

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
Tetsworth Parish Council  
Held in the Memorial Hall  
at 7.30pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

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**Present:** Cllr. Karen Harris (KH) - Chair  
Cllr. Alan Martin (AM) – Vice Chair  
Cllr. Hazel Bottone (HB)  
Cllr. Adrian Cannon (AC)  
Cllr. Paul Margan (PM)  
Cllr. Marjorie Sanders (MS)

**In attendance:** Cllr. Dorothy Brown

**Officer:** Sarah Pullen

**Members of the Public:** There were 3

020/12 Apologies for Absence  
There were none.

021/12 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.*  
Alan Martin declared a prejudicial interest in the Memorial Hall item as he is on this committee and signed the declaration of interest book and left the room for this item.

022/12 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2011 to be signed as a correct record.  
**Resolved:** That these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

023/12 Matters arising from the minutes  
**Grant Allocations** - It was decided to defer the grants allocations until next month.

**Jubilee Meeting** – There have been lots of ideas put forward and Caroline Cann is organising a meeting for this. A page has also been added to the Parish Council website for information about events.

**Refuse Bins** – The refuse bins are still in Marsh End. The clerk reported that this has been reported to SODC.

024/12 District Councillors Report.  
A booklet has been distributed called ‘A year in the life of South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse’, this has been sponsored by Biffa and gives a good overall picture of the Waste Services and other aspects of the Councils work.

**Grants** – This is the time of year when Community Projects can apply for grants up to £15,000. Applications should go to Jayne Bolton at South and Vale.

**Council Tax** – SODC intend to reduce Council Tax by 2.5%. This money is a grant from the government and the Council has decided to give the residents reduced payments of Council Tax.

**Community Safety** – DB reported that she is attending workshops on the future Police and Crime as part of her portfolio.

**Dial a Ride** – Will be 5 days per week from 9am to 5pm. Details will be published on the OCC website.

025/12 To approve Expenditure and sign the following cheques:

S. Pullen – Salary (Sept – Jan)	£1062.28
Swan Gardens (June, July)	£359.00
Swan Gardens (Aug, Sept, Oct)	£538.50
Swan Gardens (Cobbles)	£450.00
Vision ICT Website Hosting	£150.00
OPFA Membership	£35.00
Dave Pullen Handyman	£234.22

026/12 To receive the Monthly Financial Report

**Balances:**

Current Account: £21653.39

**Resolved:** To accept the monthly report.

**Clerks Contract of Employment**

**Resolved:** To accept the latest version of the Contract of Employment distributed at the last meeting.

**Review of insurance for TSSC and TPC**

The Parish Council have currently got a three year discounted agreement with the insurance company which expires on 31/5/13.

The TSSC have requested that we look at different quotes for their insurance.

**Resolved:** To contact the TSSC and advise them that they should obtain quotes for us to approve at Council.

AM to complete proposal for J Bennett insurance brokers for TSSC building insurance for the TSSC's records and ours.

027/12 Memorial Hall

A request has been received from the Memorial Hall committee for the Parish Council to apply for a Public Works loan. Works have to be carried out before funding is lost for the project. A decision will need to be made by July and the village will need to be consulted. If in the event that the Memorial Hall are unable to pay the Parish Council back then the precept would need to be raised to cover it. At this stage, the Memorial Hall committee estimate that they are in a position to pay up to £2,000 per annum. The OALC provide help and support for applications such as these.

**Resolved:** That in principal we will support the Memorial Hall with this consultation. Caroline Cann (Memorial Hall Committee, Chair) will write a letter for the Newsletter outlining the proposal. The TPC will consult the village with the help of the Memorial Hall committee.

028/12 Youth Development on the Green

KH is speaking with Darren Lamb about organising a working party of children to clear out the ditch. Local children are also keen to put some artwork on the skatepark. It was suggested that this could be done for the Jubilee and there are some projects available to advise on this.

029/12 **Planning**

**Planning Decisions:**

P11/E1815 – Land adjacent to 28 Back Street, Tetsworth. **GRANTED**  
Erection of two bed house with parking, access and conservatory.

P11/E1899 – 94 High Street, Tetsworth. **GRANTED**  
Demolish existing single garage and replace with a double garage.

P11/E1938 – Oxfordshire Golf Club House **GRANTED**  
Alteration to west elevation to provide entrance doors and display window.

