

TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Tidmarsh Village Hall on Wednesday 17th September 2003, commencing at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. M. Broun (Chairman),
Mr. J. Harland, Mr. C. Pawson, Mr. R. Taylor.

Apology: Mrs. M. Kennet (holiday).

In Attendance: Clerk to the Parish Council
Mr. J. Chapman, Mr. T. Metcalfe (District Councillors).

31. Co-option of Parish Councillor

Resolved that Mr. E. Ayerst, Sulham, be co-opted to fill the vacancy arising from there being no nominations at the last Parish Council election.

32. Members Declarations of Interest

Members had no declarations in regard to the items appearing on the meeting agenda.

33. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th July, having been circulated, were confirmed a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

34. Matters Arising on the Minutes

There were no matters arising on the minutes.

35. Meeting of the Planning Committee

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3rd September 2003 be received and the proceedings endorsed and adopted.

36. Planning Issues

A site meeting had been called for the planning application at Sulham Stables.

A notice of appeal had been received in regard to the site at Whitehart Meadow, Theale.

SPISE Newsletter 38 was received and tabled.

The Regional Minerals Strategy Consultation Document was received and handed to the Chairman of the Planning Committee for his consideration.

The latest CPRE publication was received and noted.

37. Highways, Footpaths and Traffic Issues

A letter was received from West Berkshire District Council Highways Department, advising that Skew Bridge, Lower Basildon, would be closed for the construction of a new bridge and the re-alignment of the carriageway from 13th October 2003 to 27th June 2004, or until the work was completed.

The sketch of the proposed improvements to the bank of the river Pang downstream of the Mill Bridge was received and approved.

A small quantity of “hedge hazard” notices was received from West Berkshire District Council. The intention of the information was to combat the growing problem of vegetation overhanging the public highway.

The letter written by Nick Latham following the site meeting at Sulham Hill was considered, and West Berkshire District Council was to be requested to detail the work that had been done, and that which was still outstanding. The request for the provision of Sulham identification signs and the introduction of a 30 mph section through the parish was to be repeated.

The estimates for the repair of the bus shelter were still awaited.

38. Local Environmental Matters

The hedge alongside the highway from the junction of the A340 to the Mill was considered to be overgrown and the relevant householders were to be requested to comply with a request to cut back the overgrown vegetation.

39. Financial Matters

The Clerk reported that the internal audit of accounts for the year ended 2002/03 had been completed. The required information had been sent to the external auditors, Hacker Young, where they would probably remain for a considerable while.

Resolved that the items set out below be authorised for payment, such sums to be debited to the account of the parish council.

Berks Association of Local Councils Annual Subscription 2003/04	£ 54.97
Berks County Blind Society Donation under section 137	£ 15.00

40. Crime and Disorder Related Issues

The Home Office had designated Wednesday 10th September as the day for a count of anti social behaviour. Members had no recall of seeing any of the activities listed in the letter received from West Berkshire District Council.

The latest newsletter received from Inspector Andy Talbot was circulated. A copy is appended to the minutes of the meeting.

41. Rural Services Standard2003

The Government had published its Rural Services Standard for 2003, setting out the levels of access to public services that people living in rural communities could expect. The publication included a guarantee of fair access to services and included standards on education, transport, healthcare, emergency services, legal services, and employment.

42. Eastern Area Forum

The next meeting of the Eastern Area Forum would be on 7th October at the Purley Parish Council Parish Barn. Members were invited to submit questions to be put to the Forum.

The minutes of the last Forum meeting in July were tabled.

43. AWE Update

The AWE Monthly Assurance Report for July and the Environment Agency Report for Aldermaston and Burghfield were received and tabled.

44. North Wessex Downs

An invitation was received to attend the North Wessex Downs AONB Forum on Thursday 25th September, commencing at 12.30 p.m.

45. Tribute

Members recorded their good wishes to Alan Mayer who was leaving the area, and who had been extremely supportive of parish activities.

46. Conclusion

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.41 p.m.

Chairman
19th November 2003