

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd July 2012 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE PERKINS ROOM TAPLOW VILLAGE CENTRE HIGH STREET TAPLOW

Present

Cllr. George Sandy (Chairman) Cllr. Josie Corio
Cllr. John Kennedy Cllr. Louise Symons
Cllr. John Bamberg Cllr. Euan Felton
Cllr. Elizabeth Forsyth Cllr. Joy Marshall
Cllr. Iris Midlane Ms. Sue Griffin – Acting Clerk
Ms. Hilda Holder – Assistant to the Acting Clerk

Six members of the public including County Cllr. Dev Dhillon.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm. The meeting was adjourned for **OPEN FORUM** recorded at the end of these minutes. The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

PC/16/12 Report from the police

No members of the police were able to attend but a report was available and had been circulated by email.

PC/17/12 Report from County Councillor Dev Dhillon

17.1 Cllr. Dhillon reported that a new Local Area Forum localities manager had been appointed (although all transport issues still needed to be directed to Si Khan) and it was hoped she would be based in Denham. The next LAF meeting was 3rd October to discuss local priorities.

17.2 Cllr. Sandy commented that there persisted a degree of cynicism relating to LAFs. Cllr. Dhillon acknowledged this and advised that the whole system was being reviewed. The upcoming County elections next May would be likely to have an impact as well.

17.3 Cllr. Sandy advised that the Council had decided at the last meeting to continue to stay out of the LAF structure. Cllr. Kennedy added that the Council were confident that Cllr. Dhillon would represent Taplow's interests adequately.

17.4 Cllr. Dhillon added that Ellington Road residents had made an application for funding directly to the LAF but the LAF had not supported it.

PC/18/12 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

There were none.

PC/19/12 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 29th May 2012

Cllr. Kennedy wished to correct the minutes to record that his proper title was 'Dr.' rather than 'Mr.' It was also pointed out that the gentleman who spoke at the public forum part of the meeting was 'Mr Snoxell' not 'Vauxhall'.

PC/20/12 Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

20.1 Cllr. Forsyth noted that her request for the telephone box item to be on the agenda had been overlooked. By way of an update she advised that Mr Wayland- Smith had had the four glass panels printed and placed a lock on the door at a cost of £82 and £18 respectively.

20.2 Cllr. Sandy confirmed that a letter had been written to Summerlease relating to Berry Hill Farm and a reply received confirming they would reinstate the regular meetings.

PC/21/12 To appoint a new Clerk

21.1 Sadly, the acting Clerk, Sue Griffin, had written to advise that she did not wish to continue as acting Clerk or to become Clerk although she would be continuing her employment in the same manner as before the previous Clerk had left.

21.2 Ms. Holder was asked to leave the room whilst the contents of her email offering to stand as Clerk were discussed. **It was agreed** that Ms. Holder should be employed as Clerk with immediate effect for a trial period of 6 months and on the basis of 4 hours per week at £15 ph.

PC/22/12 To co-opt Rachel Gainey

Cllr. Sandy introduced Ms. Gainey who had expressed a willingness to stand as a councillor. Following a short explanation of the duties she was required to undertake Cllr. Kennedy proposed her co-option as a councillor and this was seconded by Cllr. Corio. Cllr. Gainey duly signed her declaration of office.

PC/23/12 To consider expenditure on Acoustics Improvements in the Village Centre

Cllr. Sandy began by advising that after a hard negotiation the sum of £1200 had been secured from the producers of Midsomer Murders in return for filming in the Taplow Village Centre. Two quotes had now been obtained for the acoustic work – one for £7,930 and another for £2,334 (both plus VAT). After some discussion and confirmation that the monies secured above could be added to money in reserves to meet the costs, **it was agreed** to proceed with the contractor who had quoted £2,334.

