

Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council

Minutes of the annual meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council, on Wednesday July 20th, 2016 held at the Village Hall

Present:

Councillor Mike Broun
Councillor Steve Webb
Councillor Colin Pawson
Councillor Jonathan Pearson

In attendance:

Sarah Bosley (clerk)
3 members of the public

23. Accepted apologies

Councillor Sima Elliot
Councillor John Haggarty
District councillor Tim Metcalfe

24. Declarations of Members' Interests for this meeting

None

25. Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 18th May, 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

26. Matters arising from the minutes

Item 7: The clerk updated councillors on the response from WBC.
Glyn Davis's response is below:

"I have forwarded this e-mail to Andrew Reynolds (Highways Maintenance Principal Engineer) to answer the query regarding the road and verge maintenance.

With reference to the noticing for the closures. There are two types of closure one is used for emergencies where the road needs to be closed immediately for example serious accidents, gas/water leaks etc. Obviously we are unable to give any notice for these kind of events but we always inform the Parish Council, Members, Emergency Services as soon as we make the order, we also inform waste disposal so they are always be aware of road closures.

The other type of closure is when there are non-emergency scheduled works for example BT pole replacement. For these we inform all listed above, so waste disposal will be aware of the closure. We also advertise the closure in the press, on street via notices and the roadworks.org website. We also put up signs on the closure route (but not on the diversion route) pre-warning regular users of the route of the future works.

With the number of closures we process we do not have the resources to carry out letter drops on either the closure or diversion routes. However if the closure is going to cause major disruption a letter drop may be carried out by the contractor in strategic areas prior to the works.”

Andrew Reynolds responded by saying:

“With regards to the maintenance of the highway, West Berkshire Council has a duty to maintain the highway in a safe and serviceable condition. The erosion of roadside verges is a particular issue that is very difficult to stop given the size of some of the vehicles using the network. This together with a reduced budget means that each site has to be assessed on its merits. I will arrange to have Sulham Lane inspected with your comments in mind and any repairs that are considered necessary will be ordered through the Council’s Term Contractor.”

Item 12: It was noted that WBC has now agreed to remove its old bin and accept the new bin as a gift from the parish council. The chairman thanked the clerk for sorting it out.

Item 13: Cllr Pawson reported that he has carried out a gate audit. He was asked to defer getting a new gate on Sulham Lane until WBC resurfaces it. Cllr Webb confirmed that has now taken place. It was noted that Mr Smith has agreed for two stiles on his land to be replaced by kissing gates. Cllr Pawson queried if one was needed at all. WBC will be carrying out the work. Cllr Pawson agreed to carry out a safety audit, looking at improving pedestrian safety on Mill Lane.

Item 21: The clerk provided the sports kit that she had ordered and Cllr Broun has taken it to place in the storage box on the MG.

27. District councillor’s report

District cllr Metcalfe had sent his apologies but Cllr Pawson noted that he was going to ask him to update councillors on the ‘Waste Wars’ taking place in West Berkshire over use of the waste and recycling sites in Reading. Clerk will ask Mr Metcalfe for an update.

28. Planning

Planning decisions:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
15/03426/ADV	Ikea, Pincent Lane	15 Fascia signs and 3 hanging signs; 13 signs and 3 sets of flags	Granted

It was noted that we are still awaiting notification of a decision on application number 16/00597/CERTE, on a certificate of lawfulness by D W Lusted. Clerk to chase.

Cllr Pawson noted that, as an adjoining parish, Tidmarsh has been informed that the conversion of the Cow Barn to B8 storage has been approved with conditions. One of these conditions is that the flood alleviation scheme has to be finished before any work begins, which highlights that the PC concerns initially were justified.

29. Approval of public questionnaire regarding use of S106 money

Proposed by Cllr Broun and seconded by Cllr Webb. It was resolved that the questionnaire circulated by the clerk (and attached to these minutes) will be sent to all homes in the parish. Clerk to arrange for printing of 200 copies and send to Cllr Broun, who will arrange for distribution.

30. Millennium Green: Car parking and fencing – the future?

It was decided that this item must first be discussed by the Trustees before anything is agreed by the parish council.

Cllr Pawson highlighted that the trust deeds state that there must be no more than two parking spaces. This is a ‘reserved right’ which means that it cannot be altered. There can, however, be less than two.

