

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 12th JANUARY 2021 AT 7.30 P.M. VIA THE ZOOM ONLINE PLATFORM

Present

Cllr. Jamie Barnard (Chairman) Cllr. Claire Price
Cllr. George Sandy (part only) Cllr. Louise Symons
Cllr. Roger Worthington Cllr. Spencer Norton
Cllr. Gerry O’Riordan Cllr. C. A Silver
Cllr. Karen Walsh Cllr. Val Pridmore
Mrs. Holder (Clerk) and three members of the public.

Open forum

Janet Appleton referred to a letter sent by her neighbour to the Council regarding the many issues relating to Approach Road and had hoped to see something on the agenda concerning this. Cllr. Sandy confirmed that the issues had been raised with Bucks Council and that the best way to pursue them was to register them on the fix my street app. The Clerk was asked to chase the matter and to add links prominently on the Council website on how to complain about highways issues such as potholes, drains and fly tipping directly to Bucks Council.

Janet Appleton also noted that the promised bin to be installed by the bus stop on the A4 had still not been installed. The Clerk was asked to chase this too.

PC/01/21 Apologies for absence

There were none.

PC/02/21 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 10th November

The minutes **were approved** and the Clerk was asked to sign them.

PC/03/21 Matters Arising from the previous minutes

- 3.1 Cllr. Worthington noted that neither SGI nor anyone else in Taplow had been successful in gaining a Pride of Bucks Award.
- 3.2 Cllr. Worthington confirmed that the refund for the air monitoring tubes had now been made.
- 3.3 The Chairman noted that there were still no signs up in the OPG and this should be pursued with THRGA.
- 3.4 The Chairman noted that Bucks Council had still not reinstated the kerb stones on the Green. The Clerk was asked to chase again.
- 3.5 The Chairman noted that some complaints had been received from dog walkers about food left around in the OPG. The Clerk was asked to write to the Forest School to ask them to ensure they do not leave food behind.
- 3.6 The Chairman confirmed the drainage work was now completed in the car park and the problem seemed to have been solved. Cllr. Sandy noted that the contractor involved

had local knowledge of existing gullies they were able to clear and reinstate which had made the works cheaper.

3.7 Cllr. Worthington noted that the conditions for the restoration of the gravel site had now been approved. The Clerk was asked to contact Summerleaze again to see if they would attend our February Meeting.

PC/04/21 To consider the draft Burnham & Taplow Parking Scheme

Cllr. Sandy had spoken to Mark Davis at Bucks Council who confirmed all schemes were on hold because of Covid. A new traffic order for the County was coming into effect in February so there could be no consultations until after that. The Clerk was asked to keep the matter on the agenda.

PC/05/21 To consider residents' concerns relating to the state of walls and flooding

5.1 The Chairman noted the new wall collapse at Queen Anne House.

5.2 Cllr. Sandy had made contact with the new owners of Elibank Court. The Clerk was asked to write to them reminding them of the community's desire that the wall be replaced in keeping with the needs of the Conservation Area.

5.3 The Chairman also noted the new damage to Wellbank wall following an unreported car crash. The Clerk was asked to write to residents there to ask what plans they had to repair the wall.

5.4 The Clerk was asked to chase Bucks Council regarding what will happen vis a vis the Stockwells wall.

PC/06/21 To consider and agree issues relating to the following ongoing items:-

6.1 environmental initiatives – Cllr. Price noted that planting trees on the quarry site remained an important ambition and we should try hard to get Summerleaze to attend our next meeting.

6.2 to review rules for reopening the Village Hall - the Clerk noted that only Playgroup were allowed to use the Hall during the lockdown.

PC/07/21 Planning

7.1 The following decisions have been made:

PL/20/3750/VRC Meca Riding Centre condition removal	WITHDRAWN
PL/20/3601/AGN Little Karoo Farm outbuildings (the exact area of the field has been subsequently queried)	APPROVED
PL/20/3195/FA River Close Ellington Road garage use	APPROVED
PL/20/2714/FA Mill Island House	APPROVED
PL/20/2682/FA Odds Farm mini golf	APPROVED
PL/20/2652/FA West View Marsh Lane extension	APPROVED
PL/20/2246/FA Sea Cadets new build	APPROVED
CM/0046/20 Berry Hill Quarry condition 3	APPROVED
PL/20/0659/FA Hitcham Lodge accommodation	APPROVED
PL/20/1173/HB Cliveden Hotel roof repairs	APPROVED

7.2 The following have decisions pending:

PL/20/0970/FA Wee Cottage extension

PL/20/3446/VRC The Chestnuts, River Road – applying to remove the restriction on permitted development rights

PL/20/3519/FA Challen's Chick Farm, Marsh Lane - Erection of new dwelling. Is being referred to Planning Committee

7.3 The following are new applications:-

PL/20/4416/TP Redwood Mill Lane tree work

PL/20/4271/FA Old Stocks Ellington Rd extension

PL/20/4221/KA Taplow Quays tree work

PL/20/4195/FA Thatched Cottage Berry Hill extensions

PL/20/4068/PAHAS Green Springs Marsh Lane. Although seen as undesirable it is a technical application for officer decision.

