

# Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council

Minutes of the annual meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council, on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 held at the Village Hall

## **Present:**

Councillor Mike Broun  
Councillor Steve Webb  
Councillor Jonathan Pearson  
Councillor Sima Elliot

## **In attendance:**

District Cllr Tim Metcalfe  
Sarah Bosley (clerk)

## **79. Accepted apologies**

Councillor Colin Pawson  
Councillor John Haggarty  
Jon Chishick

## **80. Declarations of Members' Interests for this meeting**

None

## **81. Minutes from the previous meeting**

The minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

## **82. Matters arising from the minutes**

Item 63: The bin is now in place, but the key is hanging off and there is no bin bag. Clerk to contact WBC to see if they need the key sent to them.

Item 63: The flooding around the Sulham phone box is still ongoing. Clerk to report again to WBC.

Item 68: The clerk reported that she had emailed Glyn Davis at WBC Highways about the weight limit on Sulham Lane. His response is:

“We have looked at this numerous times in the past. Our stance has always been that the current ‘Unsuitable for HGV’ signs are present and surveys have revealed that the majority of HGV’s that enter the area have legitimate business within the area and would be exempt under and a formal weight restriction order.

We therefore see no advantage in expending considerable funding and time in generating a formal restriction that would have very little impact. I doubt that anything has changed that would change our view.

Sorry this is not the answer they were seeking.”

The issue may be discussed again in the future if a problem persists.

## 82. District councillor's report

District Cllr Tim Metcalfe reported the following:

- Planning permission at Green Gables was refused, which wasn't what the parish council or residents wanted. He noted the planning department doesn't have the power to change what's in the application and had to judge it on what was put forward not what could be there if it was amended. They therefore couldn't approve it.
- HEELA: He noted that the parish council should consider putting sites forward for future development to WBC. The parish council should consider a parish plan or neighbourhood plan to dictate what sites in the area should be used for new development. Without any guide from the PC planners can only judge what is in front of them. Could consider creating a Neighbourhood Plan that deals only with planning. Clerk to look in to this.

## 83. Planning

### Planning applications:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
16/03461/COND	Chestnuts House, Mill Lane	Approval of details in 16/01999/FUL	No comments needed

### Planning decisions:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
16/02273/FULD	Green Gables	Replacement house and five dwellings with associated works	Refused

It was noted that no decision had still been taken on the D W Lusted application for a certificate of lawfulness.

It was also resolved that the chairman will discuss the Eaglesfield development with Cllr Pawson and ask him to write to WBC to express the council's displeasure at events there.

## 84. Library review – including parish payment

A discussion took place regarding WBC asking parishes to contribute financially to the libraries. Proposed by Cllr Pearson and seconded by Cllr Broun. It was resolved that at present the parish council does not believe there is any legal way to provide the money to West Berkshire Council. The clerk will write to the district council and request more details on the number of parishioners who use the libraries.

Cllr Pearson also requested that the clerk discuss with other local clerks the option of a legal class action with neighbouring parishes.

## **85. Precept decision**

A discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of different levels of precept, the reserves currently held and the future impact of devolution. Proposed by Cllr Pearson and seconded by Cllr Webb. It was resolved that the precept is kept at £8000 for the coming year.

## **86. Post box in Sulham renovations**

It was noted that the post box in Sulham is in a poor condition.

## **87. Parish questionnaire update**

The clerk noted that there had been around 20 responses received so far but the deadline had still not been met. It was resolved that a sub-committee will be created at the next meeting to look at all the replies once they have all been received.

## **88. Highways and footpath matters**

It was noted that three gates are broken across the parishes' footpath network. The chairman will discuss with Cllr Pawson and ask for an update on his communication with Arrow Fencing to carry out all of the repair work.

Cllr Pearson also reported on the email received by the parish council from a parishioner regarding an incident with a car while her and her mother were out riding their horses. The response from WBC was also noted and they have not raised any concerns with the signage in the area. It was resolved that the parish council will keep an eye on the area and see if there are any further reports when it may be necessary to look at the speed of cars in the area again.

## **89. Environmental matters**

It was noted that fly-tipping is becoming very prevalent in the Moor Copse and Sulham Lane areas. It has been happening regularly since the permits were introduced for the Reading waste site. District cllr Metcalfe advised everyone to report anything they see and if enough incidents are logged then WBC can install cameras in the affected areas.

It was also noted that Cllr Pawson was going to discuss with Arrow Fencing about putting up the new noticeboards. The chairman will discuss with him.

## **90. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group report**

The next meeting is on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The previous minutes have been circulated to all councillors.

## **91. AWE Liaison Group report**

Jon Chishick emailed to note that there was nothing to report and that he will attend the next meeting.

## **92. Pension update**

The clerk reported that she has received the relevant letter regarding pensions from the parish council, but at this stage she does not request them to provide one.

### 93. Financial Matters

Proposed by Cllr Webb and seconded by Cllr Elliot. It was resolved to make the payment to Pangbourne Parish Council for the floodsax ahead of receiving the grant that the flood warden, George Davidson has applied for.

Proposed by Cllr Webb and seconded by Cllr Elliot. It was resolved to make the following payments:

#### Payments made:

Payee	Description	Total amount	VAT
Aon Insurance	Lawn mower annual premium (473)	£325.60	£0
Sarah Bosley	Clerk's salary, allowance and mileage for January (474)	£236	£0
Sarah Bosley	Clerk's salary, allowance and mileage for February (475)	£236	£0
Pangbourne Parish Council	Floodsax (to be repaid by a grant) (476)	£434.52	£0

### 94. Clerk's Report

The clerk reported the following:

- The parish conference is on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Cllr Pawson is attending.
- She also circulated correspondence on the Village Agents and an Energy Switching scheme from WBC.

### 95. Close of meeting

The chairman closed the meeting at 10pm. The next meeting is on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Date**

**Signed**