

**Minutes of the Valley Park Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 10 December 2018 at 7.30pm
Location: Valley Park Community Centre**

Present:

Cllr Mr A Dowden (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs C Dowden
Cllr Mr R Bryan
Cllr Mr S Cross
Cllr Mr A Beesley
Ms J Adey
Mrs D Moran

Apologies for absence:

Cllr Mr C Anderson and Cllr Mr C Thom sent apologies.

Action

58 Declarations of interests

None

59 Minutes of the meetings held on 12th November 2018

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Valley Park Parish Council Meeting held on 12th November 2018, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as true records and signed by the Chairman.

60 Matters Arising

Cllr Dowden informed that the rats' situation has improved dramatically. Another incident was reported to Test Valley and Cllr Dowden has arranged for an investigation to take place and further tree works will take place to assist with the problem.

Councillors were informed that changes in the government legislation regarding the funded childcare created financial difficulties for Mulberry Pre-School. Cllr Dowden contacted the County Council and a county officer will carry out a review of the operation and will provide advice to the pre-school. The corporate director of Test Valley BC was also made aware of the situation. Cllr Dowden also offered the pre-school £1,000 from the TVBC councillor's community grant and a further £1,000 from the county councillor's community grant.

Cllr Dowden informed that the 46 Bus has been saved, but with a slight reduced timetable in place. Bus 461 will also run every day from Peter Symonds College in Winchester through Valley Park and the general public will be able to utilise this service as well as Bus 46.

Councillors highlighted that the council tax for next year, for the Valley Park residents will remain the same. Parish council tax will be the lowest in Test Valley and will be 40% lower than 12 years ago when the parish was established.

61 To receive and consider correspondence

None received.

62 Public questions – None

63 Accounts

The Parish Clerk informed members of accounts received since the last meeting.

Resolved:

That the accounts be approved.

64 Community Planning – Neighbourhood Plan discussion

Councillors debated the advantages and disadvantages of having a neighbourhood plan. After considering the option, councillors unanimously agreed that a neighbouring plan would not be initiated, as it is not needed at the moment because Valley Park is protected with local gaps designation and has legal agreements on all open spaces. Councillors will wait and see the Local Plan and will revisit as and when it is deemed appropriate.

65 Borough and County member reports

Cllr Beesley informed that he attended the Borough Council's Licensing committee meeting and about the decision of the authority to join a voluntary national database for registering taxi licenses. Councillors welcomed the initiative and felt it was safe and accountable choice.

Cllr Dowden reported that the pathway on the side of the Knightwood Leisure Centre will be re-dusted as well as making some other improvements to the surfaces over the site where water pools are. The lighting requested by the Parish Council was raised with the contract manager at Places for People to establish feasibility.

Cllr Dowden informed councillors that an event took place last Saturday at the Knightwood Leisure Centre to mark the unveiling of the pitches, in the presence of the chief executive officer of the FA and members of the council. Test Valley Borough Council contributed £50,000 towards the project, alongside the Football Foundation, Football Association and Sport England. The refurbishment involved adding a new drainage system, which means the pitches can now be enjoyed throughout the year by residents and members of St Francis Youth Football Club. Cllr Dowden attended the opening alongside the local MP, Caroline Nokes. This follows a number of other investment projects at the centre, which includes the recent addition of outdoor exercise equipment and the skate park.

Cllr Dowden reported that he opposed government proposals to allow fracking companies to undertake exploratory drilling without local planning applications and signed a national petition alongside other councillors to prevent permitted development on this.

66 Planning Applications

No planning applications.

The meeting closed at 8.22pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____