



Tetsworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Tetsworth Residents held at 7:30pm on Monday 30th April 2018 in Tetsworth Memorial Hall

Present

Councillors: Karen Harris – Chairman
Hazel Bottone
Susan Rufus
Alan Martin
Marjorie Sanders

Minutes Clerk: Clare Devey

In Attendance: Cllr Jeannette Matelot (OCC)
Cllr Caroline Newton (SODC)

Members of the public: 63

1. Apologies for Absence

David Nixey

2. Welcome & Annual Report by Parish Council Chairman – Karen Harris.

WELCOME to the Annual Parish Meeting. Thank you all for attending tonight and trust that you will find the meeting interesting and informative

Once again this year has been a very busy year for the Council covering many aspects of business but primarily Planning, Village environment, potential cost cutting by the County Council, inconsiderate parking of cars especially at the exit from Swan Gardens by the curvature of the pavement leading up to the school.

I must at this point introduce you to our new parish Clerk Clare Devey having taken over the duty from Debra Duke as Debra has moved following her husband's posting within the RAF.

We have also again had two changes on the Council as both Paul Carr and Ted Peycke wished to stand down. They have been replaced by David Nixey and Susan Rufus..

During the past year we have reviewed 16 Planning Applications of various sizes with 2 providing us with much discussion. These major Applications cover the development of the Car Boot Field for a 60 house development and the Travellers' encampment site, both directly off the A40 main road.

Both the Car Boot Field and the Travellers' applications were refused by SODC and subsequently went to appeal. The first one covering the Car Boot Field has only just ended (last Friday) with the Travellers' Site being scheduled for August. Additional complications are that a second application on the same site has been entered. (more later).

The question of the over development work being done for the menage and stable block on the field adjacent to the Toll House is being investigated by SODC The Parish Council will continue to monitor these irregular workings.

The Parish Council are also currently pushing SODC Enforcement Officers to insist on receiving drawings for a retrospective planning application for a major Out Building in the rear garden of 31 Marsh End. This is also coupled with the unauthorised removal of the Hedgerow bordering the Common.

As you can see, the re-development of PATCH is now well underway with new equipment financed by numerous grants: Cozens Bequest £3,500, Tesco £1,000, SODC Councillor's Grant £3,900, SODC Capital Grant £9,955, Big Lottery £10,000, Doris Field Trust £500 and ASDA £1,000. I also understand further funds have been received giving us the opportunity to continue building a fantastic play area. Many thanks to all who have worked so hard.

Additional equipment will be installed on the Green for adult fitness and enjoyment use.

Following the advice of our District Councillor and others, the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan is well underway under the leadership of John Gilbert. This Plan, once accepted by SODC will provide assurance to the village as to where and how large housing developments within the Parish maybe built.

The Precept for the period 2017/2018 was £19,471. This constituted a small increase as it was necessary to raise the precept to enable the Council to ensure that the level of necessary expenditure was there to maintain the Village and its environs to a high standard.

I would urge you all to support the HBAG, (Haseley Brook Action group). The group started out opposing the Harrington Site and later joined forces with the Chalgrove Airfield opposition group when it was chosen as a potential strategic site. With the revised emerging local plan the Chalgrove Airfield site may be deemed unsuitable and therefore the Harrington site could be back on the table. Go to savehaselybrook.com for further information or email them directly haseleybrookactiongroup@gmail.com.

Over the recent past, the amount of administrative paperwork has risen at least tenfold and it appears to increase on a daily basis which makes it increasingly difficult to fit it all in to one's normal life. I do thank the other members of the Council, (and several outside the Council) who are increasingly taking up individual items of business to help spread the load.

Our main priority now is to rally support against the travellers site and urge all of you to contribute help and your time.

3.Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25th April 2017 to be signed as a correct record.

