

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 9th JULY 2013 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE PERKINS ROOM TAPLOW VILLAGE CENTRE HIGH STREET TAPLOW

Present

Cllr. George Sandy (Chairman) Cllr. Rachel Gainey-Corcoran
Cllr. John Bamberg Cllr. Joy Marshall
Cllr. John Kennedy Cllr. Josie Corio
Cllr. Elizabeth Forsyth Cllr. Iris Midlane
Cllr. Euan Felton Cllr. Marina Grazier
Mrs. Hilda Holder –Clerk
Two members of the public.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm. The meeting was adjourned for **OPEN FORUM**. The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

PC/99/13 Apologies for absence

Apologies from County Cllr. Dev Dhillon.

PC/100/13 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 24th May 2013

These were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

PC/101/13 Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

101.1 Cllr. Kennedy wished to clarify the procedure whereby matters arising from the General Purposes Committee came before the full Council for approval. In the past the committee minutes were put to full Council for approval. The Clerk explained that minutes of committee meetings should be signed off at the next committee meeting and the public were not adequately informed of the business to be transacted at full Council if the agenda just referred to approving the committee minutes. Items requiring full Council approval should be specifically put on the full Council agenda. Cllr. Felton added that if an action is agreed it should also be made clear who would take that action. The Clerk was asked to ensure that, within two weeks of any committee meeting, draft minutes should be circulated for approval to all committee members and then circulated to all councillors.

101.2 A map of the drains had not been located and the Clerk was asked to obtain one for £55.

101.3 The Clerk advised she had written to Mr. Mole but had had no response and would chase.

PC/102/13 To approve the costs of repairing lampposts

The Council's electrical contractors had advised that two lamppost heads needed repairing. At the same time they suggested changing all lampposts to LEDs to reduce energy used from 80watts per lamps to around 10/12watts. The Clerk was asked to clarify how we are currently charged for electricity, whether changing to LED would reduce charges, whether changing suppliers would effect savings and whether the two lampposts would still require new heads if we changed to LED. **It was agreed** that the Clerk and Cllr. Bamberg would

investigate and make all necessary decisions regarding lampposts arising out of the matters discussed at the meeting.

PC/103/13 To consider the future of Taplow rail station and crossrail

The Chairman referred to the letter sent by John Wilmore which he proposed the Council support in writing. He recommended the Council should express concern about the lack of maintenance and disabled access and suggest that the southern car park should become a multi-storey car park to cope with the likely increased traffic created by crossrail and the redevelopment of Mill Lane. **This was agreed.**

PC/104/13 To review the draft risk assessment and issues arising

104.1 Cllr. Kennedy presented the draft document - produced by the Clerk as recommended by the internal auditor and previously circulated - which he had reviewed and approved. **It was agreed** that this document be formally adopted as the Council's risk assessment.

104.2 It was confirmed that the Mulberry tree would not be cut until the Autumn as otherwise it might damage the tree irreparably. The trees in the Old Priory Gardens only needed surveying where they were in high risk areas such as along footpaths or boundaries. The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes to survey the trees after liaising with Cllr. Grazier. The Clerk would also enquire of SBDC when any survey was last conducted.

104.3 The Clerk was concerned that she did not seem able to obtain a definitive list of assets. **It was agreed** to refer this to the General Purposes Committee.

104.3 The Chairman advised that the need for a website was becoming clearer. **It was agreed** that in principle all Councillors were in favour of having a website.

PC/105/13 Finance

The cheques paid since the last meeting and listed on the cheque list circulated before the meeting were ratified. Cllr. Kennedy enquired about the cheque paid to HMRC by way of an underpayment. The Clerk explained that this related to a previous year's payroll matter but that the assistant clerk had been unable to explain the discrepancy and the Clerk had recommended the cheque for payment to avoid penalties. **It was agreed** that further enquiry should be made of HMRC.