31. Website – future plans

Cllr Webb reported that he has now changed the website over to Go Daddy hosting at a cost of £129 for two years.

32. Installation of new bin in Tidmarsh – decided upon quote

The clerk reported that she had contacted several contractors but very few have replied, and those that have are too busy to even quote for the work at the moment. It was decided that Cllr Pawson will contact Arrow Fencing and ask them to include installation of the bin, MG sign, noticeboard in Sulham and community noticeboard in their quote for all the footpaths works. Cllr Haggarty has the bin so can provide exact dimensions.

33. Highways and footpath matters, including pavement between Tidmarsh and Pangbourne and initial thoughts since the opening of Ikea

A discussion took place with residents regarding the state of the pavement down to Pangbourne. It is completely overgrown with shrubs and has been reported. WBC is looking at who the landowners are to ask them to cut back hedges etc. It was asked if the clerk could send out reminder notices on May 1st each year, asking parishioners to maintain their hedges. It is a real safety issue as people have to go into the road.

It was asked whether S106 money could be used to reprofile the hedges and create a safer footpath/cycleway.

Clerk to chase WBC Streetcare team to see what is happening.

Cllr Pawson reported that WBC has installed gates either end of Nunhide Lane, which may help prevent people using it as a cut through from Ikea.

34. Pangbourne Library update

The clerk reported that she had spoken to Nicola Anderson, at the campaign group, after a recent meeting with the ‘inspector’ at the library.

She noted: “I thought it was a hugely positive meeting today with Wendy. It didn’t seem that closure of the library is on the horizon and that WBC are minded to create some form of partnership with FOPL and the Parish Councils. I know there is a long way to go and the “devil is in the detail” but I’m optimistic our collective efforts and hard work may have helped protect the library in

Pangbourne in the short to medium term. She said the report would come out in late August so expect to see announcements in September.”

Cllr Pearson reported that his understanding was that they are looking at cutting paid staff and making more use of volunteers, as well as having mobile shelving units that are moved aside in the evenings so the library can be rented out as a separate space.

Wendy, who is carrying out the review, has apparently noted that she does not believe WBC’s initial plan was lawful.

Clerk to write to express the parish council’s support for the library and note that it expects WBC to uphold its statutory duties with regards to library provision for parishioners.

35. Environmental matters, including Oak Processionary Moth

Clerk to ask Cllr Haggarty for any update he may be aware of.

36. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group report

Clerk to ask Cllr Haggarty and District Cllr Metcalfe for any update. She also reported that she had been contacted by a resident raising more concerns over the activities at Hogmoor Copse.

37. AWE Liaison Group report

Jon Chishick reported that he had attended a meeting on June 22nd. He noted that AWE was no the shortlist for the siting of parts of dismantled submarines, but it has been decided that the materials will go to another site. AWE is named as the back-up site however.

The next meeting is on September 21st.

38. Pension update

No current update.

39. Financial Matters

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

Payments made:

Payee	Description	Total amount	VAT
ICO	Annual affiliation (455)	£35	£0
Steve Webb	Reimbursement for web hosting fee (456)	£129.17	£21.51
Brian Murby	Annual MG maintenance (457)	£260	£0
Brian Murby	Annual MG maintenance (458)	£260	£0
Sarah Bosley	Salary, allowance & mileage for July (459)	£272	£0

Sarah Bosley	Salary and allowance for August (460)	£236	£0
Harry Stebbings	Noticeboards (461)	£2,593.50	£432.25

40. Clerk's Report

The clerk reported:

- The next District Parish Conference is on October 18th.
- There is a Minerals and Waste Planning Policy consultation currently taking place should anyone wish to comment. It closes on August 5th.
- There is a consultation on Alternative Education Provision also taking place and the clerk can email the link to anyone wishing to comment.
- The clerk has displayed the notice of Elector's Rights, with regards to the external audit documents.
- It has been highlighted that under an insertion of a new Section 33ZA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, a waste collection authority can now issue fixed penalty notices for fly-tipping. Parish Councils could be able to use the powers to appoint officers to issue FPNs for littering, graffiti, fly-tipping and dog control.

41. Close of meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm. The next meeting is on September 21st, 2016.

Date

Signed