

# TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019 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. Val Pridmore  
Cllr. George Sandy                    Cllr. Karen Walsh  
Cllr. Roger Worthington            Cllr. Spencer Norton  
Mrs. Holder (Clerk) and five members of the public.

### Open forum

Nigel Smales noted that the Village Green and Barn were leased by the Council from SBDC. He recommended the Council checked with SBDC what would happen when SBDC was wound up next year. The Clerk was asked to check.

Mark Bradshaw, the general manager of Cliveden Estate, said he had heard no more from the County Councillor about who to contact regarding speeding issues he had raised. The Clerk would forward the contact details she had. Cllr. Sandy was keen to emphasise that the land at Cliveden’s frontage was Common land.

### PC/105/19 Apologies for absence

Cllr. Claire Price and County Councillor Dev Dhillon.

### PC/106/19 To confirm the minutes of the Meeting of the Council of 10<sup>th</sup> September

These were confirmed, with no amendments required, and signed by the Chairman.

### PC/107/19 Matters Arising from the minutes (not otherwise on the agenda)

There were none.

### PC/108/19 Update on progress of neighbourhood plan

Cllr. Worthington reported that the Working Party would be reconvening in the near future.

### PC/109/19 Update on installation of streetlights on Institute Road and approval of extra expenditure arising as a result of SSE quote

The Clerk reported that the SSE connection quote was £6,062 plus VAT which was many times more than the original estimate of £800 advised by our contractors. Our contractors had now suggested an option whereby the Council could connect the first of the new lampposts to Burnham PC’s new post. This would mean that if the Burnham light went out it would put out all our lights and fixing the issue would be outside our control. The extra costs would be less than a thousand pounds bringing the project back

within budget. **It was agreed** to proceed with this option. It would involve digging up the access way to the Phoenix Rugby Club. The Clerk was asked to send an email to Cllr. Symons outlining the issue who would take it up with THRG/ Phoenix Rugby Club.

**PC/110/19 To approve the costs of replacing the perspex in the noticeboards**

The Clerk reported three quotes had been sought but only two received. **It was agreed** to place the contract with the lower quote.

**PC/111/19 To consider and agree next steps to improve the Village Hall**

This was deferred until the next meeting.

**PC/112/19 To consider the following pending items of business carried forward:-**

**112.1 parking issues around Taplow station**

Cllr. Sandy noted that all was at a standstill at BCC because of the imminent setting up of the new unitary authority. He felt that as the new authority would have 3 representatives for the area rather than just one that would mean greater pressure could be exerted for the benefit of the area. It was noted that the station was still being upgraded and that work may not be completed on the new ticket office until next September. The Clerk was asked to see if MMPA would like to attend our next meeting to provide us with an update.

**112.2 next steps regarding the Barn**

112.2.1 Cllr. Worthington reported that Mr. McNulty had taken a look at timbers in the Barn. He said that all the timbers needed woodwork treatment and the woodwork on the school side wall did not appear sound. He recommended a structural engineer be called in. He added that the loft floor needed new floor planking. The Clerk would seek quotes from structural engineers.

112.2.2 Mr. Warren, the school business manager, reported that the electrics had been condemned and the supply to the Barn cut off. It would be at least next summer before it would be possible to resume a supply if the school was willing at that time to negotiate to do so. The Clerk was asked to obtain a quote from SSE for a discrete supply.

**PC/113/19 Planning**

Cllr. Worthington reported that:-

**113.1 Applications relating to St Nicolas School**

113.1.1 The school had applied to cut down the sycamores at the entrance which the Council had objected to on grounds of loss of amenity. No TPO had been made by SBDC. What had become clear since the application was that the trees were on the Green and not school land. Mr. Warren clarified that the trees reduced natural light, created a lot of debris and were self-seeding so as to create greater hazards for the future. He accepted that something would be needed to soften the effect of the new 1.8m green metal fence. Following debate it **was agreed** that the Council would not remove the trees but would arrange to meet with the school to discuss the extent of any pruning required.

