

Minutes of the Meeting of Tetsworth Parish Council Held in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 11th June 2012

Present: Cllr. Karen Harris (KH) - Chair
Cllr. Hazel Bottone (HB)
Cllr. Jane Bowers (JB)
Cllr. Paul Margan (PM)
Cllr. Alan Martin (AM)
Cllr. Marjorie Sanders (MS)

In attendance: Cllr. Dorothy Brown

Officer: Sarah Pullen

Members of the Public: There were 3

- 090/12 Cllr. Karen Harris opened the meeting and announced the sad death of Mr Sam Redman. Condolences to the family.
- 091/12 Apologies for Absence
There were none.
- 092/12 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.
There were none.
- 093/12 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 14th May 2012 to be signed as a correct record.
Resolved: That these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.
- 094/12 Matters arising from the minutes
Grants – There was some uncertainty as to what the PCC grant would be used for.
Resolved: To make payments to the PCC and the Friends of St. Giles. The Clerk to send letters with the cheque stating what was requested in the applications received.
- 095/12 District Councillors Report
Planning – DB reported that if she wishes to refer a planning application to the planning committee for consideration, the constitution requires written notification to the planning manager within 28 days of registration of the application. The Planning Manager is Paula Fox – 01491 823741.
Grants – The grant applications for the councils Community Investment Fund, are to be decided starting with site visits on the 12th June. The actual meetings if you wish to speak, start on the 19th June. Contact: Jennifer Thompson 01491 823619.
Police – There is a new opportunity to be involved in new Police Accountability arrangements. This is for an independent member of the first Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for the Thames Valley Police Force. For application pack contact Clare Gray on 01296 383610.
The Parish Council also offered Dorothy their congratulations as she has been given the role of Vice Chairman of South Oxfordshire District Council. This was effective from 17th May 2012.
- 096/12 County Councillors Report
Councillor Caroline Newton sent the following report:
It's been a busy 6 weeks of meetings since my election on 19th April. On the upside, the coincidence with the session of parish AGMs has allowed me to meet a lot of you early on, and rapidly to get a clearer sense of the issues of concern to you. On the downside, no doubt it gave you the opportunity to see how much I have to learn... I will endeavour to do so quickly!
I have spoken with all Parish Councils and Parish Meetings about two discretionary funds which I can help you access.

Area Stewardship Fund: Thank you for your prompt – and thorough – thoughts on schemes in your parishes for which we can use this. This Division receives £20,000 this FY, and the full budget for this financial year is pretty much committed, but we may be able to squeeze some smaller pieces of work into this year's budget, and I am hopeful that we will be able to use under-spends from other divisions in the area (and if necessary from elsewhere). I have a list from you of worthy schemes, and I would like to sort out as many of them as possible this year.

Big Society Fund: This is a countywide fund into which communities can bid. It is designed with relatively straightforward criteria: a project has to be community-based; to answer a need that is not met in any other way; and to be sustainable (ie this is seed-funding for projects that will not seek further money next year). Extensions of existing services won't qualify. There is more information on the OCC website. By all means get in touch if you've got an idea you'd like to talk through.

Broadband: The poor broadband speeds in this area is a concern of many residents. OCC has match-funded some central government funding to improve broadband across the county, and will be working with BT to procure broadband coverage for 90% of the homes in Oxfordshire. Given the relative wealth and relatively sparse population in this area, it seems most of us in the Watlington Division are unlikely to see any improvement from that work. However, I am speaking to officers at OCC and to a community-owned company near Chipping Norton to see whether there may be an alternative solution, which would use a combination of DEFRA funding and private investment to pay for the installation of fibre. If we can get this to work, we could end up with super-fast broadband. I'll let you know how we get on.

Health and Wellbeing Board: The Health and Social Care Act aims to increase the integration of services and bodies addressing health and social care across the country. The main structural change is the requirement on local authorities (in the case of Oxfordshire, the County Council) to establish a Health and Wellbeing Board which brings together the Council, the NHS and the residents to identify the specific needs of the County in terms of health and well-being, and then to create a strategy to solve them. Members include local GPs, councillors, senior officers from local government and the Local Involvement Network. Oxfordshire has a strong track record of partnership, so is well advanced in creating a board, and setting sensible targets that will bring real improvement. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is due to be signed off in July, and the Health and Wellbeing Board will be constituted by April 2013. A consultation on the strategy has begun, and the people of Oxfordshire are being invited to have their say. The consultation period is open until 30 June 2012.

Resolved: To put a link to the OxOnline Broadband survey onto our website.

097/12

To receive the Monthly Financial Report

Balance at the end of May 2012 - £21,313.80

098/12

To approve Expenditure and sign the following cheques:

Helen Hobdell (out of pocket exp – Jubilee). £133.17

Petty Cash £ 50.00

Resolved: To accept the above expenditure

099/12

To adopt Standing Orders

The Clerk confirmed that all changes have been made as discussed at the last meeting.

Resolved: To accept the Standing Orders.

100/12

To adopt the revised Code of Conduct

Resolved: To accept the Revised Code of Conduct and for the Clerk to return to SODC.

