

TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TAPLOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 30th OCTOBER 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. Claire Price
Cllr. Louise Symons Cllr. Spencer Norton
Cllr. Toby Greeves Cllr. Gerry O’Riordan
Cllr. Karen Walsh Cllr. Val Pridmore
Mrs. Holder - Clerk

Eight members of the public including County Councillor Dev Dhillon.

Open forum

Mr Ryan from Buffins referred to the application for a dropped kerb put in by some new owners of a property in Buffins. This had been withdrawn but re-submitted. Putting in dropped kerbs was making the parking issues in Buffins worse with often no access for emergency vehicles. Neighbours had sent a petition objecting to the application to TfB and County Cllr. Dhillon but had had no response. Of great concern was the fact that the names and addresses of all those objecting was publicised on the SBDC website which seemed a breach of privacy law and increased friction between residents. It was not clear who owned the frontages.

County Cllr. Dhillon said that TfB cannot stop dropped kerbs being put in and SBDC did not look at ownership issues – only the merit of the application.

Cllr. Sandy felt it was important for the Parish Council to support the majority of Buffins’ residents and perhaps work with L&Q to try and find a solution.

The Clerk was asked to clarify with SBDC their obligations regarding privacy law.

PC/110/18 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Yannick Le Touze.

PC/111/18 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 25th September 2018

These were **approved** and were signed by the Chairman subject to a point of clarification requested by Cllr. Sandy. He said the reference during Open Forum to the new lights being installed by next winter (provided funding was granted) was not strictly accurate. The lights would be installed hopefully by the summer of 2019.

PC/112/18 Matters Arising (not otherwise on the agenda and for information only)

112.1 Cllr. Sandy referred to the report in Open Forum to the land at Buffins seeming to belong to L&Q. He felt this should be followed up and the Clerk was asked to clarify ownership with L&Q.

112.2 The Clerk noted that since the last meeting she had been asked by Cllr. Sandy not to proceed with item 103.2 but that she was not clear why. Cllr. Sandy said that he

did not feel there was an immediate need to do so especially as repairs had been carried out by another contractor. It was agreed to proceed with trying to get a full survey done.

112.3 The Clerk reported that Cllr. Le Touze had held a meeting with potential speedwatch volunteers and indeed the equipment was in use already. More volunteers to cover Marsh Lane and Berry Hill would be good.

PC/113/18 To consider Playgroup's request to install a trike shed and planters

113.1 Following debate and in consideration of the aesthetics and the use of the Hall by other hirers **it was agreed** not to give permission for the Playgroup to install a trike shed.

113.2 The installation of suitable planter/s on the raised bed outside the entrance was **agreed** in principle. Playgroup would forward their final request for approval of councillors subsequent to the meeting. Hannah O'Reilly the Playgroup manager confirmed that the planter/s would be adequately maintained and watered during holidays.

PC/114/18 To consider parking issues around Taplow station and PC/115/18 To consider the need for parking restrictions on Boundary Road

114/5.1 County Cllr. Dhillon noted that TfB had a new parking manager, Mark Davies, and he would be happy to arrange a visit so that all parking issues to do with the station itself and/or surrounding roads (ie Station Road, Approach Road, Institute Road, Boundary Road and Marsh Lane) could be looked at. He noted that provided funding could be put in place and given the length of time it would take and that timescales were becoming more pressing, this was an opportunity to try and get outside consultants to give a view.

114/5.2 Cllr. Sandy said one solution put forward by him had been a one way system and to keep the pressure on TfL for proper parking facilities to the south of the station.

114/5.3 Cllr. Symons said Boundary Road residents wanted to find a solution to stop commuters parking outside their homes.

PC/116/18 To consider the offer from BCC to devolve services to the Parish

116.1 Cllr. Worthington reported he had been to a recent meeting on this but the grass cutting maps were not actually available. He felt that BCC were not performing their services adequately but it would cost more than the £3,500pa for three years on offer - although how much more would need more effort to quantify – for the Parish Council to perform the services better. So the key issue was whether parishioners would be prepared to pay more to have better services.

116.2 The Clerk ran through the services and likely pitfalls concluding that the best way to clarify what we would be taking on was to go around the parish with BCC's local area technician (LAT).

116.3 Cllr. Sandy said the Parish Council had always resisted going this route as the sum on offer was a pittance, would result in double taxation and was unfair on such a small parish.

116.4 County Cllr. Dhillon defended BCC pointing out that there had been a cap on their precept and going forward after massive cuts the Government were giving no grant to BCC this year.

116.5 Cllr. Worthington said that the Parish Council's role was to give residents what they were willing to pay for. Cllr. Price added she was concerned that residents were

not getting the service they wanted and taking on these services would take back control locally. Any increase in expenditure could be budgeted for.

