

Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council

Minutes of the annual meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council, Wednesday 20th May, 2015 in the village hall.

Present:

Councillor Mike Broun
Councillor Steve Webb
Councillor John Haggarty
Councillor Colin Pawson
Councillor Sima Elliot
Councillor Jonathan Pearson

In attendance:

Sarah Bosley (clerk)
District councillor Tim Metcalfe

1. Election of chairman

Mike Broun was proposed by Colin Pawson and seconded by John Haggarty. It was resolved that Mike Broun continue as chairman. He signed the declaration of office. Cllr Broun then welcomed back all the councillors, including new member Sima Elliot. He offered a vote of thanks to Jon Chishick who stood down at the election.

2. Election of vice chairman

Steve Webb was proposed by Mike Broun and seconded by John Haggarty. It was resolved that Steve Webb continue as vice chairman. He signed the declaration of office.

3. Election of committees

It proposed by Steve Webb and seconded by Mike Broun that Colin Pawson be elected as chairman of the planning committee. It was resolved that Colin Pawson would continue as chairman and the planning committee would continue under its current terms of reference.

It was proposed by Steve Webb and seconded by Mike Broun that although Jon Chishick is no longer a councillor he should still receive the post for the parish council, as the address has only recently been changed. Jon has already agreed to allow this and it was also noted that all the important parish council documents are still sent to the clerk. It was resolved that this should continue. Proposed by Steve Webb and seconded by Mike Broun. It was resolved that Jonathan Pearson continues to be the Superfast Broadband liaison and contact for the parish council.

4. Accepted apologies

None

5. Declarations of Members' Interests for this meeting

Cllr Haggarty declared an interest in Item 9, Planning.

6. Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes from the meeting held on March 18th were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

7. Matters arising from the minutes

Item 87: Cllr Webb asked the clerk if there was an update on the website. Clerk and Cllr Webb to liaise to ensure the parish website is sufficient for the new needs.

Item 84: It was noted that there are still no new white lines on the road outside Cllr Elliot's house. The clerk reminded councillors that WBC had said it was on the 'to do' list after April.

Item 83: It was reported by Cllr Broun that progress has been made with the bus shelter, including a recent site meeting with councillors and the Barn Partnership. The clerk has been liaising with WBC with regards to the needs for planning and works consent. She will continue to liaise with them, as well as the Barn Partnership.

Cllr Pearson noted that there is currently a parish noticeboard on the bus shelter and he would be keen to see it retained. Proposed by cllr Pearson and seconded by Cllr Webb. It was resolved that a noticeboard for parishioners be added inside the lychgate at the playground.

8. District councillor's report

District cllr Metcalfe thanked everyone who had supported him in the recent elections, where there was a huge turnout – more than 71% in the Purley ward. He also reported:

- There are now only four Lib Dems on the district council, after the loss of a lot of good local councillors.
- Public consultation recently carried out by WBC recently showed that more than a third of respondents were from the Eastern Area and were complaining about the lack of infrastructure there, despite it representing one third of West Berkshire. The Eastern Area Vision will now be given more clout and meetings with senior officers have already taken place. Cllr Pawson and Cllr Elliot will represent Tidmarsh at future meetings. The new portfolio member for the EAV is Alan Law.
- WBC is still under financial constraints and not sure how it will deal with things.
- Cllr Elliot asked district cllr Metcalfe about transportation in the village. He said that the district as a whole had been analysed and it just wasn't financially viable to continue subsidising some of the bus routes.
- Children's services at WBC has been given an inadequate rating in the recent inspection, but things are already changing.

9. Planning

Planning decisions:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
14/03371/MDOPO	Mayden Farm	Removal of some of the land that constitutes the site	Approved
15/00345/LBC2	Longbridge House	Listed building consent	LBC is not required
15/00305/FUL	Sunny Brook	Construction of	Approved

		workshop/log store on other land adjacent to Sunny Brook following demolition of existing stores	
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The clerk also reported that there had been a large number of applications regarding the Ikea site approved as well. These were all regarding approval of conditions.

Planning applications:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
15/00951/FUL	Home Farm, Sulham Lane	Change of use from Agricultural to B9 storage, change to cladding and laying of new hard standing	No objections, as long as WBC can come up with a credible way of reducing HGV movements down Sulham Lane/Mill Lane

The clerk reported that she had discussed the PC’s concerns about Knabb’s Lodge with WBC and they have confirmed new applications will be submitted for the ‘means of enclosure’ and the amendments made to the front elevation.

10. Highways and footpaths, including the Highway’s Authority’s role in supporting road users

Cllr Pearson raised a number of concerns about the Highways and Street works teams at WBC. It was suggested by district councillor Metcalfe that Cllr Pearson takes his questions and concerns to WBC, where he is able to bring them up at any council meeting. It was agreed that this would be the best way forward as the parish council is not able to answer the questions/concerns cllr Pearson has. He will report back to the parish council once he has discussed it with WBC.

It was reported that a resurfacing vehicle had caused chaos on Mill Lane recently. District cllr Metcalfe will take the concerns to WBC, having already brought it up with them. An enquiry is now ongoing into what went wrong.

