hewett Avenue

Martin to contact the RBC Environmental Department (0118 973 3787) to establish whether they can carry out air quality and noise pollution surveys prior to the school opening. He will also approach Highways to request a Traffic Census is conducted in Hewett Avenue.

Action: Martin

1245. Reading Festival

Elisa contacted Noel Painting at Festival Republic. They aren’t certain the Reading Festival will happen, but if it does they will liaise with us for the car passes for the Warren, Site visit, leafletting and green messenger.

Action: Pending decision re:Festival

1246. AOB

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20:00hrs.

Future meeting dates for your diary:

To be held at Larksmead, Upper Warren Avenue, RG4 7EB commencing 19.30hrs (Zoom if Covid19 restrictions continue)

- Tuesday 13th April 2021 commencing 19.30hrs