

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present

Cllr. Jamie Barnard (Chairman) Cllr. Louise Symons
Cllr. Gerry O’Riordan Cllr. Karen Walsh
Cllr. Val Pridmore
Mrs. Holder - Clerk
Four members of the public.

Open forum

Graham Young, living in Burnham, was concerned about the access route to Taplow station and in particular the flooding of the road and pavements and lack of lighting in Institute Road and the overgrown vegetation along Approach Road. The Chairman said the Parish Council was aware of the problems and that - although the Council had no duty to install streetlights which the developers had been expected to put in – nevertheless the Council had agreed to match fund new lights with BCC’s Local Area Forum and were awaiting the LAF’s decision. Any new lights would not be installed until summer next year. He said the issue of flooding would be referred to BCC. Mr. Young also referred to the dangers for pedestrians using the rail tunnel in Hitcham Lane but it was pointed out that this was in Burnham Parish and contact details of the Clerk of Burnham Parish Council were supplied.

PC/124/18 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Yannick Le Touze, Cllr. Roger Worthington, Cllr. Spencer Norton, Cllr. Toby Greeves, Cllr. George Sandy and Cllr. Claire Price.

PC/125/18 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 30th October 2018

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

PC/126/18 Matters Arising (not otherwise on the agenda and for information only)

The Chairman referred to the recent email from SBDC planning department about the privacy issue raised by residents who wanted anonymity in making objections against neighbours. It was SBDC’s position that anonymity could not be given but that residents could ask their parish councils to submit objections on their behalf. The Clerk was asked to put this advice on the website.

PC/127/18 To receive a presentation from Hall & Woodhouse

127.1 A presentation was given by Mr. Mark James, the Property Manager, and Mr. Rupert Wheeler, the architect, for Hall and Woodhouse. Mr. James said that the site was on a beautiful riverside location and they wanted to do something special there by building a new bar, café and restaurant whilst opening up the riverside frontage for the local community and attempting to become a focal community hub. He noted the Parish Council’s previous concerns about over-development, traffic and parking issues and providing picnic facilities.

127.2 Mr. Wheeler confirmed that there had been no major changes to the presentation given a year ago other than the buildings were 20% smaller in their footprint – to provide greater landscaping rather than car parking - with a 4 rather than a 5 bay structure and the story behind the building had moved from ‘wind in the willows’ to a ‘boathouse’ theme to reflect the immediate environment around the site and particularly Jonathan Bond’s famous boathouse business which closed in 1955. There would be a landscaped frontage along the river for 80 metres screening the car park and then the footway would be diverted around the pub away from the river. The toilets would be available to the public. Dogs were welcome. There would be accommodation for key workers.

127.3 In response to a question from Cllr. Pridmore, Mr. James said he would be happy to look into a defibrillator being placed on an external wall. The Chairman inquired as to whether they would plant hedging or shrubs to obscure the car park from the view from the Maidenhead side. He added that walled gardens were an important feature of Taplow and it would be good to see that reflected in any final design.

PC/128/18 To consider parking issues around Taplow station

The Chairman referred to Cllr. Sandy’s proposals for a one way system. The Clerk was asked to arrange a visit in the New Year with Cllr. Dhillon and Mr. Mark Davies - the new BCC parking manager. Cllrs. Sandy, Worthington, Walsh, Symons and the Chairman expressed an interest in attending.

PC/129/18 To consider and agree proposals to recommend to Summerleaze regarding the future of the gravel site on Berry Hill

The Chairman noted that the only suggestion so far was that it could be the site of a new school to replace St. Nicolas which was over-subscribed and caused traffic and parking problems in the village. The first step to exploring if this would be possible was for the Chairman to speak to Peter Prior of Summerleaze.

PC/130/18 To consider issues relating to the Hall

130.1 With regard to repairing or replacing the Perkins Room lights and having regard to two quotes received **it was agreed** to place the contract for replacement strip lighting and dimmable switch with BLE. The Clerk was asked to raise a concern about whether the new lights would be free from buzzing sounds.

130.2 With regard to the replacement or repair of the top window in the Perkins Room and the window in the office and having regard to a previous exercise in costing windows **it was agreed** to accept the quote from Lillyfee for new matching oak windows.

130.3 With regard to the repair of the roof, the Clerk advised that a quote had not yet been obtained as she had been asked to send photographs. The Chairman said he would arrange for photographs to be provided.

PC/131/18 To consider boundary issues between Rectory Farm and the Green

The Clerk advised that attempts to arrange a visit from the SBDC Estates Manager had not been successful to date but she would continue to pursue.

PC/132/18 To consider next steps regarding the barn

The Chairman noted that he had been in touch with the Scouts about removing their stored items from the barn and would continue to pursue. This was deferred to the next meeting.

PC/133/18 Planning

Cllr. Worthington had reported that:-

133.1 the following decisions had been made:

PL/18/3679/CONDA Mill Lane boatyard	PERMITTED
PL/18/3476/TP Taplow Quays tree prune	PERMITTED
PL/18/3453/SA Kingsdown Swimming pool	PERMITTED
PL/18/3447/KA Cedar Chase tree prune	PERMITTED
PL/18/3430/SA Roux wedding receptions	PERMITTED
17/02005/RVC Cliveden Stud releases	REFUSED
17/02006/RVC “	REFUSED
17/02002/RVC “	REFUSED

133.2 the following were pending with no objection envisaged

PL/18/4101/FA Copeland Marsh Lane extension

PL/18/4004/KA Cedar Chase tree fell

PL/18/3981/SA Year round caravan usage Amerden Lane

133.3 PL/18/3946/FA Barn for quail rearing

Not popular with residents. Makes reference to it being sited next to existing mobile poultry sheds. May be a case for requiring all buildings to be mobile. Cllr. O’Riordan was concerned about the proposed heating system which might require more buildings and wasn’t covered by this application. Cllr. Pridmore felt that it was overdevelopment for what the needs of quail farming needed.

133.4 With regards to the Neighbourhood Plan, Cllr. Pridmore felt that the Council should be doing more to encourage more volunteers.

PC/134/18 Finance

134.1 Expenditure in the cashbook was approved and Cllrs. Sandy and Worthington authorized to sign the cheques listed.

134.2 Proposals for expenditure in the next financial year were invited in time for the Finance Meeting on 15th January. The Clerk listed possible election costs, the barn, repainting the village hall and new office equipment such as a new computer and possibly audio visual equipment for hirers.

PC/135/18 Any other business and agenda items for the Finance meeting on 15th January 2019 at 6.30pm and the Council meeting on that date at 7.30pm

135.1 The Chairman announced with regret that Cllr. Le Touze had tendered his resignation. He said this was a real loss to the Council and he would be missed. He noted that, at present, elections were scheduled for May 2019 and there was no duty on the Council to fill a vacancy if elections were scheduled within 6 months. However he added that it was looking likely that the elections might be postponed given the unitary authority decision. It was agreed to not declare the vacancy for the time being.

135.2 The Clerk noted that the Salvation Army (SA) had been in touch asking if a clothes bank could be sited in the vicinity of the village hall in return for £100 per month. The Clerk was asked to invite the SA to visit and discuss their plans, including how they deal with overflow and how either party might be able to terminate the arrangement, in more detail. Cllr. Walsh agreed to attend any such meeting.

135.3 The Chairman noted that the memorial service for former Cllr. John Kennedy had been held last week. He noted that Dr. Kennedy had played a huge role in local public service and had meant a lot to a lot of people. He called for a minute’s silence.

The meeting ended at 9 pm.