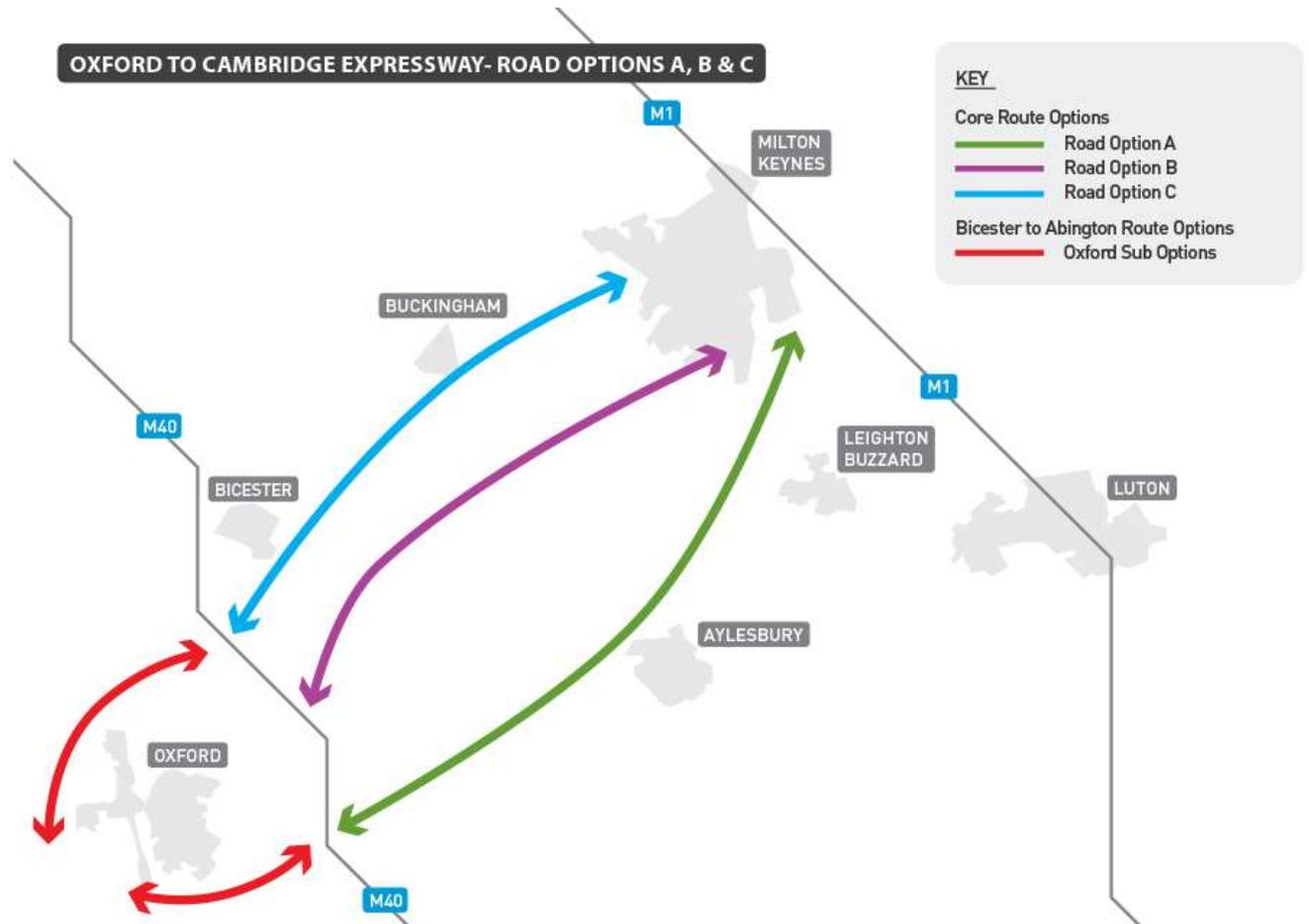
Resolved: To accept the minutes as a true record and sign – Unanimous.

4.Reports from other Councils.

County Councillor - Jeannette Matelot.

Please take the time to read the information that comes with the council tax in April as it gives all sorts of important information.

OCC are a major consultant with the Highways Agency regarding the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. There are three corridor options.



Corridor A concerns us the most in this ward as the route comes from Abingdon across to Thame including a route just outside the village environs of Tetsworth and just south of Thame before going onto Aylesbury. The decision on which corridor will be chosen will be made in July. The Highways Agency are using modelling equipment to decide the corridor. Economic, Financial, House prices, Engineering are all aspects that are included in the modelling.

Once the corridor has been chosen the HA will work on the route through that corridor. JM will work on promoting a route as far north as possible. The route options go out to consultation in Autumn 2019. The actual proposed route will be announced in Autumn 2020.

The two County Councillors Jeannette Matelot and Nick Carter have joined the EAG – Expressway Action Group. The EAG consists of 30+ parish councils in Oxfordshire running a campaign against the Expressway. They want the route chosen to be the least environmentally damaging possible.

THE EAG currently has a poster campaign which Tetsworth should join. The Manor Farm entrance will be where the Expressway goes for to of the routes for Corridor A.

Karen Harris thanked Jeannette Matelot for her support as County Councillor.

District Councillor Caroline Newton

The District Councils main tasks that affect citizens is planning, housing and waste collection.