PL/20/3960/FA Larchwood House Heathfield Road rebuild. Requested for Planning Committee. Have submitted requests to re-evaluate the contribution from the basement and requests for a Construction Phase plan to be agreed and for all external lighting to be council approved. These are to protect the rural dark state and fauna.

7.4 There was a new Government consultation out relating to speeding up forms of development. It seemed to mainly relate to infrastructure but it needed to be studied closely as it also seemed to be proposing changes to Permitted Development rights, for example allowing an extra storey to be built during office conversions.

7.5 Update on progress of neighbourhood plan – Cllr. Worthington said there was no update on this.

PC/08/21 Finance

8.1. Expenditure in the cashbook circulated to councillors before the meeting **was approved.**

8.2 The emergency decision taken to replace guttering on the car park side of the Hall **was ratified.**

8.3 To agree the Precept - Cllr. Price referred to the Finance Committee which had just taken place. She thanked the Clerk for the work she had undertaken to produce reliable figures for the year to date. The review of the impact of Covid for this financial year showed that there had been a significant reduction in income and although there was hope for improvement during 2021 she did not expect a full bounce back. She had prepared a tight budget to include the normal running of affairs along with routine cyclical work such as the tree survey and any subsequent tree works (every three years) and reiling benches and frames in the Hall (every two years). The budget would come in at a slight deficit so she had proposed a minor top up of the Precept to avoid the deficit but not allowing for any capital or other projects this coming year. £1,000 was allocated to the work to be undertaken to the War Memorial but this would come from the Land Securities monies.

The proposal recommended by the Finance Committee was to increase the Precept by 3% which was basically in line with inflation given there was no increase for tax payers last year. Cllr. Price said the Finance Committee were keen not to put additional financial pressure on parishioners during this difficult time.

8.4 Following debate **it was agreed** to accept the recommendation from the Finance Committee and to pause further capital expenditure for 2021/22 but to review them again at the June 2021 meeting. These would include sound proofing the Perkins Room,

considering boosting the Building Fund to ensure it is sufficient for any future roof repairs, and replacing doors in the hall.

8.5 The Chairman thanked Cllr. Price for her hard work and the clarity with which she had presented the budget and the proposals.

PC/09/21 Any other business and items for the next meeting on 9th February at 7.30pm via Zoom

9.1 Jodie Cavaye – the Chair of Hedsor Parish Council – reported on the Hollands Farm Development taking place under the Wycombe District Local Plan. This was a 23.4 hectare site between Hedsor Road and Wessex Road being removed from the Green Belt with a proposal to build 467 houses there. There is a draft development brief under consultation which runs until 17th February. She believed this development would have major implications for Taplow with increased traffic using Taplow roads to cut through from the M4 towards it. She added it would turn Bourne End into a town merging it with Hedsor and that no new infrastructure was proposed other than a new school. She noted that there was a meeting of the ‘Keep Bourne End Green’ group taking place via Zoom on Monday 25th January at 7.30pm and she encouraged councillors to attend. Cllr. Worthington said the Council had submitted an objection regarding the traffic issues.

9.2 The Chairman congratulated Cllr. Silver on her new baby.

9.3 Cllr. Symons was concerned about the traffic lights at the junction of Berry Hill and the A4 which changed very quickly allowing no time for walkers to cross the road safely. As one went red the other went green. The Clerk was asked to refer to Bucks Council.

9.4 Cllr. Symons noted she had received complaints from residents that the local police were being aggressive towards anyone walking in the road along Station Road. She felt that the police should spend more time dealing with the drug dealers who parked there making it unpleasant for locals to use the footway. The Clerk was asked to write to the local police.

9.5 Cllr. Symons said she had also received complaints that Sainsbury’s were being very lax at protecting consumers - allowing many inside without masks. The Clerk was asked to write to the local police asking them to take steps to ensure Sainsbury’s does more to protect its customers. Cllr. Pridmore noted that non-compliance with Covid rules could also be reported on the County Council website.

The meeting ended at 8.43pm.