PC/24/12 Christmas Carol Concert

Cllr. Corio reported that this event had become onerous to put on. It involved putting up a tree, a children's choir and salvation army band along with minced pies and mulled wine but it also included farm animals and stalls . It was not possible to decide what the impact would be of scaling down the event. Cllr. Sandy felt it had become too commercial. **It was agreed** that the farm, hot chestnut stalls, candy floss and stalls should all be cancelled for this year. The tree would go ahead for £400 although there was some discussion whether a tree should be planted for future years. All other issues including the chosen charity should be matters for the General Purposes committee to decide although ideas for the charity would be welcome before the next meeting on 13th September.

PC/25/12 Finance

25.1 Payments as per the cheque list circulated prior to the meeting were **approved** for payment.

25.2 The next Finance Committee meetings would be held on 2nd November 2012 and 4th January 2013

25.3 Following a proposal by Cllr. Sandy which was seconded by Cllr. Felton it was **unanimously agreed** that in the absence of monthly Council meetings the cheque list would be circulated to all councillors and in the absence of any

objection then any two of the four cheque signatories could sign the cheques after a week.

PC/26/12 Planning

26.1 **12/00812/FUL The Chestnuts River Road** Cllr. Felton explained that planning permission had been granted but the new application showed the structure was being moved slightly. It **was agreed** to raise no objections.

26.2 **12/00939/FUL and 12/00942/FUL Marshmead Marsh Lane** Cllr. Felton explained that the applicants were seeking to create a farm shop and gain retrospective permission for a number of structures. He was concerned that what had been a residence was escalating into a farm. The former house had been replaced with a house which was permitted to be considerably higher than the original, a chicken farm had been allowed retrospectively and since then they had added buildings, portacabins, hard standing and converted the stables for which they were now seeking permission. Cllr. Kennedy concurred that this had been an elegant Edwardian house but was now a 'horror' to look at. **It was agreed** that the Council should vigorously object to these applications and councillors should write in with individual complaints. Grounds for objection would include that the existing buildings within a residential curtilage were being turned into commercial use; a very high percentage of sales from the farm shop appeared likely to involve imports (as there was insufficient land to support the farm shop) meaning also that it would not be supported by FARMA (The National Farmers' Retail and Markets Association); pollution; impact on visual amenity; inapt development in greenbelt; unsuitable access for big lorries and change of use to storage and shop.

26.3 **12/00944/VC Cliveden Hopsital Site, Cliveden Road** It was **agreed** to make no comment and leave this for SBDC to decide.

26.4 Planning decisions were noted. Cllr. Felton commented on the decision regarding Folliotts that he did not agree with the decision that the solar panels should be located less visibly as the best place for them was where they had been planned for - on a south facing roof and he expected this would go through on appeal. He added that the Pink House Ellington Road had been refused and one of the lessons to take from this was that 'design' would be taken more seriously in future.

26.5 Cllr. Felton advised that he had seen on the SBDC website that an application had been made to remove the agricultural residency restriction on 7 dwellings around Cliveden Stud. There were no papers available yet but the target reply date was 25th July. He believed this would need looking at closely.

PC/27/12 Enforcement report

Cllr. Forsyth advised that the fence around Abbotts Wood in Heathfield Road was in fact only 1.92 metres high and no planning application needed to be made.

PC/28/12 To consider complaints about St Nicholas' school fete

Cllr. Sandy advised he had been approached by many residents complaining about raucous music and singing at the school fete two weeks ago. It had also spoilt the wedding taking place at the Village Centre. The Chair of Governors had written to a complainant to apologise if the band playing had caused any offence. Cllr. Sandy had obtained a copy of their licence which said noise should not be heard beyond the perimeter of the school. The Clerk was asked to write pointing

this out to them and requiring their commitment to ensure it will not happen again.

PC/29/12 To receive reports from outside bodies

29.1 Cllr. Marshall reported that she had attended the Footpaths liaison group meeting. The new Head of Rights of Way is Joanne Taylor replacing Mike Walker. She announced Taplow and Dorney were a priority for them and all footpaths would be cleared within the next two weeks. No mention had been made of future funding although BCC would pay for any emergency work. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should attempt to obtain three quotes for clearing the footpath network including quotes from Clark Bros and Bud Design. Cllr. Corio declared an interest as the proprietor of Bud Design is her son. Contractors should be advised to quote per metre per time as a decision still needed to be taken as to the number of cuts per annum and that any contract would be on a one year trial period.

