

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 29th MAY 2018 AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE READING ROOM TAPLOW VILLAGE HALL HIGH STREET TAPLOW SL6 0EX

Present

Cllr. Jamie Barnard (Chairman) Cllr. Roger Worthington

Cllr. Spencer Norton Cllr. Louise Symons

Cllr. Karen Walsh Cllr. Gerry O’Riordan

Cllr. Toby Greeves

Mrs. K H Holder – Clerk

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

Open forum

Mr. Keith Cornell said he lived in River Road and had experienced problems with cars parking badly and blocking accesses for many years. He asked what help the Parish Council could give. County Cllr. Dhillon said that part of the road was public and yellow lines might be possible on that part but they would need to have a public consultation first. Mr. Cornell was encouraged to raise the matter with the police.

PC/60/18 To elect a Chairman and Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr. Worthington proposed and Cllr. Symons seconded Cllr. Barnard. This was **agreed** by a unanimous vote and he signed his declaration of acceptance of office.

PC/61/18 Apologies for absence

Cllr. Yannick Le Touze, Cllr. Claire Price, Cllr. George Sandy and Cllr. Val Pridmore.

PC/62/18 To elect a Vice-Chairman

The Chairman proposed and Cllr. Symons seconded Cllr. Claire Price. This was **agreed** by a unanimous vote.

PC/63/18 To elect members to the Finance Committee

All councillors were members of the Finance Committee.

PC/64/18 To receive a report from Mike Lowe of Summerleaze regarding plans for the gravel pit

64.1 Mr. Lowe reported that the gravel pit had been in existence since the 1980s but was due to close down at the end of the year when the obligation was to return it to agricultural grassland. The area was approximately 30 acres and was mainly owned by Summerleaze – with no tenant farmers - but some small areas were owned by Terry Stevens. Summerleaze were willing to consider what residents wanted for the area. Some 4,000 trees had already been planted and the original plan was for there to be a sports pitch in the middle which would have been associated with Claire’s Court but they had handed back their interest in the land. Going forward access could be through Boundary Road and there might be a possibility of retaining the access in Berry Hill. A report had been undertaken by the wildlife trust which showed the potential for a pond or lake. He had no budget in mind.

64.2 Cllr. Symons commented that it would be good to retain water in a rustic setting rather than just green fields. Mr. Lowe said he felt a number of separate areas could be created for example partly given over for nature areas, a sports area and an archaeological area to the south. He welcomed ideas and suggested that it might be a suitable site for the return of the Horse Show. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting on site to allow Mr. Lowe to show the Chairman and others around the site one evening after 5pm.

64.3 The wildlife trust representative commented that the area was free from dogs and people at the moment and it would be good to retain some refuge areas for wildlife and have some hay meadows.

64.4 Mr. Lowe said restoration would not start until April 2019 although trees would be planted in November. Cllr. Worthington noted that if changes to planning permission were required then ideas would need to be considered sooner rather than later.

64.5 Cllr. Symons noted that there had been talk of thinning some trees so as to allow residents a better view. Mr. Lowe said the land in question belonged to Terry Stevens.

64.6 Cllr. Symons asked whether the footpath could be widened to make it more passable and Mr. Lowe said he would try.

64.7 Cllr. Symons asked whether a bridleway could be included and Mr. Lowe felt this might be possible along the line of the gas main.

PC/65/18 To elect members to outside bodies - SBALC and the Old Priory Gardens Working Group

Cllrs. Worthington and Symons were re-elected as SBALC representatives. The Chairman would continue to liaise with the Old Priory Gardens group.

PC/66/18 To review constitutional documents including the standing orders, asset register, risk assessment and the finance regulations

The Clerk had reviewed these documents and recommended changes to the Standing Orders and Asset Register which had been circulated to councillors with the agenda. These were **approved**.

PC/67/18 To agree policies on Data management and Document retention under the GDPR

The Clerk had drafted these documents which had been circulated to councillors with the agenda. These were **approved**.

PC/68/18 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 24th April and matters arising

These were **confirmed** with no matters arising.

PC/69/18 To appoint Councillors to hall management working group

It was **agreed** that Cllrs. Sandy, Worthington, Walsh and Pridmore were to continue on this working group.

PC/70/18 To agree meeting dates for 2019

The Clerk had circulated dates based on the second Tuesday of each month. Cllr. Dhillon noted this clashed with Dorney meeting dates and the Clerk agreed to reconsider the meeting dates.

PC/71/18 To consider lighting on Institute Road

The Clerk confirmed that there was no obligation on the developers to install streetlights but that a number of residents had asked for them to be put in. A quote had been received from our contractors in January to install 8 new lights – two of which appeared to be in Burnham. Cllr. Dhillon said he could take the quote to the LAF to ask if they would match fund for all the lights. The Clerk was asked to write to Burnham Parish Council to see if they would contribute.

