

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 31st JULY 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. Gerry O’Riordan
Cllr. Toby Greeves Cllr. Spencer Norton
Cllr. Louise Symons Cllr. Karen Walsh
Four members of the public including County Councillor Dev Dhillon

Open forum

Gill Dean, Steve Biddlecombe and Esther Wilmore, residents on Boundary Road, were each concerned with a new planning application submitted by the owners of Cranford House, also on Boundary Road. Gill Dean and Steve Biddlecombe noted that the renovated Coach House would overlook their properties and they were concerned about the precedent for more buildings on the plot that could be set if the planning application was approved. All three confirmed that they had not received any form of notice from SBDC. Steve Biddlecombe also complained that builders’ vans and construction lorries had obstructed access to his property. The residents were also unhappy about the prospect of further construction works on Boundary Road and the associated disturbance.

Esther Wilmore noted that the footpath between Hanbury Close and Boundary Road was now impassable due to overgrowth. Cllr. George Sandy advised that this footpath was in Burnham Parish and advised her to contact the Clerk, Sheridan Edwards.

Cllr. Jamie Barnard noted that he was a close friend of the planning applicants and would not seek to influence the Parish Council’s decision on any action to take.

Cllr. George Sandy confirmed that the property was in the Green Belt. He advised the residents that if 10 or more objections were received by SBDC, the application would be reviewed by the Planning Committee. Cllr. George Sandy also noted that a similar application had been turned down in the past (some 30 years ago).

Following debate, it was **agreed** that Cllr. Roger Worthington would write to SBDC and complain about their handling of the communications and ask for conditions to be made on parking and contractor management.

PC/90/18 Apologies for absence

Cllr. Claire Price, Cllr. Yannick Le Touze, Cllr. Val Pridmore and the Clerk.

PC/91/18 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 26th June 2018

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

PC/92/18 Matters Arising (not otherwise on the agenda and for information only)

92.1 Cllr. George Sandy asked whether it was possible to secure LAF funding this year to install the lights before winter. County Cllr. Dev Dhillon confirmed that Burnham

Parish Council were supportive of installing lights. After some debate, it was agreed that the Parish Council would not proceed with the work until the LAF had confirmed that it would contribute to the costs. County Cllr. Dev Dhillon agreed to contact the LAF and seek confirmation at the September meeting.

92.2 Cllr. Sandy asked whether it was necessary for TfB to remove the gate on Marsh Lane. Cllr. O’Riordan reported that he had advised that residents of Marsh Lane had originally funded the installation of two gates in the 1990s. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that since TfB has already been asked to remove it, it was appropriate to continue with this approach.

92.3 Cllr. Sandy noted his concern about allowing anyone other than the Parish Council to post notices on the Village Green noticeboard on the basis that it would be hard to refuse other requests to advertise on it. However, after some debate, it was agreed that a more relaxed approach would be trialled and if issues or concerns arose, the decision would be reviewed and, if necessary, the noticeboard reserved once again for Parish Council use only.

92.4 Cllr. Worthington reported that he and the Parish Clerk had visited the St. Nicolas School sports field with Steve Warren, the school business manager, to discuss their new fencing proposals. Cllr. Worthington noted that he was not concerned since the new fencing would be largely obscured by vegetation and would be an overall improvement on what was there at present.

PC/93/18 To consider a response to unauthorised traveller encampments

93.1 The Parish Council discussed the open spaces that were potential targets for travellers. A number of councillors have signed up to the new WhatsApp group to keep up to date with traveller migration and to alert local landowners as and when concerns arise. Cllr. Sandy advised that if travellers moved onto land where livestock (including horses and llamas) were present the police would treat it as private land and move the travellers on. Cllr. Symons reported that the WhatsApp group was working well and that people are communicating regularly.

PC/94/18 To agree to repair the paving outside the Village Hall

94.1 Cllr. Worthington provided details of the two quotes obtained. The pros and cons of each quote were discussed and it was **agreed** to engage Geoffrey Heath to carry out the work at a cost of £1,820. This would improve the camber at the entrance and re-level the slabs which have understandably moved over time. Mr. Heath would re-use the existing paving slabs (which are in good order and are already ‘weathered’) and would replace any broken slabs as part of the fixed cost.

PC/95/18 To agree to repair the noticeboard and repaint the post box

95.1 Cllr. Worthington confirmed that Adrian Wayland-Smith had quoted £120 (plus £35 to replace the pin board) to repaint the Village Green noticeboard dark brown (with the “Taplow Parish Council” lettering re-painted in white) and the Village Hall post box. The quotation was approved and it was **agreed** to proceed with the work.

PC/96/18 Planning

96.1 As noted above, it was agreed that the Council would write to SBDC in relation to PL/18/2525/FA Cranford Boundary Rd. Coach House conversion.

96.2 New applications – the Council did not intend to raise objection to the following applications:

PL/18/2597/CONDA Mill Lane office block

PL/18/2286/CONDA Mill Lane planting and boatyard

PL/18/2287/HB Brunel Bridge restoration (Cllr. Worthington reported that Network Rail were planning to restore the Brunel Bridge, carrying out repairs where necessary and removing unwanted vegetation).

96.3 Cllr. Worthington noted that a number of tree applications have been permitted. However, application 18/00776/FUL to install a lattice communications mast has been refused (the Council previously objected to this).

96.4 Cllr. Worthington also reported that despite the Council's objection to application 17/02314/FUL by Challens Chicks (to give temporary residence permission), it has now been approved.

PC/97/18 Finance

97.1 Expenditure in the cashbook was ratified and agreed.

97.2 Changes to the bank account were ratified and agreed.

97.3 The changes to the Finance Committee meeting dates were agreed.

PC/98/18 Any other business

98.1 Cllr. Symons reported that two tents appear to be permanently erected on Environment Agency land, alongside the Jubilee River (adjacent to the Bath Road). They seem to be used by people fishing in the Jubilee River. The Council has previously notified the Police and it was agreed that it would be appropriate to do so again.

98.2 Cllr. O'Riordan reported that a very large dead tree on the corner of the Bath Road and Marsh Lane has a precarious branch that could present a risk to the general public. He noted that another branch had recently fallen into the road. It was agreed that the Council would write to the land owner (Mr Sangha at Marshmead) and recommend that the tree is removed or at least made safe.

98.3 Cllr. Greeves reported that a tree has fallen into a ditch on Berry Hill. It was agreed that the Council would write to TfB and ask for its removal.

98.4 Cllr. Dhillon reported that he had contacted Network Rail to request access to cut the grass on Approach Road alongside the fence. The vegetation will be cut back once approval has been granted.

98.5 Cllr. O'Riordan reported that lamps on Marsh Lane needed to be replaced. It was agreed that the Council would arrange this.

98.6 Cllr. Barnard noted that one of the ceiling lights in the Perkins Room in the Village Hall also needed replacing.

98.7 Cllr. Norton reported that the land between Hill Farm Road and Cliveden Road had been purchased by a local resident.

98.8 Cllr. Worthington noted that Mrs. Brenda Hickman had given the Council a map of Taplow dated 1890 which her late husband, Tony Hickman, had acquired. It was agreed that the Council should consider framing the map at the next meeting with a view to hanging it in the Village Hall.

98.9 Cllr. Dhillon also raised the question of Mr. Sangha keeping a large selection of Mini cars in the field adjoining his house at Marshmead. He stated that this was not a legitimate use of the land and suggested that the Parish Council should write to Mr. Sangha to query the activity or consult with South Bucks Planning department.

The meeting ended at 9.05 pm.

That concludes the meeting