PC/106/13 Planning

106.1 **It was agreed** that the Council should make no objection to the following applications:-

13/01035/NMA	SGT Station Road Taplow
13/01001/FUL	The Chestnuts River Road Taplow
13/00947/COND	Foxwell Berry Hill Taplow
13/00965/FUL	River Bank House River Road Taplow
13/00654/FUL	Odds Farm Wooburn Common Road Taplow
13/00943/FUL	1 Amerden Lakes Amerden Lane Taplow

106.2 13/00991/TPO would be left to SBDC's Tree officer to determine

106.3 13/00892/VC Roots Garden Design Bath Road Taplow - **It was agreed** to make strong objections. Roots had developed the site from an empty piece of land in 2000 using permitted agricultural rights and then in 2005 had applied retrospectively for permission to put in an access road. This had been permitted

on condition they could only sell agricultural produce grown on site. They were now asking for a variation to allow them to effectively become a garden centre. The objections would include objecting to the increase in traffic, the lack of parking facilities and the development on Green Belt. Attention of the planning officer should also be drawn to the car wash, café, and chicken sales currently undertaken on site as well as the illegal signs.

106.4 The following decisions were noted:-

13/00416/FUL	Marshwood Farm - Refused
13/00628/FUL	Marta Villa Ellington Road Taplow – Refused
13/00533/FUL	Nightingcroft Hunts Lane - Permitted
13/00543/FUL	Dropmore Estate Heathfield Road - Permitted
13/00617/FUL	Hill Farm Hill Farm Road - Refused

PC/107/13 Enforcement report

The Chairman reported he had met with BCC's Local Area Technician who had agreed that any signs on BCC land could be taken down by the Council on BCC's behalf. Fly posting is also an offence. The Clerk had written to PCSO O'Connell to ask her to accompany a representative from the Council to take them down once the owners had been given 7 days notice.

PC/108/13 To receive reports from outside bodies

108.1 Cllr. Marshall reported that, at a recent Rights of Way meeting, BCC had launched a new 'Parish Path clearance fund' to replace the former PP3 scheme which lapsed several years ago. Under this new scheme parishes would be reimbursed 14p per metre for undertaking clearance of paths. Cllr. Kennedy said the Council could not engage contractors to undertake the work as cheaply as 14p per metre so it was better to leave path clearance with BCC who had committed to clearing priority paths twice a year and non-priority paths once a year.

108.2 Cllrs. Gainey–Corcoran and Forsyth had attended the last meeting of SBALC and reported back on issues of concern in other parishes. They added that SBALC subs were due to come down 25% and the next meeting on 24th October was likely to have LAFs on the agenda.

PC/109/13 Any other business

109.1 The Chairman thanked Cllr. Forsyth for organising the updating of the honours board.

109.2 Two quotes had now been obtained to seal the Village Centre floor but it was not clear whether they were like for like. The Chairman would try and clarify the quotes and make the necessary decisions how to proceed. It was noted that any date agreed should be discussed with Olive Straw to avoid bookings clashes.

109.3 Deep clean – the assistant clerk had enquired whether a deep clean would be required again this summer. It was not believed to be necessary.

109.4 Moveable Vehicle Activated Sign – It was noted that volunteers could not be relied upon to manage the MVAS and our electrical contractors should be engaged to do this. They had quoted £25 per month. Cllr. Grazier agreed to attend the training day if possible to find out more about how to download data from the device.

PC/110/13To consider agenda items for the next meeting

There were none. The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

The next meeting will be on 22nd October 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Perkins Room Taplow Village Centre High Street Taplow.

OPEN FORUM

Catherine Oliver and Cllr. Forsyth referred to the School Travel Plan circulated prior to the meeting and highlighted:-

- 1 A discussion was required as to whether and, if so, what signs might be put up on the school hill to help reduce the danger to children.
- 2 Mr Harris, a new executive Head Teacher had been appointed who would also be Head Teacher of Eton Wick School. He was keen to build good relations with the Council. The Chairman expressed a wish to meet with Mr. Harris as soon as convenient so that the Council could work more closely with the school.
- 3 Whether the turning bay at the top of the school hill could be removed so that children could walk on a pavement all the way to school rather than crossing a piece of road where cars were parked or turning. It was suggested a pavement could be put around the turning bay. It was agreed the Council would ask Cllr. Dev Dhillon to take up this issue with BCC and the Council would support any initiative BCC thought apt.
- 4 To improve communication the school would like to put notices up on our notice board near the church. This was agreed. The Clerk was asked to check whether a diary of major village events for the school, church and Council was being kept up to date in the office.

This concludes Part I of the meeting