

**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of
Tetsworth Parish Council**

**Held in the Memorial Hall
at 7.30pm on Monday 7 August 2017**

Present:

3 members of the public

Cllr Karen Harris – Chair (KH)
Cllr Marjorie Sanders -Vice Chair (MS)
Cllr Hazel Bottone (HB)

Officer: Clare Devey (CD)

81. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Alan Martin & Councillor Paul Carr.
District & County Councillors were not invited as this was an extraordinary meeting.

82. To receive Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

- a. In accordance with the Local Code of Conduct to receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non-disclosable pecuniary interests and to consider and grant any dispensation requests.*

None.

83. To APPROVE the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th July 2017

RESOLVED: the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

84. Matters arising from the Minutes not on agenda

None.

85. Willow Trees at North East corner of the Green.

Owain Devey of Devey Tree Care has surveyed the trees. The following recommendations were made: To fell the crack Willow closest to the property concerned and to do a 50% reduction of the neighbouring Weeping Willow. Both trees have Tree Protection Orders. DTC have made an application to SODC to carry out the work and to replace the Crack Willow with a tree that has more amenity value as recommended by the Tree Officer.

The Tree Officer has spoken to the Clerk and will make a site visit.

Quotation for tree works £750.00 + VAT

A further complaint regarding overhanging trees was received from 15c Swan Gardens but the tree in question is not the responsibility of the Parish Council and the homeowner has been advised of this.

86. To Report on the visit to the proposed Harrington site.

A farm walk was organised primarily for the County & District Councillors. Nick Carter and Stephen Harrod attended as well as the Chairman of the County Council. Councillors from Great Haseley, Tetsworth (Marjorie Sanders & Alan Martin) and Pyrton were also in attendance. The purpose was to show the affect such a proposal would have on the landscape and neighbouring villages.

The overall response was that this development should not happen. It is not included in the Local Plan and we must make sure that it is not included in the initial version.

87. Footpath at Attington Stud.

A complaint has been received from a villager that the route of the footpath has been changed, a cross country course is now blocking the way. Councillor Karen Harris has written to Jonathan Beale the footpath officer for OCC and will also ring him. There is no access to the footpath and no planning application has been received for the footpath to be re-routed. The landowner has moved the footpath without permission.

88. Neighbourhood Plan Production.

John Gilbert reported that the results of the Neighbourhood Plan will again be exhibited at the Flower Show at the Memorial Hall on the 27th August and uploaded to the Tetsworth Parish Council website.

The initial draft has been circulated to the steering group and the Parish Councillors and they have been asked to give their feedback within a fortnight.

John Gilbert will meet with SODC at the end of the month to begin the process of adopting the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan carries no weight until the formal consultation has been conducted with SODC. At this point it may be possible to use it as informal evidence at the Appeal for the Travellers Site.

Planning

89. To discuss P15/S3936/FUL Land adjacent London Road Tetsworth Oxon OX9 7BB

The noise survey has been carried out. Initial findings show that the noise from the motorway is still sufficient to require a 4 metre bund. We await the report from WSP. Once the report has been received we may consider having a further noise survey done in September.

90.To discuss P17/S2684/FUL Spencers Farm Marsh End Tetsworth OX9 7AU

Steel portal framed extension to an existing cattle yard. – Application supported.

91.To discuss P16/S2751/O 10 Silver Street Tetsworth OX9 7AR

The Parish Council has again recommended refusal on the grounds of poor access, the increased risk of flooding to the village and the fact that no solution to the problem has been offered.(MS)

It was noted by Councillor Karen Harris that David Baldwin of Wilsham Consulting has stated in his report that the existing pond is owned by the Parish Council. This is not true and the statement has been made by assumption and on hearsay.

The Parish Council does not know who owns the pond. It is not shown on the map of Common Land and the developer must prove who owns the pond.

92.To discuss P14/S1318/FUL Land adjacent to The Gate House

It is believed that the owner of the land is not fulfilling the conditions of permitted development.

“No site preparation, excavations, building works or associated operations shall be carried out between the 1st March and 1st September in any calendar year. In addition, the following avoidance measures shall be implemented: 1) At least one month prior to the commencement of any site works the grass in the working area should be cut to not less than 5cm and maintained at this height until the completion of the works. 2) Trenches and other excavations will be backfilled where possible before nightfall. If this is not possible then a ramp will be left in any excavations left open over night to allow newts to exit. 3) Where possible and practical materials stored (that might act as temporary resting places) will be raised off the ground (e.g. on pallets). 4) A copy of this condition shall be given to the contractors/builders responsible for undertaking the works. 5) All contractors must be aware of great crested newts and be able to identify the species. Reason: In the interests of the visual appearance of the development in accordance with Policy CSQ3 of the South Oxfordshire Core Strategy 2027 and Policy C8 of the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011.”

Heavy movements of excavating machinery and movement of articulated lorries have been seen at the site. This breaches the conditions of permitted development. Planning enforcement have been contacted. Karen Harris will send all the information that has been collated.

93.To discuss P16/S2957/FUL. Mount Hill Farm Tetsworth

A member of the public has complained to the council that there has been a breach of the planning permission. The post and rail fence and laurel hedging has been removed. This has been reported to enforcement. Karen Harris will follow this up.

94. PATCH.

MS reported as follows:

The OCC grant for £2900 will be supported by the County Councillors.

Co-Op Community Grant (£3000) will be submitted 8th August. 1 in 10 chance of success.

Couzens Bequest – no response yet.

Tesco Bag Tax – (Up to £4000) In progress

Post Code Lottery – Will apply once opened on the 15th August.

SODC Councillors Grant – (£2900) In progress

SODC Capital Grant – (Up to £15K – matched funding) In progress

The Playing Fields Legacy grant fund can only be applied for by TSSC. MS to contact Anthony Bottone for his help.

It was decided the start date for revamping the play area will be January 2018.

HAGS Play Equipment have given a quotation of £8000 for individual pieces of play equipment. In order to be eligible for the grants the play area must be a multi age integrated play area. Councillors will look into a multipurpose fitness centre to go alongside the childrens play area.

It was noted that we can save money by removing the old play equipment ourselves. Paul Carr if well enough, will choose the equipment required and get quotations from various companies.

It may be possible to install the equipment in stages as the old equipment starts to fail and is removed for safety. One of the swings may need to be removed shortly.

Estimate of spend is £30,000.

Gaynor Sellors has offered to help with the grant applications.

MS was thanked for her efforts.

95. Other matters for discussion

On behalf of St Giles Church, Heather Moore has requested that the Parish Council give a contribution to the cost of £250.00 for having a skip for the clearance of the churchyard and the jitty. It was agreed that the PC offer to pay for the skip and ask the church for a donation.

96. Date of next meeting – 11th September

97. Meeting closed at 8:25pm.