

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
Tetsworth Parish Council  
Held in the Memorial Hall  
at 7.30pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

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**Present:** Cllr. Karen Harris (KH) – Chair  
Cllr. Hazel Bottone (HB)  
Cllr. Alan Martin (AM)  
Cllr. Ted Peycke (TP)  
Cllr. Marjorie Sanders (MS)

**Minutes Clerk:** John Gilbert (JG)

**In Attendance:** Cllr David Wilmshurst (DW) (OCC)  
Cllr. Stephen Harrod (SH) (SODC)

**Members of the Public:** There were 89

201/15 Apologies for Absence  
Cllr Paul Carr (PC)

202/15 To receive Declarations of Interest  
*To receive any declarations of interest from Councillors relating to items to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Councils Local Code of Conduct.*  
KH, as a potentially affected neighbour, signed a Declaration of Interest in consideration of a planning applications relating to Mount Hill Farm.

203/15 Minutes of the Council Annual Meeting held on Monday 23rd November 2015 to be signed as a correct record  
**Resolved:** That these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman – UNANIMOUS.

204/15 Matters arising from the Minutes (not on the agenda)  
There were none.

205/15 Public Questions  
Mr J Emmett had requested to address the Council when it considered the Appeal against Rejection of the Mount Hill Farm Planning Application for 39 dwellings and associated works. He spoke during the Council's consideration of this issue under Planning Correspondence/Information.

206/15 County Councillor's Report  
DW summarised his written report which concentrated on the following issues:

- OCC's funding from Central Government would reduce by 24% in real terms over the next 4 years.
- OCC's adult and children's social support needs and costs were rising against diminishing resources.
- OCC had agreed to withdraw subsidies from all bus services, although support could be restored to some if next spring's Local Government Spending settlement is more generous than predicted.

207/15 District Councillor's Report  
SH had, as usual, circulated his written Monthly Report but chose not to highlight any particular items. Instead, he contributed to the discussion and noted the Council and residents' views on the Planning Application for development of a Travellers' Site on land adjacent to the A40 between Tetsworth and Milton Common.

On the broader topic of Planning issues affecting Tetsworth, the Council expressed its disappointment in SODC's specialist staff paying little attention to Parish views in deciding a number of recent development proposals. SH agreed to address this concern with appropriate Councillors and officers at SODC.

208/15

Update of the Actions List

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Action Required</b>	<b>Resp.</b>	<b>Progress</b>
011/15	Contact solicitor to verify map supplied for Turning Circle	KH	Awaiting access to Vesting Deed
026/15	Arrange preparation of priced transfer documentation for land at Knapp Cottage	AM	Awaiting Access to Vesting Deed
032/15	With support of Christine Tolson, develop plan for registration of all common and parish land with the Land Registry	KH	Plans/maps of registered and unregistered parish land obtained but Deeds still to be located
039/15	Arrange return of Parish land documentation from Mr Honiball	PC	Return agreed but delivery awaited
040/15	Publish Parish Tree Report on Tetsworth Parish Council (TPC) Website	AM/KH	Needs separation of TPC and other public bodies' responsibilities for trees with Tree Preservation Orders (TPO)
041/15	Issue Allotment Tenancy Agreement to new tenant	KH	Awaiting signature by tenant
042/15	Clarify need for solicitor support to Knapp Cottage land transfer	AM	Awaiting access to Vesting Deed
048/15	Negotiate Tenancy Agreement with Tetsworth Outdoor Learning Centre (TOLC)	MS	COMPLETE
060/15	Consider possible purchase of Council computer equipment at TPC Feb 2016 meeting	JG	Noted
074/15	Arrange local 'Have Your Say' meeting with PCSO Jacky Madden	KH	Being considered by TVP, proposal awaited
077/15	Implement Quickbooks On-line subscription	KH	COMPLETE
079/15	Engage Dave Pullen to undertake PATCH repairs	KH	In hand
080/15	Encourage volunteer effort to help PATCH maintenance	HB	Awaiting better weather in spring
082/15	Report implications of revised SODC Planners' List of Information Requirements	MS	No significant changes - COMPLETE
084/15	Hasten tender response from third potential bidder for 2016 grass cutting contract	AM	All tenders now received - COMPLETE
085/15	Consult SODC NP staff on effort needed to convert Tetsworth CLP data to NP	JG	Meeting planned for 5 Jan 2016
087/15	Arrange Community Speedwatch training session	PC	Rescheduling planned for first half Jan 2016
088/15	Plan Community Speedwatch monitoring sessions	PC	Will be planned after training session

