

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 27th FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE PERKINS ROOM TAPLOW VILLAGE HALL HIGH STREET TAPLOW SL6 0EX

Present

Cllr. Jamie Barnard (Chairman) Cllr. Roger Worthington

Cllr. George Sandy Cllr. Claire Price

Cllr. Karen Walsh Cllr. Toby Greeves

Cllr. Louise Symons Cllr. Gerry O’Riordan

Mrs. K H Holder – Clerk

Eight members of the public including County Councillor Dev Dhillon and District Councillor Matt Bezzant.

Open forum

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain were concerned that work had commenced on the cycleway without notice to them or their neighbours. A number of trees had been randomly and badly cut down damaging the ditch and fencing creating security issues. County Cllr. Dhillon said he would raise questions about the quality of the work and lack of notice. Cllr. Worthington suggested they raise their concerns with Burnham Parish Council too as this was their local parish council.

Steven Warren asked for clarification about gritting responsibilities on Rectory Road especially as there had been an accident last year. Cllr. Sandy advised that the responsibility rested with BCC and that Rectory Road was on the gritting route. The parish council had arranged for a salt bin to be installed but could not take responsibility for gritting the road. Cllr. Price said it had been hoped that the school could encourage volunteers or a community effort to spread the salt.

County Cllr. Dhillon said he hoped to bring forward the diversion of the spring as a LAF project next year.

Caroline McHardy of Berkeley Homes wished to allay fears about the recent spate of applications relating to the Mill Lane site. They had applied to move the boatyard and office block a few metres away from the Hall and Woodhouse proposed site. Hall and Woodhouse were keen to keep the public picnic area in their plans and would maintain it. She confirmed there would be access to the river for the public without them having to use the restaurant although the best area for picnics was likely to be near the footbridge. Berkeley Homes were in the process of gifting the freehold of the sea cadet building to them and putting in additional parking for them. The new footbridge would be open by Spring 2020 when the northern side was safe. They also intended to put in an informal parking area and this application went in recently. She would send Cllr. Worthington the overview of the revised plans.

PC/19/18 Apologies for absence

Cllr. Yannick Le Touze, Cllr. Spencer Norton and Cllr. Val Pridmore.

PC/20/18 To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of 27th January 2018

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

PC/21/18 Matters Arising

21.1 Cllr. Worthington advised that HTS had decided to give St. Nicolas playgroup the raffle monies raised at the village green party.

21.2 Cllr. Worthington noted that there was a consultation ongoing about freight strategy.

21.3 Cllr. Worthington asked who should write to Mark Shaw about the additional signage needed for safety reasons for the cycleway. Cllr. Sandy said he would do so.

21.4 County Cllr. Dhillon was asked to chase when the parish council would be refunded for the damage done to its lights on Station Road.

21.5 Cllr. Sandy asked about the re-instatement of the footway from Buffins to Hunt lane. County Cllr. Dhillon said he would write to the LAF about this.

21.6 Cllr. Sandy reported that as part of the development on the former SGT site the developers were supposed to be installing streetlights. The Clerk was asked to write to SBDC and Blacks about enforcing this condition.

21.7 Cllr. Worthington said he had found a contractor to give a second quote on the war memorial.

PC/22/18 To discuss potential uses for the barn

Cllr. Barnard reported that he had a meeting with SBDC the following day to discuss to discuss alternative uses for the Barn and associated improvements. Steve Warren asked about the issue of electricity supply to the barn. Cllr. Barnard said that if the parish council were allowed to renovate the barn for other purposes this would be resolved then. In the meantime if the school wished it could shut down supply to the barn and we would notify the few users to take a torch.

PC/23/18 To agree to apply for funding for debrillator/s

This was deferred.

PC/24/18 To consider safety proposals requested by the School

Steve Warren was concerned about the safety of children arising from cars parked at the top corner of the road by the school. His suggestion was temporary signage to be placed on the corner twice a day for half an hour a time at school drop off and pick up times. This was **agreed** in principle.

