

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 29th FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE PERKINS ROOM TAPLOW VILLAGE CENTRE HIGH STREET TAPLOW SL6 0EX

Present

Cllr. Roger Worthington

Cllr. Louise Symons

Cllr. Zoe Hatch

Cllr. Gerry O’Riordan

Cllr. Yannick Le Touze

Mrs. K H Holder – clerk

One member of the public being Mr. Nigel Smales.

PC/20/16 Apologies for absence

Cllr. George Sandy, Cllr. Toby Greeves, Cllr. Val Pridmore, Cllr. Jamie Barnard and Cllr. John Bamberg. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Cllr. O’Riordan proposed and Cllr. Hatch seconded the motion that Cllr. Worthington chair the meeting.

This was agreed.

PC/21/16 To approve the Council’s response to the Emerging Local Plan

Cllr. Worthington reported that he had circulated a draft response to the Emerging Local Plan. In summary he proposed that the Council should not oppose further evaluation of the opportunity sites identified in Mill Lane, Land south of Taplow Station and Bishops’ Gate Station Road. However significant concerns were expressed about the Marsh Lane site which had no history of industrial and commercial activity. Concern was also expressed that the methodology used in ‘scoring’ parcels of land for Green Belt purposes was not published and it was suspected criteria may have been wrongly applied. **It was agreed** that Cllr. Worthington’s comments be approved as representing the views of the Council and be submitted to SBDC by the Clerk before 14th March.

PC/22/16 To consider organising a litter picking event for the Queen’s 90th birthday

The Clerk clarified that any individuals or group could undertake litter picking but if it was to be Council run event it should be formally decided upon and a councillor should take responsibility for organising it and ensuring that Health and Safety legislation is complied with. Following debate **it was agreed** that the Council should organise a litter picking day or days in the run up to the Queen’s birthday and that Cllr. Hatch would be responsible for organising this. The Clerk confirmed that £100 was still in parish funds donated by SBDC for litter picking. **It was further agreed** that these monies could be applied towards this event. The Clerk would write to SBDC to ask for as many litter picking grabbers and bags as could be supplied free of charge and ask the Council’s electrical contractors for any roadside cones they would be willing to lend to the Council for the event.

PC/23/16 To approve the extra cost to secure a seventh new lamppost for Approach Road

Cllr. Hatch explained that the funding approved for new streetlights in Approach Road – where she lived - fell short of the cost to install the seven new lights which our contractors had proposed because prices quoted had gone up since the original quote was received last year. Another £175 was needed to be spent to secure the seventh lamppost. A mistake had been made by the Clerk in the agenda item which stated that the cost would be £135. Cllr. Hatch moved to amend the motion from £135 to £175. Both the motion to amend and the cost of £175 extra expenditure **were approved**.

PC/24/16 Any other business

24.1 Cllr. Symons expressed concern about filthy water being discharged into the Jubilee River from four pipes flowing from blue tanks installed by Berkeley Homes on the Mill Lane site. The Clerk was asked to write to Berkeley Homes to enquire what this discharge was.

24.2 Cllr. Symons was concerned about the trees which had recently been removed from the banks of the Jubilee River apparently by the National Rivers Authority or the Environment Agency. The Clerk was asked to enquire why they had done this.

24.3 The Clerk reported that Joy Marshall had submitted pictures to show that Berkeley Homes had damaged Footpath 12 and that she was asked to write to Berkeley Homes asking for them to reinstate the footpath. Cllr. Worthington commented that HTS had prepared a report on the state of the footpaths which he would send to the Clerk for lodging at BCC.

24.4 Cllr. O’Riordan was concerned about the damaged footway on the junction of Station Road and the A4. The footway had sunk and even in summer was filled with muddy residue which meant users were forced to walk on the edge of the kerb or in the road to avoid it. He had personally experienced a few near misses with passing traffic at this point and raised this as a danger to road users. He would photograph the footway and send it to the Clerk to lodge with BCC.

24.5 Cllr. Worthington advised that The Feathers public house had applied for permission to put up a non-illuminated sign

24.6 Cllr. Le Touze reported that there was a collapsing manhole cover opposite the entrance to Taplow House Hotel. The Clerk was asked to report this to BCC.

24.7 Cllr. Worthington advised that he and Cllr. Hatch had met with the Clerk and Chris Kelly – the Council’s website designer- and would wish for an item on the next agenda. In summary the proposal would be to adopt a free package to provide an email gathering faculty which Chris would link to the website for a small charge he would be quoting for shortly. Chris had already set up a shadow website and the idea would be that any substantial changes to the website would be circulated to councilors for approval before implementation.

24.8 Mr Smales – with permission from the Chair - suggested that the book group email list was a good way of circulating information.

24.9 Cllr. Worthington commented that Berkeley Homes had provided no evidence to show compliance with condition 34 of their permission which was to do with archeology on the site. He would be writing to SBDC about this. Mr. Smales added that Caroline McHardy had commented that Berkeley Homes would debate his comments on the road names and hopefully respond more fully later this week.

The meeting ended at 8.15pm.