

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
Tetsworth Parish Council  
Held in the Memorial Hall  
at 7.30pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

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

**Officer:** Sarah Pullen

**Members of the Public:** There was 1

103/14 Apologies for Absence  
Cllr. Dorothy Brown

104/14 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.

105/14 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 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

106/14 Matters arising from the minutes  
There were none.

107/14 Update of the Actions List  
See revised list attached.

**Lights at the Thame Golf Club** - It was noted that since the committee hearing, where retrospective planning was turned down, nothing has changed.

**Resolved:** That MS should contact enforcement and copy Cllr. Dorothy Brown.

**Zion Farm Planning Application** – There has been no decision on this application, although the target decision date was the 8<sup>th</sup> April.

**Resolved:** That MS/Clerk investigate to see if decision has been reached.

**Red Lion signs on the Green** – It was reported that the signs have now been removed.

**Pothole in Parkers Hill** – This has now been fixed.

**Bins on The Green** – HB to ask Anthony Bottone if the TSSC are aware of why the bins haven't been emptied. It was noted that the Elm Close bin hasn't been emptied either.

108/14 District Councillors Report  
There was no report

109/14 County Councillors Report  
There was no report

- 110/14 To receive the Monthly Financial Report  
 The Clerk presented the accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> March as previously distributed to Councillors for review.  
**Resolved:** To approve the accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 - UNANIMOUS
- The Clerk reported that the accounts have been returned from the Internal Auditor. He has recommended that as there is no longer a requirement for Petty Cash to pay for heating costs, any balance should be paid back into the Treasurer's account.  
**Resolved:** To pay petty cash balance back into Treasurer's Account. - UNANIMOUS
- The CLP have requested additional expenditure to be approved for this project as previously agreed.  
**Resolved:** To approve a further £300 for the CLP.
- KH reported that the paint for the Skate Park will cost approximately £16 and requested approval to purchase in time for the work party day.  
**Resolved:** To approve expenditure for paint for skate ramp at approx.£16.00 - UNANIMOUS
- 111/14 To approve Expenditure for electronic payment in accordance with Financial Regulations:
- |                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Sarah Pullen Clerk    | £380.00 |
| RJS (IA) Ltd          | £165.00 |
| Watlington Parish     | £120.00 |
| J Bennett Insurance   | £914.16 |
| Councillor Training   | £113.00 |
| John Gilbert expenses | £130.99 |
- Resolved:** To accept the above expenditure and to pay by BACS – UNANIMOUS
- 112/14 PATCH/ Skatepark.  
 HB submitted report, which noted that the skate park side panels need replacing and the top panels replaced by Dave Pullen have split.  
 A report from Dave Pullen was also read, in which he offered various alternatives to resolve the panel issue; notably that there is a special type of birch ply available, which is most suitable for skate ramp surfaces. PM will liaise with Dave Pullen to investigate this  
 The work party on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June will paint and stencil the signage on the ramp. The PATCH needs raking and weeding by work party.  
 AM and HB investigated the problem of Bees at the Patch. Posters have been put up to warn the public and SODC have been informed. DN will investigate further.
- 113/14 Memorial Hall  
 AM reported that they have lost one of their regular hirers: Antique Sunday Fair.
- 114/14 Planning  
**Planning Applications:**  
 P14/S1419/HH – Little Acre, High Street, Tetsworth  
 Erection of sun room to the east elevation – Approved UNANIMOUS
- P14/S1318/FUL – Land adjacent to The Gate House, London Road, Tetsworth. Proposed stables with tack room/store and ménage – change of use of agricultural land to paddock land. – Approved UNANIMOUS
- 115/14 Village Environment  
**Update on ditch adjacent to Rectory Homes/The Green**  
 KH reported that a meeting had taken place on the Green with Dan Moore and one other from Rectory Homes. They were requesting permission to discharge waste/surface water into the ditch. TPC stated that until ownership of the ditch and the tree line was established and future proofing for maintenance of the trees was established, we could not give permission.