PC/72/18 Update on the barn

The Chairman reported that the Conservation Officer had now visited the barn and would be happy to allow modest changes but ambitions to put in running water and toilets might require listed buildings consent and the Conservation Officer had indicated that she would be concerned about any segregation of the space within the barn. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Worthington who had been working hard to clear out old unwanted council papers.

PC/73/18 To agree how to progress with the war memorial repairs

Cllr. Worthington said the quote to repair the war memorial was for £3,362 which expired in June. He said that HTS had agreed to accept responsibility for collecting monies from residents and make it clear that surplus monies would be ring fenced by HTS for the future needs of the war memorial. **It was agreed** that the Council would contribute £2,000 towards the repair provided that residents contributed the balance.

PC/74/18 To consider the state of the paving outside the village hall

The Chairman asked the Clerk and Cllr. Worthington to look into repairs of certain parts of the paved area and to consider the possibility of a disabled access. The matter should be on the next agenda.

PC/75/18 To agree to repair the gate in Marsh Lane

The Chairman noted that the gate appeared to be in reasonable condition but it needed re-hanging on two new posts. Cllr. O’Riordan was asked to bring forward a recommendation to the next meeting.

PC/76/18 Planning

Cllr. Worthington reported that:-

76.1 Station Parking - No response has been received from SBDC to our letter on this subject. The Council has complained to the chairman of SBDC but no response yet.

76.2 Station Bridge and tree removal - HTS, MMPA and the Council met with Crossrail and TfL. It was agreed that the application to fell TPO protected trees was unnecessary. They explained in detail why the new bridge needed to stay in the position proposed details of which he had circulated to councillors.

76.3 Autumn House road access - This is still outstanding.

76.4 Ellington Gardens - This application has been withdrawn.

76.5 New applications - We do not intend to raise objection to the following applications:

18/00581/FUL Elm View Rectory Road

18/00733/COND Autumn House Rectory Road

18/00697/FUL Priory Cottage Rectory Road

18/00741/FUL Sea Cadets Mill Lane

18/00772/RVC Mill Lane Office Block

18/00818/CAN Old Manor House Rectory Road

18/00705/FUL Cornerways, River Road
18/00267/FUL Autumn House Rectory Road
18/00878/FUL Groundsmans building Huntswood Golf Club
18/00917/MISC New footbridge at Taplow Station
18/00857/FUL, 18/00858/LBC New roof, Cliveden Orangery

76.6 It was agreed to raise objections to the following:-

18/00776/FUL Erection of lattice mast and satellite dishes, Berry Hill Farm –It was seen as a Green Belt intrusion.

18/00746/FUL Erection of public house, Mill Lane

This application forms part of a series of applications on this site initiated by the developer Berkeley Homes. The other relevant ones are:

17/01684/RVC Relocation of the office building

17/01685/RVC Relocation of boatyard building

17/01953/FUL Creation of a car park

18/00317/FUL Conversion of Dunloe Lodge to 9 apartments

Hall and Woodhouse consulted with the Council prior to the application submission. Reactions were positive on the specific proposal. However an associated view was that if the office building was allowed to remain, this would be significant overdevelopment of the site compared with what was thought reasonable when the Supplementary Planning Document was agreed that guided the acceptance of the original Berkeley Homes proposals.

Cllr. Worthington believed that if the content of all the above proposals had been included in the original applications they would have been rejected as overdevelopment on both density and traffic grounds and he did not see that anything has changed in that respect.

It was perfectly reasonable that some changes were to be expected as the development progressed. The Council had strongly pressed SBDC Planning to require that all these applications should be considered together to ensure that SBDC remained true to the vision of the SPD. This has not been the case. The applications have been drip fed to SBDC. In particular, the approval for the relocation of the office block was clearly made in the light that SBDC were aware of the reasons for it, so have already given implicit consent for this current application.

The approval of the office block relocation removed the public river side picnic facilities approved in the original applications. It was accompanied by a statement that the (un-submitted) public house application would give the public equivalent facilities. The submitted application contains no such guarantees, other than to allow them to walk through. It was agreed to protest the overdevelopment.

PC/77/18 Finance

77.1 Expenditure in the cashbook was ratified and **agreed**.

77.2 The Clerk reported that the Accounts and Annual Return for 17/18 had been scrutinised by the Finance Chairman. It was **agreed** to approve them.

PC/78/18 Any other business agenda items for the next meeting on 26th June at 7.30pm

The Chairman asked the Clerk to report the large items dumped along Station Road – currently large gravel bags – to SBDC.

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm.

That concludes the meeting