

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Tetsworth Parish Council
Held in the Memorial Hall
at 7.30pm on Monday 14th April 2014**

Present: Cllr. Karen Harris (KH) – Chair
Cllr. Alan Martin (AM)
Cllr. Hazel Bottone (HB)
Cllr. Marjorie Sanders (MS)
Cllr. Paul Margan (PM)
Cllr. David Nixey (DN)

In attendance Cllr. David Wilmshurst

Officer: Sarah Pullen

Members of the Public: There were 5.

- 059/14 Apologies for Absence
Cllr. Dorothy Brown, PCSO Michelle Jacques.
- 060/14 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.
There were none.
- 061/14 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 10th March 2014 to be signed as a correct record.
Resolved: That these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman – UNANIMOUS.
- 062/14 Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 17th March 2014 to be signed as a correct record
Resolved: That these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman - UNANIMOUS
- 063/14 Matters arising from the minutes
MS is monitoring the repair of the pot hole on Parkers Hill via Fix My Street.
- 064/14 Update of the Actions List
See revised list attached.
- Skatepark – KH reported that although the surface has been repaired she is meeting Dave Pullen tomorrow morning to discuss further works required.
It was noted that Skateboarders are skating through the Memorial Hall grounds and are chipping the stones.
- Golf Club Planning Committee – MS read out statement attached.
- Newts – KH reported that she has spoken to Natural England to ask advice about new protection. The licence is due for renewal in July 2017 for this area.
- 065/14 District Councillors Report
There was no report
- 066/14 County Councillors Report
A full report will be submitted for the Annual Parish Meeting. However, there are two issues which we asked DW to investigate as follows:
1. DW reported that he is following up on the requirement for signage in the village to prevent people

diverted from the M40 following their SatNavs up The Mount. Dave Clack has now left the position at OCC and Keith Stenning is back. DW will progress.

2. Pavement at Moreton. Following an enquiry about why this pavement has recently been resurfaced at considerable expense, DW reported that it is often used by pedestrians working locally, especially early mornings.

067/14

To receive the Monthly Financial Report

Earmarked funds need to be reallocated back to Recreation.

The first precept payment has been received.

Allotment rent has been received by Judy Thornton. Clerk to send invoice to Mr Alan.

A consultation on a draft transparency code for Parish Councils with a turnover not exceeding £25,000, has been received. This would mean that Parish Councils not exceeding £25,000 would be exempt from routine external audit. They will be subject to the new transparency requirements laid out in the draft code. **Noted.**

068/14

To approve Expenditure and sign the following cheques:

Sarah Pullen (Clerk) March Wages	£316.67
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Devey Tree Care	£240.00
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Dave Pullen (skatepark repairs)	£227.77
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Resolved: To accept the above expenditure and to pay by BACS – UNANIMOUS

069/14

To appoint Internal Auditor

Resolved: To appoint Roger Symes as the Internal Auditor.

070/14

PATCH/Skatepark

HB reported that the skatepark is being well used now the better weather is here. There have been some complaints that the skatepark is in need of painting. Will ask if anyone is willing to join a work party to do this at the Annual Parish Meeting. The standing board from the grass keeps being put on the ramp, so it may be best to remove it.

The Bark is very compact at the PATCH and will require raking.

071/14

Memorial Hall

Small painting works are continuing. Quotes for the kitchen are being obtained.

Wifi has now been installed. Antique Fairs are continuing.

072/14

Planning Applications

Planning Applications:

P14/S0777/SCR – Environmental Impact Assessment

Mount Hill Farm, High Street, Tetsworth.

Noted.

Planning Decisions:

There were none.

Planning Correspondence/Information:

Ditch adjacent to the Swan

It was noted that if Rectory Homes discharge into the Ditch, but ownership is ours, then this is trespassing. Rectory Homes are planning to take a survey to then dredge the ditch at the end of April. However, no permission has been sought from TPC. They would like to dredge 40m of ditch. Also, a new fence has been erected, but has been fitted around the branches of a tree.

Resolved: To speak with solicitor to bring this to a speedy conclusion.