They have offered to do something immediately on TPOs but the future needs to be decided following meetings with solicitors. The Clerk and KH have met with Stefanie O'Brien solicitors; who confirmed that they would seek for costs to be met by Rectory.

It was reported that there is a tree adjacent to the PATCH which needs immediate maintenance on it as it is dangerous.

116/14 Land at Knapp Cottage/Turning Circle

Following the last meeting, PM queried the costs which may be incurred at Knapp Cottage and expressed concerns that what the Council are doing, in transferring ownership of the land, may be unlawful.

KH confirmed that the minutes of our meetings show that it was agreed at Council in the Dec, Jan and February meetings to resolve this matter, and the expenditure required for a solicitor was also approved.

Stefanie O'Brien solicitors have confirmed that although the land is unregistered, and even the Church remains unregistered, the Parish Council have prescriptive rights on the land.

There was a further discussion about what the options are regarding the Turning Circle. The solicitor has contacted the Church of England and is arranging a meeting. PM felt that it would be a benefit to put chippings down. However, MS felt that whilst the area is in a poor state, it prevents extra parking there. It was suggested that Mr McGilly, Biffa, Mr and Mrs Armstrong and the Church, may all be interested in resurfacing the Turning Circle.

Following a discussion, it was agreed that all the unregistered pieces of land should be addressed one at a time.

117/14 Community Led Plan

John Gilbert reported that 300 copies of the questionnaire have been distributed and he thanked the volunteers who distributed them. The electronic version of the questionnaire is also available, and links to both questionnaires have been added to the Parish Council website. Doorstep collections will commence on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June. There is a collection box in the foyer of the Memorial hall. The village fete is on the 28<sup>th</sup> June and there will be a presence there.

To advertise the plan, flyers have gone out, banners have been produced and White Lion have offered the use of one of their signs. Permission was sought from the Parish Council to erect a temporary sign on the Village Green.

**Resolved:** To allow a sign for the CLP on the Green for the duration of the survey. UNANIMOUS

JG thanked the Parish Council for their support and for the financial assistance. A statement of account will be produced. He also requested approx.. £10 to attend the CLP Conference in July run by ORCC.

**Resolved:** To approve expenditure for the CLP Conference. UNANIMOUS

It was noted that there was some confusion by the wording of one of the questions about the Churchyard. A local pensioner was concerned that the Churchyard would be closed. HB reported that she has explained that this isn't the case to the lady.

118/14 Correspondence

There was none.

119/14 Other Matters for Discussion

**Public Questions**

PM has requested that we amend future agendas to include Public Questions early on in the agenda instead of just a Public Forum at the end of the meeting. Currently, Public Forum is not minuted as it is after the close of the meeting. Any items raised during this time can be added to the following agenda. The Clerk explained that Public Questions would require prior notification by any member of the public wishing to speak, and that the Councils' Standing Orders should be amended accordingly. A discussion followed.

**Resolved:** That Public Questions are added to future agendas. However, any member of the public wishing to speak should notify the Clerk one week in advance for inclusion on the agenda. The minimum requirement of notice to speak would be 24 hours. To amend the Standing Orders accordingly. Approved – Vote: 4 in favour, 2 against.

**Weeds**

It was noted that there are areas which require weedkilling around the village. This wasn't done when the Big Clean visited the village. DN to contact SODC to see if we are permitted to carry this out.

**Copper Beech Tree**

It was noted that a rope swing was erected on the Copper Beech Tree adjacent to the War Memorial, although it was later removed. The Clerk to write to let them know that this tree has a TPO.

**Noticeboard**

The noticeboard is still with PM. Caroline Cann has two poles for it, and therefore it can be erected this weekend.

**Speeding**

The Clerk gave the last speeding survey figures to PM for review.

120/14

Date of Next Meeting

14<sup>th</sup> July – Tetsworth Memorial Hall.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.29pm**