**Planning Applications:**

P11/E2086 – Cattle Market Site, North Street, Thame  
Demolition of existing buildings and construction of new supermarket access, car park and landscape works.

**Decision:** Refused, **Vote:** 5 against, 1 in favour.

Only this week, Justin King, Sainsbury's CEO is calling for High Street shops to close to make way for housing. While there are good reasons for moving the cattle market further from the town centre, experience elsewhere (Ashford, Kent) in the late 1990s demonstrates that redevelopment of this type of site for yet more retail almost

inevitably causes the town centre to lose its heart.

In considering the re-development of the Thame market site for a new Sainsbury's store, Tetsworth Parish Council voted 5 to 1 against the development. After discussion it was agreed that there is not a need for a larger supermarket in the town. A reduction in town centre foot fall would cause an adverse affect on the long term viability of existing Thame shops. Any claims of potential for job creation would need to be balanced against the loss of jobs and services in existing shops.

The possibility of having a Sainsbury's store on the market site would take the focus away from the aspirations stated in the Thame Town Plan 07/08/2011

The comprehensive analysis carried out in the *Thame distinctiveness report (Miller 2010)* does not identify any need for supermarkets. The action plan delivery page101 highlights the importance of stemming the tide of retail leakage and to provide the critical mass of retail business performance in providing a critical mass in order to retain the distinctiveness of the market town.

The South Oxfordshire local plan (2011) also supports retaining the vitality of Thame town centre, but with no mention of a supermarket development on the market site.

**Planning Correspondence:**

SODC – Data Monitoring Manager

Naming and numbering of Rosemary Cottage, 28a Back Street, Tetsworth – **Noted.**

030/12

Village Environment

A new TPO has been received for various trees located in the gardens of 94 and Falklands, High Street, Tetsworth. – **Noted.**

**Village Working Party**

There was a discussion about reforming a working party to regularly tidy up areas around Tetsworth.

The Church are having their Churchyard Spring Clean on **Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup>**. It was decided to try and join this working party first and then schedule further dates for other areas around Tetsworth. There was recently a programme on the BBC about leaving areas for bees and wildlife. An area around the Jitty could be considered for this. It would also be good to involve the school in such projects.

The Clerk should also give information to MS and AM about the land behind the green and the community payback scheme. The Clerk is also chasing Keith Stenning at OCC about follow up from the recent village walkabout and should remind him that we would like scalplings for the turning circle.

031/12

Parish Plan

MS has sent a report to all Councillors with a suggested process for updating the Parish Plan. These ideas can also be fed into the Jubilee plans. One idea is to identify the local footpaths and possibly create a local walks leaflet, similar to one produced in Great Haseley. A suggestion has also been made for a community orchard with the possibility of using the land behind the green for this.

032/12

M40 Group

Dave Harris reported to the meeting that progress appears much more positive. The Highways Agency are going to review barriers at noise hotspots identified by DEFRA. This includes Tetsworth, despite having a low population density. Tentatively, there may be briefing meetings with Parish Councils and communities in the future when the position clarifies.

033/12

PATCH

HB reported that the PATCH is fine. Following KH's conversations with Dave Pullen it has been decided to remove the catch altogether from the gate. There is also some elder growing in the area.

However, the skatepark is very wet. We will need to check the surface when it has dried out.

**Resolved:** That AM will remove the catch and also the elder from the PATCH. PM will check the skatepark when it has dried.

034/12

To consider the following correspondence

60 OALC – Details of planning course

**Resolved:** That KH and MS will attend this course.

61 OCC – Equality Policy

62 SPARSE – Rural

63 SODC Planning – Unauthorised advertisements – The Old Red Lion

64 SODC – Parish Elections May 2011

65 Mid Examination Publication on Schedule of Main Modifications for South Oxfordshire

Submission Core Strategy.

66 Electoral Review of Oxfordshire – Final Recommendations

67 ORCC Trading Limited – Best Ever Oil Prices

**Resolved:** That PM continue looking into this for Tetsworth.

68 Review of District Councillor numbers – briefing session 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 12.

035/12

Any other business for discussion

**Noticeboard** – The noticeboard has a leak. Anthony Bottone has offered to look at this and repair.

036/12

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2012 – 7.30pm

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10pm**