

# Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council, on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 in the village hall.

## **Present:**

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

## **In attendance:**

Andrew Garratt, WBC  
1 member of the public  
Sarah Bosley (clerk)

## **15. Accepted apologies**

Councillor Jon Chishick

## **16. Declarations of Interest**

None

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

The minutes from the meeting held on May 21st, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

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

Item 7 – Clerk gave some examples of storage units she had found for the green, but Cllr Webb noted that they were plastic and a metal one was necessary for security reasons.

Item 8 – Cllr Pearson asked for the clerk to email him a copy of the latest flood report from George Davidson.

## **19. Planning**

### **Planning decisions:**

<b>Application number</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Decision</b>
14/00664/FUL	5 Tidmarsh Court, Tidmarsh Lane	Addition of a three pane, double glazed UPVC window	Approved
14/00913/COND1 and	Longbridge House,	Approval of conditions	Approved

14/00397/COND2			
14/00551/HOUSE	Ogmoor House	Alterations and extension to granny annexe	Refused
14/00790/HOUSE	Willowbrook, Manor Farm Lane	Construction of a garage/garden store	Approved
14/00287/FUL	1 Tidmarsh Court, Tidmarsh Lane	Construction of an orangery	Approved

**Planning applications:**

<b>Application number</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Decision</b>
14/01464/HOUSE	Knabs Lodge, Mill Lane	Construction of detached double garage with storage and utility in the loft	No objections but there should be a condition that ties the garage to the house and no change of use to residential

**20. Highways – discussion with Andrew Garratt of West Berkshire Council**

Points raised with Mr Garratt included the following:

- How to slow traffic down along the A340
- Overgrown vegetation that needs cutting back as it obscures signs
- The signs on Tidmarsh Lane and Mill Lane, which say ‘Unsuitable for HGVs’ need to be changed to the more modern pictorial ones.
- Issues of speeding around the corner at Moor Copse
- Pot holes on Sulham Lane

The responses given by Mr Garratt included the following and he will be taking all the information back to WBC to investigate the concerns further:

- Overgrown vegetation concerns will be passed on to the countryside team
- It would cost around £4-£5k for a vehicle activated sign, but he does not believe it would be appropriate here.
- Traffic calming needs to be as conspicuous as possible.
- A survey of the roads needs to be carried out
- Hatching was not really an option due to the road width
- HGV signs with pictures are just newer and won’t be replaced unless necessary, as there is a cost issue
- Mr Garratt will check why there is no advisory sign at Moor Copse coming from Tidmarsh
- In the three years to May 2014 there has only been one accident on Mill Lane, which was in September 2013, where there was a slight injury.

**21. District councillor’s report**

District councillor Metcalfe reported:

- WBC has already started to get into election mode
- Zero-based budgets are being discussed, which means working from the bottom up
- A small solar panel park has been passed and another is in the pipeline
- Pangbourne bridge is on track to reopen in September
- Denefield School has received a GOOD Ofsted report
- Broadband cabinets are going in
- It is going to take around nine months to rebuild the bridge over the railway at Padworth. There is also a problem with the one at Theale
- Pangbourne public toilets – there are five public toilet blocks outside of Newbury that were subject to closure. Pangbourne have two blocks and one is under threat. Pangbourne Parish Council were told they must fund it if they want to keep it open, so they decided to trial a closure. There is a meeting being held at Pangbourne this Friday to discuss it further. Proposed by Cllr Haggarty and seconded by Cllr Broun. It was resolved that the parish council voices its support to keep the toilets open.

## **22. Environmental Matters, including footpaths**

A report by George Davidson was read out by the clerk. The points were:

- The meeting last night went well and group is forming well with good interaction between agencies and the parish representatives
- Agreement was given to set up a technical sub group to advise the PVFF (Pang Valley Flood Forum) that will encompass measurement and prediction of flood risk and its associated mitigation measures, including sustainable engineering solutions – Clive will represent us on this group which is great news
- Agreement for each Parish to map out areas of greatest impact / areas that can be left alone so we can map the impact along the length of the Pang and act as one
- The action plan was reviewed and all the points submitted by Tidmarsh / Sulham were discussed
- The EA is attending a meeting on Friday (18<sup>th</sup>) to review sluices gates within Tidmarsh section and the eroded banking in BBWOT
- Agreement reached to review the operating procedure of the Thames Water sluice at Pangbourne and how that could minimise peak flows and discharge to the Thames where appropriate
- Agreement to look at a ditch to the side of Willow Tree cottage to minimise flood risk from grippers installed last year – WBC to speak to land owner and report back
- In principle the EA will look into commissioning a report to investigate potential impact of providing additional upstream storage where appropriate – initial a proposal for research funding will be made but anticipated it will be a 2015 action

Cllr Pawson reported that there are new owners at the Mill House and he had confirmed that the sluices there will always be the responsibility of the owner of the Mill House.

West Berkshire Council has been cutting back the footpaths and they are looking very neat and tidy.

Cllr Chishick had sent an email asking the council to discuss a parishioner's request to install water and electricity to the Millennium Green. Proposed by Cllr Pawson and seconded by Cllr Broun. It was resolved that a more detailed analysis needed to be undertaken before any decision could be made as the annual maintenance costs could be very large.

Cllr Webb reported that a tree had fallen into his garden. The Forestry Commission has removed it.

The Forestry Commission has also asked for a quote to remove all the willows along the stream by Peat Pits Woods, but it needs to be done by hand and is therefore very expensive.

The parish council will soon be getting a quote for the annual cutting of the hedge on the village green.

### **23. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group**

Cllr Haggarty reported that it was very quiet with no issues.

### **24. AWE Liaison Group**

Cllr Chishick was not present.

### **25. Review of the council's standing orders and financial regulations**

Proposed by cllr Broun and seconded by cllr Webb. It was resolved to keep the current standing orders and financial regulations as they are. The council has decided not to look into using electronic banking for now.

### **26. Review of the council's policies and procedures and risk assessments**

Proposed by cllr Broun and seconded by cllr Webb. It was resolved to keep the policies and procedures as they are. The council's risk assessment is also up to date and was accepted by the councillors.

### **27. Review of the council's assets register**

Proposed by cllr Broun and seconded by cllr Webb. It was resolved that the current assets register is correct and up to date.

### **28. Financial matters**

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

#### **Payments made:**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
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ICO	Annual renewal (309)	£35
Zurich Insurance	Millennium Green insurance (310)	£265.22
Colin Pawson	Reimbursement for commemorative plaque (311)	£201.84
Tidmarsh Parish Magazine	Annual contribution (312)	£750
Sarah Bosley	Salary and allowance for July (313)	£236
Sarah Bosley	Salary and allowance for August (314)	£236
Sarah Bosley	Quarterly postage (315)	£5.43

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

### **29. Clerk's Report**

The chairman, on behalf of the councillors, thanked cllr Pawson for his hard work with the commemorative plaque on the Millennium Green oak tree.

Cllr Pawson reported that the judges for the Dorothy Morley award had visited the Millennium Green wildflower meadow and we are now awaiting the results.

### **30. Close of meeting**

Chairman closed the meeting at 10pm. The next meeting is on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

**Date**

**Signed**