

TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Tidmarsh Village Hall on Wednesday 16th January 2008, commencing at 8.00.p.m.

Present: Mr. M. Broun (Chairman),
Mr. J. Chishick, Mr. J. Hutchison,
Mr. C. Pawson, Mr. S. Webb.

Apologies: Mrs. M. Kennet

In Attendance: Clerk to the Parish Council
Mr. T. Metcalfe (District Councillor)
1 parishioner.

Prior to the commencement of the formal business as stipulated on the agenda, the Open Meeting session received a request from Dorothy Pickering that the Parish Council would liaise with Pangbourne Parish Council in regard to flood relief issues.

65. Declarations of Interest

There were no items on the agenda that resulted in Members, at this stage, declaring either a personal or a prejudicial interest.

66. Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Parish Council

The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 21st November 2007, having been circulated, were confirmed a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

67. Matters Arising on the Minutes

- i. The new notice board had been scheduled for delivery by the end of January 2008.
- ii. The parking of vehicles on the footway outside the Greyhound public house had continued and an officer from the Thames Valley Police had spoken to the Manager. Action would now be taken if the problem persisted.
- iii. The flooding of the A340 at the Greyhound crossroads was an agenda item for the current meeting.

68. District Council Report

Tim Metcalfe gave a brief review of District Council activities including the Tilehurst Learning Centre and the Paices Hill refuse depot. Increased recycling amounts would be achieved when the new District Council Recycling Plant came on stream during 2011.

69. Planning

A Planning Committee meeting had been held on 3rd December 2007. The minutes would be confirmed at the next meeting of the full Council.

The following planning application was considered.

App. No.	Location and Proposal	Observation
07/02557	Forge House Renewal of Planning Application 05/00195. Erection of detached house and garage within site of Forge House.	No objections.

The following planning decisions were received.

App. No.	Location and Proposal	Decision
07/02428	Oaklands Farm, Tidmarsh Certificate of lawfulness for an existing use of the land as residential garden/amenity land in association with the dwelling Oaklands Farm.	Lawful
07/02229	Sawyers Wood, Tidmarsh Lane Conversion of an internal courtyard into an orangery. Conversion of existing garage into a family room. Construction of new garage.	Granted
07/02006	Bereleys, Tidmarsh Variation of conditions 3,5,6,7,10.11.12, 13 and 14 attached to 06/02433 relating to materials for the driveway construction, means of enclosure, materials, floor levels and landscaping.	Granted
07/02005	Bereleys, Tidmarsh Variation of conditions 3,5,6,7,10.11.12, 13 and 14 attached to 06/02431 relating to materials for the driveway construction, means of enclosure, materials, floor levels and landscaping.	Granted
07/02172	Correspondence was received and noted from West Berkshire Council in regard to the application at Green Gables, Tidmarsh Lane. A copy of the letter is appended to the official minutes.	

Councillor Colin Pawson had alerted the District Council Conservation and Design Officer of the threat to the fabric of The School House (Sunnybrook), The Street, Tidmarsh, and a request had been made for the building to be given listed status.

70. Highways, Footpaths and Traffic Matters

The flooding of the A340 at the Greyhound crossroads had been reported to the District Council on numerous occasions, but the hazard still existed. The Clerk had exchanged correspondence with Mark Edwards, the Head of Highways at West Berkshire Council and a Highways Engineer had attended site and made recommendations as to the work needed to alleviate the problem.

Colin Pawson undertook to supply the Clerk with information obtained during previous District Council contracted highway work in the area.

It was noted that maintenance work had been undertaken along the side of the footpath from the start of the A340 Tidmarsh Road in Pangbourne to Flowers Hill. A request was to be made for the length of footpath through to the Greyhound to be treated in a similar manner. The path had been narrowed in part due to the base of the hedge encroaching on to the footway, making it extremely hazardous for pedestrians.

Tidmarsh lane was once again the subject of complaint, it being contended that the Lane was totally unsuitable for the heavy vehicles using it, and that the surface of the carriageway and the verges were deteriorating rapidly.

The road side verges along Mill Lane were also considered to be in poor condition, and the District Council was to be requested to consider a suitable solution.

71. Pangbourne Neighbourhood Action Group

Councillor James Hutchison reported on the meeting held earlier that day. Sulham Woods signs and the awareness of Travellers were considered, as was the possibility of Parish Councils being involved in the Neighbourhood Wardens Scheme.

James Hutchison undertook to represent the Parish Council at the West Berkshire Police Area Neighbourhood Action Group Conference on 26th February at Newbury Racecourse.

72. Tidmarsh and Sulham Parish Plan

Councillor Steve Webb confirmed that the final comments had been received and the launch date for the Plan was to be 30th April. It was confirmed that at least 3 formal estimates would be received for the printing costs of the Plan.

73. Postwatch

Confirmation was received from Postwatch that the Englefield Post Office had been included on the list of Post Office branches in West Berkshire proposed for closure. The Pangbourne Post Office was on the list to be retained.

74. Local Environmental Matters

Members supported the view expressed at the Open Meeting that the Parish Council would liaise with Pangbourne Parish Council in regard to flood relief issues.

A presentation from the Environment Agency had been scheduled for Friday 18th January at the Pangbourne Village Hall. The Pangbourne Flooding Report had been received, it being stated that the main problem associated with the July flooding was that the Sul had been unable to cope with the enormous flow of water to which it was suddenly subjected.

Councillor Colin Pawson confirmed that officers from the Environment Agency would attend a local meeting if requested.

75. **AWE Liaison**

Councillor Jonathan Chishick, the Parish Council appointed representative, had attended a meeting of the AWE Liaison Committee, and gave a brief report on the proceedings.

76. **Financial Matters**

- i. The bank reconciliation statement for the period ending 31st December 2007 was presented, and is appended to the minutes in the official minute book.
- ii. **Resolved** that the under mentioned items be authorised for payment, such sums to be debited to the account of the parish council.

James West Clerk's salary, expenses, travel, consumables, phone and postage for the period 1 st April 2006 to 31 st March 2007.	£ 700.00
CPRE Annual Subscription	£ 25.00
Harry Stebbing Workshop Tidmarsh Notice Board	£1,415.52
Tidmarsh with Sulham Hall Hire of Hall for Parish Council meetings	£ 150.00
Pang Valley Countryside Project Section 137 contribution for parish work	£ 100.00

iii. **Preparation of Estimates for the year commencing 1st April 2008**

Detailed consideration was given to the estimates of expenditure for the financial year commencing 1st April 2008.

Resolved that the figures shown on the schedule attached to the minutes be formally adopted as the estimates of expenditure for the year commencing 1st April 2008.

77. **Precept upon the District Council**

Resolved that a precept in the sum of £4,635 be served upon West Berkshire District Council for general purposes for the financial year commencing 1st April 2008.

78. **Conclusion**

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.24 p.m.

Chairman
19th March 2008