209/15

To Receive the Monthly Financial Report

The report of income and expenditure was accepted without comment.

210/15

Review of Financial Issues

**FY2016/17 Budget Planning**

KH had circulated draft Budget proposals to Councillors based on discussions at the 23 November meeting. The only amendment suggested was to increase the provision for professional and legal Fees to £2,000. Plans to approve the Budget were postponed to the Council's next meeting on 11 January 2016 when the Parish Precept would also be agreed.

**S137 Grant to South & Vale Carers' Centre**

As the South & Vale carers' Centre was a drop-in facility in Didcot, its services were unlikely to benefit Tetsworth residents. On this basis, the Council declined to provide financial support.

211/15

To approve Expenditure and sign the following cheques:

SKP Solutions (RFO & QB Online)	£114.00
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**Resolved:** To accept the above expenditure and to pay by Bankers' Automated Clearance Service (BACS)/Cheque as required – UNANIMOUS.

Reimbursement to KH of £16.80 Land Registry fees would be presented for approval at the Council's 11 January 2016 meeting.

212/15

PATCH/ Skate-park.

**PATCH**

Pippa Ashton reported that the residents' group supporting the refurbishment of PATCH with more modern equipment had held several meetings, consulted parents and children on what equipment was favoured, and received a quotation of approximately £76,000 for equipping adjacent areas for younger and older children. JG advised that up to half of the capital expenditure might be available as a SODC grant (Great Milton had recently received almost £50,000 for upgrading its village play area).

Pippa Ashton also announced that she would be unable to lead a PATCH refurbishment project into its planning implementation phases, but would be seeking a successor through Facebook communication.

**Skate-Ramp Reinstatement**

Hazel Mann briefed the Council that her 'Just Giving' initiative had raised approximately £1,300. Together with the insurance payment and donations to the Council, approximately £4,000 was already available for a replacement or repaired skate-ramp. Pledges of financial support from Victoria Gardens residents and allocation of a proportion of the Council's earmarked Youth Project funds could boost this sum further.

Hazel Mann, Pippa Ashton and Barry Gibbon agreed to form the core of a Skate-ramp project team, and HB agreed to act as the link with the Council. An initial meeting of the group was planned for 5 January 2016.

213/15

Planning

**Planning Applications:**

P15/S3587/AG Lower Lobbersdown Farm, Tetsworth OX9 7BB  
Erection of a barn to store hay, APPROVED - UNANIMOUS.

P15/S3936/FUL Land adjacent to London Road, Tetsworth OX9 7BB (Grid Ref 467451/202671)  
Change of use from agricultural land to provide a Travellers' Site with provision for 12 individual plots with individual parking, individual amenity, shared paddock/amenity space and bin storage areas.

MS briefed the Council on an extensive range of issues on which the Planning Application was inadequate in detail, failed to satisfy SODC and higher level Planning Policies, and on the failure of

previous applications for development on or adjacent to the proposed site. The Council noted and agreed with her views and REJECTED the proposal - UNANIMOUS.

This Planning Application had galvanized local opinion against the proposal and the Chairman opened discussion to the 89 members of the public present. Not one was in favour of the proposal. Views from the floor included:

- Engaging professional planning expertise in presenting the case for REJECTION.
- Consulting with neighbouring Parishes which would be affected by the development.
- Coordinating Tetsworth's case for REJECTION through formation of a Residents' Committee.
- Encouraging individual residents to submit their views to SODC in their own words during the consultation window via its website or by letter or email.
- Emphasising that objections to the proposal must be made solely on Planning grounds, and not on personal dislike.