29.2 Cllr. Forsyth reported that the school steering group had raised the issue of the 20mph zone which she understood from Cllr Dhillon was still being discussed at TfB. They also suggested using the car park at the Jubilee channel Mill Lane and putting up bollards stopping traffic coming up the school lane into the school during drop off and pick up times. **It was agreed** that there was nowhere else for cars to go so their request could not be supported. Cllr. Felton added that the Jubilee Channel car park belonged to the Environment Agency. The steering group had mentioned the 30mph signs being made bigger discussed in open forum. Finally they had enquired about how to promote major events and the Clerk suggested they submit posters for the noticeboards on the village green.

29.3 Cllr. Forsyth had attended the SBALC meeting. The new chairman was Peter Cathcart and Vice Chairman was Edwina Glover. Peter Beckford had given a presentation on electronic consultation on planning matters. Approximately only 30 % were likely to come in electronically – the rest would continue as hard copy. There was a possibility of paying a lump sum in advance each year to cover costs which would allow hard copy to continue. This is unlikely to cost more than £40 per annum. SBDC had agreed that the main problem was going to be that comparing plans which were amended would be more difficult electronically.

PC/30/12 Chairman's submissions

30.1 Cllr. Sandy passed around the timetable of forthcoming meetings clarifying that the next meeting was 2nd October and the next finance meeting would be 11th January. A finalised timetable would be circulated shortly.

30.2 Cllr. Sandy brought the new Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests form to the attention of Councillors. This form needed to be completed by 28th July. All Councillors completed their forms and the Clerk was asked to submit the same to SBDC.

PC/31/12 Update on Old Priory Garden

Cllr. Sandy had met with THRGA who would produce a detailed planting plan for approval of the Council. THRGA will then meet with all interested groups including Wellbank group. The period before the Council will need to transfer to

THRGA had been extended to 5 years. Cllr. Forsyth asked what its status would be and Cllr. Felton thought it would be classified as a recreation ground.

PC/32/12 To consider agenda items for the next meeting

The following items were suggested:-

Telephone Box

Streetlighting contract

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd October 2012 at 7.30pm in the Perkins Room Taplow Village Centre High Street Taplow

Notes from Public Forum

Laura-Jo Stocks of BCC gave a brief summary (with handouts and maps) on the transport issues in connection with the Olympics and Dorney Lake. A combination of clearways (ie no parking zones at any time), designated parking zones for residents (although Doctors and those who need to make deliveries would also have permits) and Park and Ride facilities would be in place to try and ensure the free flow of traffic. It was intended for these to be 'green games' with only public transport allowed near the Olympic venue save for disabled access. Some changes were already in place but all changes would be temporary not permanent. Reinstatement of changes to roads would take place by the end of September and everything else by the end of November. Information packs were being distributed door to door this week to residents near Dorney Lake. There would be no games lanes or road closures affecting regular commuters but the roads are likely to be busier.

Following an enquiry by Cllr. Dhillon Ms. Stocks agreed to ask whether more Dorney residents could be invited to attend the private ceremony at Dorney Lake on 10th July. Also in connection with this the point was made that there would be no torch procession along the A4 in Taplow between Maidenhead Bridge and Sainsbury's.

Two residents representing families of young children in Taplow expressed concern about the speed of traffic particularly up Berry Hill at the junction with Rectory Road and on Hill Farm Road. Requests were made for support to have signage made bigger, overgrowth cut back and a 20mph zone around the school. Cllr. Sandy commented that members of the community had had no alternative but to privately pay for the traffic calming measures which did exist and said that this could be put on a future agenda. Cllr. Dhillon added that the 20mph zone application which had previously been made was still in progress and that BCC had acquired two new Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs which could be used in the area although they had to be shared with Dorney and Burnham. Volunteers were required to man them.

This concludes the Minutes