The aim of the Local Plan is to give a vision of how the district should look over the next 15 years. The plan has hit various delays and in its present draft is undeliverable because of concerns over the Chalgrove Airfield site. Namely the lack of finance for infrastructure and Martin Baker who are sitting tenants on the land until 2060. The councillors considered whether to go ahead but they were not confident that the plan would be accepted. They are considering how to progress and have three options. Submit the plan as it is, remove Chalgrove and replace it with another site or keep Chalgrove and look for reserve sites. These would be Harrington, Wick Farm, Grenoble Road and others may also emerge. The cabinet & council will consider these options. With no Local Plan in place it is more difficult to stop developers gaining planning permission for unsuitable sites. The National Planning Framework will be changing shortly so the council are working rapidly to get the Local Plan in place.

The good news is that the five year land supply has been recalculated and the district has 5.4% - 775 houses per year. They have enough sites going forward to meet that need.

From July only a three year plan will be required.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Tetsworth School – Adrian Cannon Chair of Governors.

There are an increasing number of young families in the village, in part attracted by the educational performance of the school. The OFSTED rating of the school has consistently improved in recent years under the careful management of Alison Charlton and may in the future be rated outstanding. Academic standards are rising and the ethos of a community based education is a key part of the village school resulting in well-rounded and confident children.

The school is on a constrained site. The proposed 60 + new homes on the Car boot field will produce too many children. The school is fiercely defensive in terms of the effect that planning applications will have.

The Mounthill development has given us land and funds of £230,000 to build a two - class unit for a nursery class and an early years foundation class. The two class unit recently built at John Hampden School in Thame cost in the region of £900,000.00 . Tetsworth School therefore does not have sufficient funds. However, the county council has given permission for the school to manage the build themselves. This will create a lot of hard work for the management team of the school. The governors intend to call on the pool of talent amongst the parents and villagers to complete the build. The village as a whole will benefit from this as it means that the money for the work will be paid within the community.

Neighbourhood Plan – John Gilbert

The Steering group consists of 10 volunteers. The village has not heard much about the NP since the questionnaire was sent out last summer. The Steering group has discussed the recent planning appeal hearing and are uncertain of the robustness of the Neighbourhood Plan. The NP once in place will be valid and guide development for the next 15 years. The first full plan will be drafted by Autumn 2018.

Planning – Aidan Lynch

New Traveller Site Planning Application.

The first appeal should have been heard in November. On the eve of the appeal hearing we were told that the appellant had a new witness who was known to the planning inspector. The inspector postponed the appeal

and it is now set for August. The reason for the postponement was because we put up a good fight and they knew they would lose.

The new application has a different access point which apparently has been approved by the County Council. SODC has not yet made a statement. Other issues are noise, access, drainage – they intend to put a septic tank on the wettest part of the site.

The intention is that nothing of this new application should be allowed in the appeal. There must again be a strong community response.

M40 CEG – Ken Edwards

Two years ago the Highways Agency resurfaced the motorway with “quiet” materials. The new surface gives no visual intrusion but for the majority of households living near the motorway they have not noticed much difference in the volume of noise. There is no benefit for those living over 20 metres from the motorway. It is certainly quieter for the motorists.

4m Barriers are now being installed on certain sections, the issue is visual intrusion for the homeowners, although the majority are still in favour. The Highways Agency has 1100 sites listed for action which currently does not include Tetsworth.

However, if the Expressway links with the M40 close to Tetsworth then most definitely some action would need to be taken and there would be serious concerns about the effect of the Expressway on the M40 itself.

Tetsworth Fete Committee – Sarah Griffey.

The Fete is on the 30th June 2018. Volunteers are needed. The purpose is to raise money for four causes in the village – the church, the school, the memorial hall and the sports and social club. The intention is to raise £2000.00

Community Led Plan. – John Gilbert

We are one third of the way through the plan. Each year the action plan is reviewed. There are still 45 actions needed to make Tetsworth a better place. Please take a look at the Action plan and if you think you can help, please get involved.

The Memorial Hall – Caroline Cann

There is now a mobile post office available in the car park every Wednesday 9am-10am. “Use it or lose it.”

There are now Tai Chi classes in the hall funded by the SODC Go Active campaign.

The hall is a beneficiary of the SODC weekly charity lottery and they receive 50% of the ticket value of every one purchased in their name.

A new Bookings Clerk is required if interested please get in touch.

The Memorial Hall is registered as a charity but needs to change its status to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. In order to do this they need to write a new constitution which they are in the process of doing. As a CIO it limits the personal liability of anyone on the committee.

TSSC – Claire Alan

The AGM will be held on the 23rd April everyone is welcome to attend. They are also holding a Royal Wedding Party on the 19th May commencing at 11:30am.

Friends of Tetsworth Community. – Hazel Bottone.

www.tetsworthparishcouncil.co.uk

The first part of the new play equipment is being installed and they hope that all the equipment will be installed by the summer. They are selling fence panels at £30.00 each and you can have your name branded on the panel.

Reports from local organisations will be on the TPC website.

Open Forum & Questions.

There were none.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.43pm