

Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council

Minutes of the annual meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council on Wednesday 27th May 2009 in the village hall

Present:

Councillor Mike Broun (chairman), Councillor Steve Webb, Councillor Jon Chishick, Councillor James Hutchison

In attendance:

Parish Clerk, PC Marc Robinson, PCSO Sue Nix, District Councillor Tim Metcalfe

1. Apologies for absence:

Councillor Colin Pawson

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Thames Valley Police

Cllr Broun welcomed PC Marc Robinson and Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Sue Nix. They attended the meeting to introduce themselves and to discuss current crime and community issues. They are both based at Pangbourne Police Station, which covers Tidmarsh and Sulham.

There was a discussion about resourcing issues at Thames Valley Police. Sue Nix informed the council that seven PCSOs are working from Pangbourne station and are available to provide support.

Cllr Hutchison reported an incident involving a parishioner's emergency 999 call about an attempted burglary. The operator viewed the problem as a civil trespass matter and wouldn't send assistance. PC Marc Bell replied that this isn't standard practice and shouldn't have happened.

The parish council discussed the problem of obstructive parking in front of the Greyhound. Sue Nix suggested that she would patrol this area and was able to deal with parking obstructions. She also agreed to investigate the bikers causing problems in Sulham Woods.

The parish council raised the ongoing problem of speeding along the A340. PC Marc Robinson told the council that there are strict rules about where speed camera vans can park but he would be happy to carry out speed enforcement in the parish.

Sue Nix informed the council that their programme to engage children involves visiting schools and answering questions in the playground, she feels this is the most effective method of communicating with school children.

Cllr Broun thanked the officers for attending the meeting.

4. Public forum

None

5. Election of chairman

Resolved that Cllr Mike Broun take the Chair for the year 2009/10.

6. Election of vice chairman

Resolved that Cllr Colin Pawson take the Vice Chair for the year 2009/10.

7. Minutes from last meeting

Minutes of 18th March 2009 agreed as a correct record and signed.

8. Matters arising from the minutes

None

9. Parish council archives

Resolved that all parish council minutes and other records, up to the year 2000, will be archived at the Berkshire Records Office. Parish clerk to action.

10. S106 money

Parish clerk confirmed that Stewart Souden at West Berkshire Council has signed off the five projects which include:

- Replace millennium green fencing
- Install new circular path
- Install bandstand and/or play equipment
- Purchase new mower
- Replace benches

Cllr Broun reported that the Millennium Green Trustees discussed the projects at the meeting on 26th May and asked that the mower and fencing be prioritised. Cllr Broun has explored the cost of playground equipment, which would cost approx £12,000. The parish council also discussed the need of replacing the benches. Agreed that Cllr Broun would organise the quotes for new mowing equipment.

District Cllr Metcalfe commented that planning permission wouldn't be required for the play equipment but would be necessary for the bandstand.

11. District Councillor Report

District Cllr Metcalfe reported that West Berks Council car park prices have increased; however West Berkshire Council will be offering free parking in towns including Pangbourne (every Thursday) until 23rd July 2009.

District Councillor David Betts, who also covers the Purley ward, has taken over the Transport & Highways portfolio and will be a useful contact for the parish council.

Civil Enforcement Officers have been introduced and are undergoing a training programme; once this is completed they will be able to deal with more issues such as such as dog fouling, as well as issuing parking tickets.

12. Planning applications

None received

13. Highways, Footpaths and Traffic Matters

A letter was sent to Andrew Garrett on 18th May to summarise the requests from the Traffic Group. The letter focused on:

- Reduction of speed and use of HGVs on Tidmarsh Lane
- Safer crossing of A340, particularly for school children
- Line of sight and speed at Sulham Hill/Sulham Lane junction
- Speed restriction signs on A340 and other roads
- Safety of Mill Lane/A340 junction

It was reported that a speed limit sign on the A340 is facing the wrong way. Parish clerk to report to Streetcare.

14. Finance

Payments made:

Payee	Description	Amount £
J Wheeler	Salary	484.00
Allianz Cornhill	Annual insurance premium	372.43
A McCowie	Internal audit	30.00
G Kuhn	Maps (parish plan)	320.00

Payments received:

None

15. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group

Liz White has taken over as the chair of the NAG group. Marc Robinson is the vice-chair. The problem cyclists in Sulham woods were reported at the last meeting.

16. Local Environmental Matters

Report that the stream from Ogmoor is blocked. There was a discussion about the concerns of pollution from the dumper at Dark Lane. The Environment Agency has passed it as clear and will keep watching it.

17. AWE update

The next meeting is on 11th June. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

18. Matters for further discussion

Resolved that Cllr Webb would be the parish council representative on the village hall committee.

19. Conclusion

Chairman closed the meeting at 10.25pm.

Chairman

27th May 2009