PC/25/18 To consider what can be done about litter in Boundary Road

25.1 Cllr. Symons explained that litter was accumulating near the old entrance to the allotments and in the ditch opposite. Community payback scheme volunteers had collected 10 bags of rubbish recently but they were not scheduled to regularly clear that area. A bin would help. The area is in Burnham Parish but the Burnham Clerk had indicated that it was very unlikely Burnham PC would agree to install a bin there.

25.2 The Clerk said she would pursue SBDC for them to agree the location as being a good one for a bin and whether they would install one. If not she would formally approach Burnham PC for a decision as to whether they would install one or use their volunteers to regularly clear up.

PC/26/18 To review work to signage in Taplow

26.1 County Cllr. Dhillon noted that the County had installed the Dorney conservation sign and he would enquire about the suppliers. He would donate £500 from his leader's fund in April towards signage improvements and another £200 towards a bin.

26.2 The Chairman noted that two quotes were being sought to repair the gates. Cllr. O'Riordan asked if that included the gates on the other side of the Jubilee River. He would circulate a photograph of it.

26.3 County Councillor Dhillon said he had secured £225 from the LAF towards repainting the gates. He noted that £1,500 had been agreed by the LAF towards school initiatives for parking which no longer seemed to be needed. He encouraged a representative from Taplow to attend the LAF meeting on 7th March to try and get that money reassigned to other projects in Taplow. The Chairman agreed to attend.

26.4 The current gate signs said ' Taplow Please drive carefully'. The Clerk to make enquiries about cost of replacing signs to add something about Horses and children.

26.5 Cllr. O'Riordan asked when the chevron signs would be reinstated that had been knocked down in Marsh Lane in December. County Cllr. Dhillon would enquire.

26.6 Cllr. Sandy was keen to replace the car park signs on the Green with something with more rustic charm.

26.7 Cllr. Price said that a structure that looked like an old parish council noticeboard was in the bushes at the top of the Mill Lane footpath. The Clerk was not aware of the parish council owning a noticeboard there.

PC/27/18 Planning

27.1 Cllr. Worthington noted that there were some recent applications on which he did not think objections needed to be raised for example relating to Autumn House; the former skindles site and Amerden Lodge.

27.2 He recommended that objections be made to the Egg Homes development. He had concerns about the lack of car access to the moorings and placing a single house at the Mill Lane end which would be unsympathetic to its surroundings. He was also concerned about the lack of parking at Driftwood House.

27.3 He said Murphy's had applied to cut down protected trees on the corner of Approach Road and Station Road to allow access to build a new bridge apparently where the old bridge used to be as Network Rail had decided not to reinstate the old bridge. He would object to this as it was too early to know if that was necessary.

27.4 Lindens on the corner of Rectory and Hill Farm Roads planned a large rear extension claiming it was permitted development. He noted there had been previous extensions there so it may not be within the permitted development rules.

PC/28/18 Finance

28.1 Expenditure in the cashbook circulated prior to the meeting **was approved** and cheques signed.

28.2 Cllr. Price wished to reschedule finance meeting dates but it was agreed that this could be resolved outside the meeting.

PC/29/18 S.1.(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

It was **agreed** that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted under the following item that the public be temporarily excluded and be instructed to withdraw. The Clerk withdrew before item 30.2 below

PC/30/18 To consider staffing issues

30.1 It was noted that Mrs. Olive Straw had retired owing to ill health. Her long years of outstanding service to the Council was noted and the Clerk was asked to extend to her the heartfelt thanks and best wishes of the Parish Council. **It was agreed** that an ex gratia sum of £500 should be paid to her in appreciation of her service.

30.2 **It was agreed** to extend the Clerk's hours to 17 hours per week to be reviewed and reduced to 15 hours per week should the Council decide that an assistant should be engaged.

PC/31/18 Any other business and agenda items for meeting on 27th March 2018

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm.

That concludes the meeting