The Council agreed to sponsor and publicise an Open Meeting to flesh out and agree the village strategy and plans for resisting the Travellers' Site proposal. This meeting was planned to be held at 7.30pm on Monday 4 January 2016 in the Tetsworth Memorial Hall. The outcome of the meeting would inform the Council's own strategy which would be discussed further at its next meeting scheduled for 11 January 2016.

The consultation window currently closes on 21 January 2016. MS agreed to seek an extension of 1 month on the grounds that the current window includes the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

**Planning Decisions:**

P15/3391/O Mount Hill Farm, 19 High Street, Tetsworth OX9 7AD

Erection of 2 detached 2-storey dwellings with access, parking and amenity space - GRANTED.

P15/S3101/FUL Manor Farm, Tetsworth OX9 7AY

Construct 6m high landscaped bund either side of M40 on Manor Farm fields – WITHDRAWN

**Planning Correspondence/Information:**

The Council had received notification that the decision to REJECT the Mount Hill Farm planning application for erection of 39 dwellings and associated works (P14/S3524/O) had been APPEALED by the applicant and that the appeal would be heard at a Public Inquiry.

On behalf of the applicant, Mr J Emmett thanked the Council for its earlier support of the application and indicated that he would welcome Council representation at the forthcoming Public Inquiry. He advised that the Appeal was likely to be heard between 18 April 2016 and 2 May 2016.

The Council reaffirmed its support of the development proposal and agreed to submit its views ahead of the hearing - UNANIMOUS.

214/15

Village Environment

AM confirmed that he had received tender responses for the 2016 grass-cutting contract from all 3 bidders. The Council agreed to select the winning contractor at its next meeting on 11 January 2016.

215/15

Oxfordshire Together – Delegation of Local Services from OCC

The Council agreed that it would not participate in the first round of OCC's Oxfordshire Together 'delegation of services' initiative. However, it would reconsider its decision during FY2016/17 in the light of OCC performance in its delivery of a 'statutory minimum' level of services.

216/15

Correspondence

OALC Nov 2015 Newsletter – ORCC Rural Transport Network

The letter invited Council representation on a transport lobby network in the light of the withdrawal of rural bus service subsidies. The Council decided not to join the network.

### Oxon Playing Fields Association (OPFA) – Subscription Arrangements

The Council noted that OPFA had advised that annual subscriptions would run from 1 April rather than a rolling 12 month membership from the actual date of payment.

### NALC Collective External Auditor Appointment Arrangements

The Council agreed that it did not wish to opt out of the collective arrangements which would apply from FY2017/18.

217/15

#### Other Matters for Discussion

HB briefed the Council that arrangements were in hand for the Couzens Bequest to fund the purchase and associated support of a defibrillator for Tetsworth. It was expected that the equipment would be mounted in a cabinet on an outside wall of Tetsworth Memorial Hall. She also advised that support would include the creation of a local Volunteer Emergency Team (VET).

218/15

#### Date of Next Meeting

11 January 2016

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.32pm**

### Actions List

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087/15	Arrange Community Speedwatch training session	PC	Rescheduling planned for first half Jan 2016

088/15	Plan Community Speedwatch monitoring sessions	PC	Will be planned after training session
089/15	Revise FY2016/17 Budget proposals for TPC Jan 2016 meeting	KH	
090/15	Attend Open Meeting on Travellers' Site Planning Application on 4 Jan 2016	All	
091/15	Apply for Travellers' Site consultation period extension	MS	
092/15	Advise the Planning Inspectorate of continuing TPC support for Mounts Hill Farm development proposal	MS	
093/15	Select 2016/17 grass-cutting contractor at TPC Jan 2016 meeting	AM/All	