101/12

Memorial Hall

Caroline Cann gave an update to the Council with regards to the funding for the Memorial Hall extension. The Memorial Hall Committee have had to resubmit the planning application, due to minor amendments, which although accepted by Planning, the planning application needs to be brought in line with the grant applications.

Resolved: That the full planning application be accepted and returned to SODC as a matter of urgency – UNANIMOUS.

Consultation –Residents have been asked to complete a feedback form, to consult on the Public Works Loan. Members of public who attended the Parish Meeting were also consulted. All responses have been positive. The Public Works loan has also been advertised in the Newsletter and also on the website.

Resolved: It was agreed that we should proceed with the Public Works Loan.

AM Signed the Declarations of Interest Book as he is a member of the Memorial Hall Committee and he did not vote on this item.

- 102/12 **Planning**
Planning Applications:
P12/S0689/HH – Attington Leys, Thame Road, Tetsworth.
Single storey extension and conservatory to rear elevation.
APPROVED - Unanimous
- 103/12 Village Environment
Knapp Cottage – KH reported that we have received a letter from Mr and Mrs Armstrong and also an email from Roy McGilly with reference to land at Knapp Cottage. KH subsequently visited Mr and Mrs Armstrong and
 - clarified with them what they pay rent for;
 - has asked them to contact the Electricity Board to put into writing the safety of the trees.
 - AM to investigate if we receive a Wayleave for this telegraph pole.
Mr and Mrs Armstrong also requested that the Parish Council consider selling this piece of land.
Resolved: That we need to establish ownership of this land. The Clerk to write back to Mr and Mrs Armstrong and advise that we are investigating further and will come back to them as soon as possible.
- Road Markings** - Oxfordshire Highways have now marked the areas for resurfacing due next month. KH has contacted Keith Stenning from Highways to ensure that road markings are not reinstated following discussions with Highways last year. However, it was felt that double white lines would be reinstated.
- A40 Flooding** – There are still serious problems of flooding outside Attington Stud. KH has taken photographs and can send to Highways requesting that something is done urgently. The BT Manhole on the A40 also fills with water. AM will contact BT.
- Marsh End** – There is now a small ‘pond’ forming in Marsh End. Thames Water have been on site, but nothing appears to have been done. AM will contact Thames Water to follow up.
- Parking** – The owner of 36 Silver Street reported that he had a false alarm recently and his fire alarm sounded. However, due to inconsiderate parking the Fire Brigade were unable to get down the road. They had to turn around and go a different route. Had this been a real fire, it is possible that the thatched cottage would not have been saved.
Resolved: That we should contact PCSO Michelle Jacques and also to put a report in the Newsletter to highlight this problem. There are signs in Princes Risborough that have been erected by the Fire Brigade. MS will investigate further.
- 104/12 Common and Parish Land
There was a discussion about the land by the Church – The Turning Circle. It was stated that, many years ago, the Parish Council allocated a car parking space next to Roy McGillys house for use for churchgoers. However, this is now grass which is mowed by Roy. Also, all the cobbles were originally owned by the Church.
Resolved: To work towards a decision of what we should do with this area, before the budget meeting in November.
- 105/12 Parish Plan
MS reported that we should now start to think about the Neighbourhood Plan and have a launch. Some initial ideas that have been put forward include:
 - Photographs of the village – recent and historical.
 - Footpath book
 - Tapestry – Following the success of the ‘Jubilee Bunting’ project.
Our Parish Plan expires in 2014, so we need to think now how to launch the next plan and what we would like to achieve from it.
- 106/12 PATCH/Skatepark
HB reported that everything is fine at the moment and that rubbish has been removed. Need to check again when dry. The Clerk should also book the annual inspection.
- There is no development on murals for the side of the Skatepark.
- 107/12 To consider the following correspondence
80. Oxfordshire University Hospitals – Becoming a Foundation Trust - **Noted**
81. Sunnymeade Sheltered Housing – Consultation with residents.
Resolved: To speak with Dorothy to find out what plans have been submitted as we haven’t received at Council.
- Other correspondence noted from emails received:
OCC Bulletin
Broadband – OxOnline Survey
ORRC Policy
Bulk Oil Scheme

Review of Skateboard Workshop

108/12

Any other business for discussion

Skip for the Green – The TSSC would like to clear the ditches around the Green and have requested that the TPC pay half the cost of a skip.

Resolved: To add to next month's agenda for discussion. Clerk to write to the TSSC and invite them to the next meeting.

Community Planning Survey – AM will respond.

Red Kites – It was reported that people are feeding the Red Kites and in particular the Pub landlady. **Noted.**

Open Forum – There was a discussion about whether the Open Forum session after we close the meeting should be minuted? However, we can't minute discussions after a meeting closes, but we can add items to the next agenda for discussion during a meeting.

Conduct at meetings – There was a discussion on Councillors conduct at meetings with particular attention to interruptions.

Interest Rates – JB reported that she is looking into options for better interest rates. She will report back at the next meeting.

109/12

Date of Next Meeting

9th July

7.30pm – TPC, Village Green Management Committee and TSSC

8.00pm – Parish Council Meeting

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35pm