

## **Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council**

Minutes of the meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council, Wednesday 16th November 2011 in the village hall.

### **Present:**

Councillor Mike Broun (chairman)  
Councillor Steve Webb (vice-chairman)  
Councillor Colin Pawson  
Councillor Jon Chishick (part way through)  
Councillor Jim Hutchison

### **In attendance:**

Outgoing parish clerk  
New parish clerk  
District Councillor Tim Metcalfe

### **49. Welcome to new parish clerk**

Cllr Broun welcomed Sarah Bosley, the new parish clerk, and thanked the outgoing clerk, Jo Wheeler, for all her hard work.

### **50. Apologies**

Councillor Jonathan Pearson  
Councillor Jon Chishick apologised that he would be arriving late.

### **51. Declarations of interest**

None.

### **52. Minutes from last meeting**

Minutes of 21st September 2011 agreed as a correct record and signed.

### **53. Matters arising**

Item 35: Cllr Pawson reported that Davy Robinson, from Defra, had now replied to his letter about water levels, on behalf of Richard Benyon MP. Contents were discussed but it was agreed that the letter addresses the wrong issues – it talks about water levels near Pangbourne. Councillor Hutchinson suggested inviting the letter's author to a meeting, but it was agreed that this could be done at a later date if necessary. Councillor Pawson to reply thanking Mr Robinson and saying that the council looks forward to meeting in the near future.

Item 36: Parish Clerk to chase up previous letter to West Berkshire Council regarding costs of emptying waste bin at Millennium Green regularly.

#### **54. S106 projects**

Cllr Broun said he had found a picnic bench that he thought could replace the one stolen but has not yet managed to find costings. Resolved to ensure it was replaced by spring.

Cllr Broun to discuss Millennium Green car park with Brian Murby.

#### **55. Parish plan matters**

Cllr Hutchinson read a letter on national planning reform and Neighbourhood Plans he had received from John Howell, MP for Henley. District Cllr Metcalfe said he had recently met and questioned Mr Howell about the issues. He said that the planning department at West Berkshire Council has said that there will not be any significant difference.

Concerns raised about how difficult it may be to encourage residents to participate and how much the plans would be taken into consideration by the district council and the planning inspectorate.

No action to be taken yet – will await further information.

#### **56. District Councillor report**

District Cllr Metcalfe reported that there will be further cost cutting at West Berkshire Council over the next three years, which will become increasingly difficult for the council to find.

He said that more things will become the responsibility of the parish councils, including snow clearing and hedge trimming. He said that although district councils were not allowed to increase council tax, parish councils could increase its precept to cover the additional costs they will incur.

Discussed the Padworth recycling centre and the criticism it has faced because it will not accept general household waste or large vehicles. Cllr Hutchinson expressed fears that fly-tipping will increase.

District Cllr Metcalfe said the district council hoped to change the planning consent in the future and added that the waste team were 'snowed under', which is probably why nobody had noticed it before it was granted.

District Cllr Metcalfe also mentioned that Theale Green had been given a 'notice to improve'. He went back to the issue once Cllr Chishick, the school's chair of governors, arrived later.

## 57. Planning matters

### Planning decisions:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
11/01423/HOUSE	6 Tidmarsh Barns Tidmarsh Lane	Construction of porch extension and installation of conservation type roof windows	Granted
11/01424/HOUSE	7 Tidmarsh Barns Tidmarsh Lane	Construction of porch extension and installation of roof windows and installation of log burning stove with enlarged chimney	Granted

### Planning applications:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
11/02157/OUT	Old Rectory Cottage Tidmarsh Reading Berkshire RG8 8ER	Outline Planning Permission for Replacement Dwelling. Matters seeking consent: access, layout and scale	Concerns raised and cllrs to go and view site and report their decision to Cllr Pawson by November 25th, 2011

It was also noted that a tree has been felled at Keeper's Cottage. Concerns also raised about felling of other trees on the property and light pollution adjacent to SSSI.

Cllr Webb said a resident was also concerned about the flood risk after the property put tarmac down on the once permeable driveway.

Agreed that parish clerk will contact tree officer at West Berkshire Council and chase up previous correspondence with the district council's enforcement officer.

## 58. Highways, Footpaths and Traffic Matters

Concerns raised over hedging on roadside around the parish, as it was a safety issue – a young mother had been seen walking on the road because of overgrowing hedgerow.

Parish clerk to contact West Berkshire Council again with regards to the issue.

Cllr Pawson reported that the bridge at Mill Lane had been surveyed and a high level of corrosion was found. It had been decided to remove corrosion and repaint the bridge.

Cllr Pawson suggested trying to get a weight limit on the bridge. Parish clerk to contact West Berkshire Council engineer to find out how the parish council would go about getting such a limit on the bridge. District Cllr Metcalfe suggested contacting Andrew Garrett.

Cllr Chishick asked if there had been any report from District Cllr David Betts or Andrew Garrett after they previously agreed to look into putting a gate at the south end of the village. Parish clerk to remind them.

Questions were also raised over the missing red tarmac where the 30mph limit in the village begins and the report into the moving of the Sulham Hill layby. Parish clerk to chase up all queries.

#### **59. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)**

Recent meeting attended by Cllr Hutchinson and District Cllr Metcalfe.

Concerns over fly-tipping raised and NAG have taken them on board.

Also mentioned that anti-social behaviour by Theale Green students in Pangbourne had been noted. Discussion on Theale Green's recent Ofsted report continued. Cllr Chishick said the report had found that the progress of students in science was unsatisfactory, as was that of middle band students in maths. He said the school was addressing the issues and that staffing problems in science had compounded the problems. He added that the inspectors had noted 'green shoots' in maths.

The next meeting is on January 11, 2012 at 4.30pm.

#### **60. Environmental Matters**

It was noted that orange numbers have been placed on some trees in Sulham Woods by the Forestry Commission. Sulham Estates have asked for the parish council's help in finding out what the Forestry Commission are doing.

Cllr Pawson to draft letter to the Forestry Commission and cc it to West Berkshire Council's tree officer.

#### **61. AWE update**

Cllr Chishick confirmed a decision on the removal of the Pangbourne pipeline within AWE site will be made public at the next meeting on December 8th, 2011. Cllr Chishick to attend.

**62. Cheques signed:**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Jo Wheeler	Overpaid tax	£43.49
Sarah Bosley	Wages for November and December	£416.00
Mazars	Audit fee	£186.00

A bank mandate to change signatories and the address of the parish council's bank accounts, to that of the new clerk's, was signed by Cllr Broun and Cllr Webb.

**63. Other matters**

It was agreed to hold the Millennium Green AGM at 7pm on Wednesday, May 15th, 2012.

Cllr Pawson reported that it had been suggested that the annual parish supper become the Jubilee Supper next year. Cllr Broun said that he would be away at the time but said that he thought the Millennium Green and the marquee should be used.

**64. Close of meeting**

Chairman closed the meeting at 10.10pm with a vote of thanks for the outgoing parish clerk.

The next meeting is on 18th January 2012.

**Date**

**Signed**