A new temporary bridleway has been installed at the south end of Nunhide Lane to link up to Pincents Lane while Ikea is built.

Cllr Pawson asked for ‘Slow Horses’ signs. The clerk reported that WBC has previously asked for evidence of where the horses come from before they consider it. Clerk and Cllr Pawson to liaise to collate that evidence.

Cllr Pawson to contact Arrow Fencing regarding the rotting poles on the village walk.

The clerk reported that Jon Chishick has recently completed training in SID (speed indicator devices) so he can use them in the village – at locations to be specified by WBC on health and safety grounds.

Cllr Broun reported that the post box along the A340 is damaged. Clerk to report.

Cllr Haggarty reported that the Sulham phone box has been smashed. Clerk to report.

11. Environmental Matters, including Flood update

Clive Loveridge attended the meeting to report on the progress of the Pang Valley Flood Forum. He noted:

- * It will continue to meet every three months and receives representation from WBC/Thames Water and the Environment Agency.
- * There is ongoing debate about reinstating the bank at the BBOWT reserve. A consensus has been achieved and there is agreement for it to go forward.
- * John Taylor, at The Mill, is regularly opening the sluices now and it is making a great difference.
- * Upstream of where the work will take place there is another area that floods and this will be looked at later in the process.
- * The weir that feed the ditch which crosses Mill Lane is in a poor state. The boards have been removed from time to time, but it will now be repaired with a single plate instead of individual wood boards. There will be a system for locking them.
- * Hope all the work will be complete by winter.
- * Mill Lane gullies do not work as the soakaways are blocked up. New soakaways have been installed. WBC is still looking at other options.
- * A training session for the mapping will take place sometime soon, probably in Tidmarsh.
- * George Davidson will draft a community plan for the village and bring it to the PC. He will also remind riparian owners of their responsibilities by re-circulating the EA guidance. Clive to ask George to draft something for the parish magazine.
- * Clive or George will give updates at the next PC meeting.

The chairman thanked Clive for all his work

12. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group report

Cllr Haggarty reported that there had been a brief meeting where the police sergeant for Pangbourne attended and reported crime figures for the previous quarter – which were really quite low. Crime was down a bit which was good to see.

13. AWE Liaison Group – election of parish representative

Proposed by cllr Webb and seconded by cllr Elliot. It was resolved for Jon Chishick to remain as the parish council representative on the AWE Liaison Group.

14. The role of the parish council and its relationship with WBC

It was agreed to defer this item until Cllr Pearson has had an opportunity to discuss his concerns with WBC. He will then report back on his findings.

15. Internal audit report recommendations

Proposed by cllr Webb and seconded by cllr Broun. The council were shown the internal audit report and also accepted the amended Assets Register, which now includes the phone box, as noted in the report.

16. Code of Conduct

Proposed by cllr Webb and seconded by cllr Elliot. It was resolved to accept the revised Code of Conduct.

17. Accounts

Receipts put forward for payment were proposed by cllr Broun and seconded by cllr Webb. It was resolved to make the following payments.

Payments made:

Payee	Description	Amount
BALC	Annual membership (336)	£107.68
Unicorn Restorations	Paint for phone box (337)	£167.47
Brian Murby	Quarterly MG maintenance (338)	£260.00
Rospa (Playsafety)	Annual inspection of play area (339)	£78.00
BALC	Councillor training course (340)	£48.00
Tidmarsh village hall	Hire of hall 2014 (341)	£90.00
Tidmarsh village hall	PVFF meeting hall hire (342)	£15.00
David Weller	Internal audit	£40.00
Zurich Municipal	Annual insurance premium (344)	£450.54
Sarah Bosley	Salary and allowance for May (345)	£220.00
Sarah Bosley	Salary, allowance and mileage for June (346)	£256.00
Sarah Bosley	Overtime payment (347)	£120.00
Mike Broun	Spare keys for noticeboard (348)	£8.00
Tidmarsh village hall	Hall hire for 2015	£90.00

The clerk put forward a new insurance quote by Zurich, which was nearly £800 cheaper than the renewal quote from Aon. Proposed by cllr Elliot and seconded by cllr Webb. It was resolved that the parish council accepts the Zurich quote and changes insurers.

The clerk informed the council that she had recently taken the minutes for a meeting of the Pang Valley Flood Forum, which was held in the village hall. Proposed by cllr Elliot and seconded by cllr Broun. It was resolved that the clerk be paid overtime for this meeting as well as the council paying the invoice received for the hall hire. It was noted that the council was disappointed to have been invoiced by the village hall as many other village halls have not done so for the PVFF meetings.

The clerk presented the annual accounts to the councillors. Proposed by cllr Webb and seconded by cllr Elliot. It was resolved that the council accepts the annual accounts and that the chairman and clerk sign the external audit papers.

18. Clerk's Report

The clerk provided councillors with the internal audit report and correspondence on the Village Agent Scheme. It was decided to add Village Agents to the next agenda to find out more about it.

19. Close of meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 10.25pm. The next meeting is on 15th July, 2015.

Date

Signed