113.1.2 The school had applied to rebuild the front of the school. Mr. Warren explained that the purpose was to provide a disability access way and to accommodate a sick bed area and waiting area for parents. They would need to bid for funding but could only do so if planning permission was in place. There would be no increase in pupils. Cllr. Worthington noted that any objection could only be on grounds of visual impact. Mr. Warren confirmed that the effect of the changes proposed could be softened. **It was agreed** to submit no objections but to suggest SBDC consider recommendations for the texture of the façade.

113.1.3 Cllr. Sandy expressed concern that the fencing of the school field might be in breach of the covenants in Lady Gage's bequest of the land. He had understood that Lady Gage gifted the field to the village community and not specifically to St Nicolas Church or the School. Mr. Warren said he would provide written proof it was not.

**113.2 The following decisions have been made**

PL/19/2666/KA	Cedar Chase tree prune	APPROVED
PL/19/2848/KA	Tree prune Cedar Chase	APPROVED
PL/19/2574/TP	TPO tree prune Taplow Court	APPROVED
PL/19/2895/KA	Tree felling St Nicolas School	APPROVED
PL/19/2417/PNO	The Hermitage change of use	REFUSED

**113.3 The following are pending decisions**

PL/18/3946/FA	Barn for quail rearing	
	Application resubmitted. Reduction in height from 8m to 4.2m. It <b>was agreed</b> to resubmit original objections	
PL/19/0027/FA	8 Houses on The Old Boathouse (Gage)	
	Drainage discussion ongoing as at 1/10	
PL/19/0852/OA	Lamont House replacement house (bat survey pending)	
PL/19/2358/FA	Gas yard Cliveden changes	

**113.4 The following are new applications for which no comments are proposed**

PL/19/3335/VRC	2 Amerden Cottages condition variation
PL/19/3024/PNE	Kingsdown Marsh Lane rear extension
PL/19/3206/TP	Cedar Chase tree prune (TPO)
PL/19/3215/TP	Redwood Berry Hill tree prune (TPO)
PL/19/3234/SA	Lea Rig swimming pool
PL/19/3238/TP	Taplow Court tree prune (TPO)
PL/19/3301/FA	Huntswood Golf Club replacement club house
PL/19/3026/FA	2 Amerden Cottages – large extension and garage

**PC/114/19 Finance**

Expenditure in the cashbook circulated prior to the meeting **was approved** and Cllrs. Sandy and Worthington authorized to sign cheques.

**PC/115/19 Any other business and items for the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November**

115.1 The Clerk emphasised her willingness to help regarding the issues raised over the Taplow Charity. Cllr. Worthington would speak to one of the trustees to remind them of the deadline of 14<sup>th</sup> October set by Black Rock and notified to the Council.

115.2 The Clerk reported that the MVAS no longer worked and she had obtained a quote from the manufacturers to call out and repair for £577. This was to be put on the next agenda.

115.3 The Clerk noted that a wedding party next June had requested placing portable toilets in the car park - ideally ones that had lighting. It was agreed that they could have the portable toilets but would need their own generator for lighting as there was no external electricity supply

115.4 The Chairman congratulated Cllr. Sandy for winning the nomination to stand as one of the three conservative candidates for the new unitary authority.

115.5 The Chairman noted that Zoe Hatch had asked for the Council to consider declaring a climate emergency. This would be on the next agenda.

115.6 The Chairman noted that five lights were not working along Station Road and asked the Clerk to ask the Council's contractors to fix.

115.7 Cllr. Sandy asked the Clerk to write to the owners of land along Hitcham Lane to ask them to cut back their hedges.

115.8 Cllr. Worthington noted that the security light in the car park had stopped working and asked the Clerk to arrange for it to be fixed.

115.9 Cllr. Worthington noted that the football club members were parking on the pavements again and asked the Clerk to write to them.

115.10 Cllr. Worthington noted that HTS wished to proceed to add the 22 names of the WW2 dead to the War Memorial. Council members present expressed no objections.

115.11 Cllr. Worthington noted that BCC were consulting on the closure of 'dumps' and he recommended the Council write objecting to the resultant increased fly tipping.

115.12 Cllr. Symons expressed concern about the amount of mud on the road outside Hitchambury Farm's access. Cllr. Norton would supply contact details to the Clerk so she could write to them.

*The meeting ended at 9.08pm.*