073/14

Village Environment

Grass Cutting

Caroline Cann has contacted the Clerk to confirm that we would like to continue with the grass cutting contract for Tetsworth.

Resolved: That Caroline continues with this. However, the Councillors would like a quotation for works this financial year.

Common Land behind 4 Back Street

It was noted the owner of a property on the High Street, has opened a gateway into the Common Land from his back garden fence. Planning was not required. A local person complained verbally to a Councillor. The owner of the house has done the same as his neighbour and plans to use the new access for storing his boat and trailer. It was felt that this did not pose an obstruction.

Resolved: To add this to the list of Common Land to be investigate and registered by Solicitor.

074/14

Knap Cottage

Our Solicitor has applied to Mr Honniball Solicitor for the deed to this land. The Clerk reported that she has contacted Mr and Mrs Armstrong and requested rents for the two previous years as advised by the solicitor. Mr Armstrong is unsure as to why this is due. However, the Clerk has let Mr and Mrs Armstrong know that the solicitor is dealing with this matter and he is happy with this.

075/14

Community Led Plan

KH reported that she met with John Gilbert and has now submitted the grant application. An offer has been received for £850. Photographic evidence is required that the committee attended two local village events. The Clerk should write to note conditions and KH to confirm.

Some questionnaire responses have been received from local organisations. The Parish Council need to confirm what to ask on the questionnaire. In particular planning is an important issue. The document will be sent out this week for final comment.

It was noted that due to health reasons Cllr. Marjorie Sanders is no longer on this committee.

076/14

Correspondence

An email has been received from a man who is considering the possibility of buying ten acres of pasture at The Glebe (adjacent to the A40). He would like to use as a small plant nursery and asked about the possibility of using it for allotments. Also, to erect a few poly tunnels, potting shed and staff toilet. The site would eventually provide employment for a number of people, men and women.

Resolved: That in principal the Councillors find no objection to him applying to do this providing all the correct procedures are adhered to.

Letter received from Mr Stevens with regards to parking on the High Street at School drop off/collection times. Mr Stevens is unhappy that since the white lines have been removed no restrictions can be enforced. He has contacted OCC who have confirmed that unless TPC instruct them to do so, the white lines cannot be reinstated.

KH reported that she has contacted the school who have also received a letter from Mr Stevens. KH has also contacted Mr Stevens and the PCSO to address this.

Resolved: To look into parking at the end of Cygnet Close. The Clerk also to contact OCC for another traffic survey to see if the removal of the white lines has reduced speeding through the village.

077/14

Other Matters for Discussion

There were none.

078/14

Date of Next Meeting

12th May – AGM – **NB Change of Venue to The Swan.**

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.02pm

**REFERENCE: RETROSPECTIVE PLANNING APPLICATION P13/S1331/RET
RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR RETENTION OF SIX SECURITY LIGHT
STANDARDS AT OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CLUB.**

I am Marjorie Sanders and represent Tetsworth Parish Council

The local community is not asking for the lighting to be removed, just that the lights are lowered and fitted with down lighters that provide targeted illumination in the car park this type of lighting would be less intrusive, less intense and more sympathetic to neighbours and the surrounding very rural area. This has been achieved at the nearby Oxford Belfry Hotel.

Tetsworth actively supports a dark sky policy, and for this reason does not seek to install street lighting in the village.

Before deciding to recommend approval, it is hoped that the planning officer and the committee visited the surrounding areas after dark to see for themselves the intensity of the lights and the nuisance value they are inflicting on local residents,

The Parish Council disagrees with Mr Wyatt in his interpretation of NPPG. The current car park lighting materially alters light levels outside the development. These are adversely affecting the use and enjoyment of nearby buildings and Tetsworth village. Local residents are experiencing the effects of these lights now, not in the future when the trees may have grown to provide a screen

In addition, the lights are clearly visible from the motorway and could be a welcome homing beacon to felons drawn to investigate the facilities the lights are designed to protect.

For the comfort and future enjoyment of those directly affected by the lights Tetsworth PC asks the committee if approval is given, that the lighting be changed to lower level poles fitted only with down-lighters.