116.6 **It was agreed** that further investigation was necessary as to the extent of the services we were being asked to take on. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the LAT before the next Council meeting. Cllr. Norton and Cllr. Symons offered to assist Cllr. Worthington.

PC/117/18 To consider and agree proposals to recommend to Summerleaze

117.1 Regarding the future of the gravel site on Berry Hill, the Chairman reported he had visited the site. Following debate it was decided to give more thought to the possible suggestions and put the matter back on the next agenda

117.2 Regarding the future of the car boot sales, following debate **it was agreed** that the Chairman should write to Summerleaze to offer support for the site being used for gravel extraction provided no extra traffic used the roads.

PC/118/18 To consider issues relating to the Hall

118.1 Regarding repairing or replacing the Perkins Room lights the Clerk should ask Mr. McNulty for any ideas he might have. Replacement lighting should be LED, diffused and dimmable.

118.2 Regarding the replacement or repair of the top windows in the Perkins room an estimate had been given for a new oak window from Lillyfee Studio. Two quotes were needed – one for windows that opened and one for windows that did not. It wasn't clear if the opening mechanism would need updating if openable windows were put in. Both skylight windows in the room currently open simultaneously using the one wall mounted winding handle.

PC/119/18 To consider boundary issues between Rectory Farm and the Green

The Clerk advised that the matter had been referred to SBDC and she had made contact with the estate manager but no date had yet been agreed for a site meeting. This was deferred to the next agenda.

PC/120/18 To consider next steps regarding the barn

This was deferred to the next meeting.

PC/121/18 Planning

121.1 Cllr. Worthington reported that the following applications had been progressed:-
PL/18/3048/FA 31 Buffins; parking access. WITHDRAWN but resubmitted as a certificate of lawfulness application.

PL/18/2963/FA Rectory Farm - tennis outbuilding. REFUSED on Green Belt grounds

121.2 The following were still pending and no comment was proposed to be made:-

PL/18/3476/TPO312003	Taplow Quays tree prune
PL/18/3447/KA	6 Cedar Chase tree prune
PL/18/3957/ADJ	RBWM King Street development
PL/18/3756/CONDA	Mill Lane office block amend
PL/18/3761/SA	Amerden Lodge extension
PL/18/3685/FA	Cornerways River Road extensions
PL/18/3679/CONDA	Mill Lane relocate boatyard building
PL/18/3602/SA	31 Buffins parking access

PL/18/3430/SA

Roux Mill Lane wedding reception permission

PL/18/2327/HB

Cliveden wall repairs

121.3 PL/18/3453/SA Kingsdown Marsh Lane - Proposal is to build garage and swimming pool buildings at the end of a long thin plot. **It was agreed** to object as this was an unacceptable development on Green Belt. Cllr. O’Riordan was concerned that a tree on the plot might be at risk too.

121.4 Cllr Worthington noted that the work on the Cycleway was due to commence in January.

121.5 Cliveden Stud – Kate Norton expressed concern about the lack of due process adopted by SBDC who seemed to be giving the owners too much leeway to develop this land. Equestrian tenants had been evicted. She noted the lack of response from the planning officer, Mr. Regan, and a lack of time had been given for objections in the past. Cllr. Sandy agreed that the owners bought it cheaply as an equestrian centre and were now trying to exploit it for development whilst threatening people in the process. Cllr. Worthington would send a letter to SBDC expressing the Parish Council’s dismay at the situation.

PC/122/18 Finance

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

122.2 **It was agreed** to re- invest the monies in the Close Bros account for a further 6 months from 15th November.

122.3 The following forms relating to banking issues were agreed:

122.3.1 to provide an indemnity to the bank for cheques made out to Taplow Parish Council or Taplow Village Centre as the name on the account was Parish Council of Taplow.

122.3.2 to remove the Clerk as a signatory but for her to become a controlling official to deal with queries.

122.4 Cllr. Price reported that following finding a file in the archived storage system in the Hall cupboard, it had been discovered that a legacy of £15,000 had been left by a former resident - Gladys Jones. This was currently with SBDC who advised that following some expenditure on troughs and benches the sum of £12,046 remained. They had agreed to transfer this to the Parish Council for use on environmental projects. Cllr. Price and the Clerk were thanked for their efforts to secure these funds.

PC/123/18 Any other business for the meeting on 27th November 2018

123.1 The Clerk asked councillors to consider the request for a booking made in connection with a wedding in 2020. The request was for the use of part of the Green for a catering tent and the use of the halls for storage, toilets and car parking facilities. It was agreed that no booking could be taken for the Green (given that no exclusive rights could be granted over the Green) or the Hall (given concerns for security).

123.2 Cllr. Norton enquired about the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Worthington said more volunteers were needed.

The meeting ended at 9.25 pm.