

Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council, Wednesday 17th July, 2013 in the village hall.

Present:

Councillor Mike Broun
Councillor Steve Webb
Councillor Jon Chishick
Councillor Jonathan Pearson
Councillor John Haggarty
Councillor Colin Pawson

In attendance:

Sarah Bosley (clerk)
District Councillor Tim Metcalfe
1 member of the public

15. Accepted apologies

None

16. Declarations of Interest

None

17. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the annual meeting on May 15th, 2013, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

18. Matter arising from the minutes

Item 7 – Cllr Broun passed on the details of local company willing to discuss sharing broadband with the village, to Cllr Pearson, who will contact them to discuss further.

Item 10 – Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Charity Commission for clarification on the Millennium Green Trust and whether it needed holding trustees. Holding Trustees are needed for the deeds, so it is expected that they do already exist. Clerk to contact Charity Commission to find out where MG deeds are held and check who are holding trustees.

Item 15 – Harry Stubbings currently away, but he will contact Cllr Broun on his return regarding the noticeboards.

19. District councillor's report

District Cllr Metcalfe reported the following:

- He had attended a Vision meeting earlier this evening, where Paul Hendry, from WBC, had discussed moving travellers on and clearing up afterwards.
- The NAG/BBOWT/local police have been carrying out an operation to counter sexual activities in local car park. Vegetation will be cut back to help combat the issue.
- A by-election will be held in Hungerford next month after the sudden death of WBC district councillor.

- WBC are having a battle with Sovereign Housing. It appears to be Sovereign policy to put families in Newbury, but schools in Newbury are full. WBC is urging Sovereign to place families in the villages where schools have more places and are struggling to stay open with less children.
- The national canoe marathon championships are taking place from Tim Metcalfe's farm over the August Bank Holiday.
- Pangbourne bridge closure going ahead. Will be closed from November until, potentially, Easter. It will throw up some problems, particularly for highways.
- No date set to start yet, but still paying for the road works to take place, so interest still there.
- New concept for Theale fire station is going ahead. Newbury will expand too, but Mortimer and Pangbourne are set to close.

20. Planning

Planning decisions:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
13/01006/HOUSE	1 Manor Farm Mews, Manor Farm Lane, RG8 8EY	Demolition of conservatory and construction of single storey rear extension	Approved

Planning applications:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
13/01265/COMI ND	Bere Court Farm, Pangbourne	Retrospective improvements to access (neighbouring parish)	No Objections

21. Highways and Footpaths

Clerk reported that Andrew Garratt at WBC will look into Cllr Chishick's request for signs at the start of the village coming from the east and west.

WBC, as the landowner, is to look at the overhanging branches opposite the Mill House on Sulham Lane.

Concerns were raised over the continuous speeding on Sulham Lane. Cllr Pawson asked about the possibility of a solar-powered 'slow' sign. Clerk to contact WBC and discuss.

Sima Elliot reported that WBC had told her they would be carrying out a speed survey outside her property. She will keep councillors updated if she hears more.

WBC are aware of a number of pot holes around the village. Cllr Webb said that reporting on WBC site was easy and they came out and fixed them quite quickly. Clerk to contact Street Care to see if there is a criteria for when WBC will fill them.

Cllr Broun raised concerns of residents that speed guns are never used in the village. District Cllr Metcalfe said that it was a key issue at the NAG and if Tidmarsh raised it there the police and council would be aware of it and could put Tidmarsh down as a priority. Cllr Haggarty to raise the issue at the next NAG meeting.

Cllr Haggarty reported that the footpaths in Sulham had been cut back recently.

22. Environmental Matters

Sima Elliot reported that neighbours had told her they believed more trees were being cut down at Keeper's Cottage. Dogs are also barking late into the night and lights are still on 24 hours a day. District cllr Metcalfe suggested that every resident with a concern should contact Environmental Health at WBC independently.

It was reported that lorry movements, however, appear to have virtually ceased.

Cllr Broun reported the issues with emptying the bins on the Millennium Green has got quite desperate. Clerk said she had been trying to contact someone for over a year now, with no response. She will chase again.

Car park at the top of Sulham Hill, belonging to the Forestry Commission, is full every morning, meaning cars park on the road and block Cllr Haggarty's gateway.

Proposed by Cllr Haggarty and seconded by Cllr Webb. It was resolved that the clerk writes to the Forestry Commission and proposes that it expands the car park into the large hard standing area, as parking is now getting dangerous.

Clerk reported that Nick Carter, of WBC, is hosting a flood planning meeting. Cllr Pawson and Sima Elliot will attend.

Clerk to contact John Handy Forestry to discuss whether the mistletoe surrounding the gate on the Millennium Green should have been cut and the stumps removed from the felled trees.

Proposed by Cllr Pawson and seconded by Cllr Broun. It was resolved that Cllr Pawson formalises the order for the wildflower meadow.

23. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group

This was covered by district Cllr Metcalfe in his report (item 19).

24. AWE Liaison Group

The last meeting was on June 12th, and there will be another one on September 18th.

25. Policies and procedures

Proposed by Cllr Pawson and seconded by Cllr Broun. It was resolved to accept the policies and procedures put forward by the clerk, with the one following amendment:

In the complaints procedure a line must be added stating that if the complaint is against the clerk, then the complaint must be made in writing to the chairman.

26. Accounts

Receipts put forward for payment were proposed by cllr Chishick and seconded by cllr Haggarty.

Payments made:

Payee	Description	Amount
John Handy Forestry	Tree works on the MG (264)	£2,640.00 (S106 money)

BALC	Annual membership (265)	£103.99
Information Commissioner's Office	Annual fee (reissued cheque - 266 in replace of 255)	£35
West Berkshire Council	2 x Dog bins and installation (267)	£621.60
Sarah Bosley	Salary for July (268)	£166.40
Sarah Bosley	Salary for August (269)	£166.40
Mike Broun	Cutting of extra key for the MG (270)	£5

It was resolved that the above invoices be approved for payment.

The clerk reported that she still had not received any invoices from the Village Hall Committee. Cllr Webb will discuss with the committee at the next meeting.

27. Clerk's Report

The clerk provided councillors with a copy of WBC's annual Standards Committee report, as well as WBC's roads resurfacing programme for 2013/14.

Cllr Pawson reported that Stewart Sowden, at WBC, had referred the parish council's request for S106 monies, to be put towards restoring the Sulham Pigeon Tower, to the legal department for clarification.

28. Close of meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45pm. The next meeting is on 18th September, 2013.

Date

Signed