

Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council, on Wednesday 19th November, 2014 in the village hall.

Present:

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

In attendance:

Sarah Bosley (clerk)
Two members of the public
District cllr Tim Metcalfe

44. Accepted apologies

None

45. Declarations of Interest

None

46. Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes from the meeting held on September 17th, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

47. Matters arising from the minutes

Item 37 – The clerk read out an email update from Andrew Garratt. WBC has carried out the following works in Tidmarsh and Sulham so far:

- the vegetation obscuring signs has been cut back
- the new style ‘unsuitable for HGV’ signs have been installed on the A340 for Tidmarsh Lane and Mill Lane
- a max speed sign has been installed on Mill Lane at Moor Copse
- the traffic surveys for the A340 by the Village Hall and its junction with Manor Farm Lane have been delayed due to problems with the equipment. However the surveys should be completed by the end of January 2015
- I have had the width of the A340 measured through Tidmarsh and I am currently assessing if introducing hatched road markings is appropriate. I will let you know what I decide
- The speed limit task group recently considered a request to extend the 30mph speed limit further south. After careful consideration it was agreed that the speed limit is in the appropriate location in terms of visibility to the signs and extending the speed limit prior to the bends is unlikely to have any impact on vehicle speeds entering the village.

Item 38 – Clerk provided the chairman with the guidance from Rospa on how best to treat the play equipment in the MG. The chairman will provide it to the groundsman to look at the best treatment to use now.

Item 38 – Clerk circulated a number of choices for a new storage bin on the MG. Proposed by Cllr Broun, seconded by Cllr Pawson. It was resolved that the PC would purchase the large steel sitebox. Clerk to check if S106 money can be used to pay for the replacement box and more equipment to go in it.

48. Planning

There were no plans to discuss or report this month.

49. District councillor's report

District councillor Metcalfe reported the sad news that district councillor Betts has died.

He also reported:

- The ward boundaries are out of kilter and a boundary review will take place, meaning there may be a slight change in boundaries or a decrease in councillor numbers.
- WBC is in the top group of councils for resurfacing roads and filling potholes and has received a commendation for its work. It is spending a lot of money and resolving pothole issues properly, not just filling them in.
- Road improvements are taking place around the new Ikea site. Some paid for by the store and some through a local transport plan, supported by central government. Ikea is putting in a new application for a two-storey store.
- Pangbourne PC has decided to keep the public toilets open for the foreseeable future and assess the situation again at a later date. The premises have been given over to the PC by the district council.

50. Flood plans update

George Davidson and Clive Loveridge attended and reported on the recent activities of the Pang Valley Flood Forum.

Their report is attached to these minutes.

They asked for the PC's agreement for them to create a Maintenance Register. Proposed by cllr Pawson and seconded by cllr Webb. It was resolved that Clive Loveridge would undertake the exercise on behalf of the village, which will help with monitoring in the future.

They also asked for the parish council to help buy equipment, such as waders, so regular working parties could maintain the waterways.

George Davidson is going to create a Community Emergency Plan and bring it to the January meeting for approval.

Cllr Pawson proposed a vote of thanks to George and Clive for all the work they are doing.

51. Highways and footpaths

The clerk showed councillors a letter regarding public rights of way and the need to register any that are currently not officially listed. Councillors will inform her of any they can think of.

Cllr Chishick reported a 'near miss' while walking along the pavement outside the Tithe Barn due to the pavement being extremely narrow. Clerk to contact WBC to ask if it is possible to have it widened and a small barrier constructed for the length of the Tithe Barn.

The main road through the village will be gritted in accordance with WBC's gritting rota. Clerk to ask if Sulham Hill/Mill Lane could be gritted.

The clerk was asked to contact Stuart Clark regarding cutting grips along Sulham Lane, near Peat Pits Woods, as previously mentioned.

Clerk to contact Andrew Garratt to ask if the white lines on the road outside Moor Copse can be repainted, as they are faded.

52. Environmental Matters, including footpaths

Cutting of the wildflower meadow: Cllr Haggarty will liaise with Brian Murby to undertake it as soon as possible.

Cllr Chishick reported that there were a lot of nettles around the swings. Brian Murby to be asked if he can ensure he strims under the play equipment and benches to get rid of them.

Brian Murby has reported that another tree on the MG is dead. Clerk to contact John Handy Forestry and ask him to sort it out as soon as possible and undertake another audit of the remaining trees.

53. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group

The last meeting was on 27th October. Cllr Haggarty reported that dog walking companies were proving problematic as they are walking up to 20 dogs at one time. It is something the NAG is looking at.

There was a large incident at the Adventure Dolphin Centre in Pangbourne, when a large group of youths caused considerable damage to property. The NAG has a meeting with police to discuss the response.

54. AWE Liaison Group

Cllr Chishick attended the submarine dismantling project information session. It is concerning the storage of the pressure vessel, which is 5m long and 3m in diameter, weighing 90 tonnes. The radio activity poses no hazard. There are 27 to be dismantled at the rate of one every year. They will then be stored in a building for 40 years. The site has not yet been chosen.

55. Financial matters

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

Payments made:

Payee	Description	Amount
Brian Murby	MG Maintenance (322)	£250
Brian Murby	MG Maintenance (323)	£250

Sarah Bosley	Salary and allowance for November (324)	£236
Sarah Bosley	Salary, allowance and mileage for December (325)	£236
Steve Webb	Cutting a spare set of keys for Sulham noticeboard (326)	£8

The draft precept was presented to councillors. A final decision will be made at the January meeting.

56. Clerk's Report

The clerk reported that a TPO has been made for land at Sawyers Wood, Tidmarsh Lane.

57. Close of meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 10.10pm. The next meeting is on 21st January, 2015.

Date

Signed