

Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council

Minutes of the annual meeting of Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council, on Wednesday, September 21st, 2016 held at the Village Hall

Present:

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

In attendance:

Bor Cllr Rick Jones
Sarah Bosley (clerk)
3 members of the public

42. Accepted apologies

Councillor Colin Pawson
Jon Chishick

43. Declarations of Members' Interests for this meeting

None

44. Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on Wednesday, 20th July, 2016, and the planning committee meeting, held on Monday, September 5th, 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

45. Matters arising from the minutes

Item 29: The clerk reported that she had a quote from Apple Print for the printing of the village questionnaires. It was £287 exc VAT. Cllr Pearson said he believed he could print them himself, much cheaper, and would cost it up and let the council know.

Item 33: The footpath between here and Pangbourne was reported as being very overgrown at the last meeting. It was reported by Cllr Broun that someone has now cut it back a bit so you can walk along the pavement, although it is starting to grow back already. It appears the same team have been also cutting back in Sulham too and have done quite a good job.
The boundary of the Old Rectory in Tidmarsh also needs cutting back now though and the clerk will write to them to ask.

Item 34: Pangbourne Library update – Borough Cllr Rick Jones reported that the independent report had now been finished and WBC had a draft copy, which is expected to be published soon.

46. District councillor’s report

Borough Cllr Rick Jones reported:

- The CPO (compulsory purchase order) for land to build a new Theale Primary School on was approved last Thursday by WBC.
- Two sites in Tilehurst have been identified on the DPD and outline planning applications for both sites have been approved by WBC, despite the Eastern Area councillors objecting to them.
- The Boundary Commission are currently undertaking a review of WBC and it is expected that they will recommend that the number of councillors is cut from 52 to around 40-42.
- Budget cuts are still ongoing and will continue to be for the foreseeable future.
- ‘Waste Wars’ – It has been agreed that Padworth’s waste will be upgraded and officers from WBC are currently talking to the owners about how, when, and what will happen. It is hoped that by early next year it will be able to take more waste and will open for longer hours.

47. Planning

Planning applications:

Application number	Location	Description	Decision
16/02273/FULD	Green Gables, Tidmarsh Lane, Tidmarsh	Replacement dwelling and five dwellings with associated works, demolition of existing class B buildings and extinguishment of lawful plant storage and distribution operations	<p>No objections but the parish council highlighted the following points:</p> <p>* The mass and height of plot 1 is overbearing and does not match the surrounding street scene. The parish council would suggest it may be better suited to position this plot, the largest on the plans, further in to the development, where the land slopes down slightly and the area is better screened by trees and vegetation from the road.</p> <p>* Construction traffic must be made to park within the site itself and not on surrounding roads. The construction traffic must be made access and egress the site via Dark Lane and not Tidmarsh</p>

			<p>Lane, which is a small, rural road used by walkers, cyclists, and horse-riders.</p> <p>* The parish council would like to be consulted on the allocation of S106 or CIL monies so it is able to inform the district council of areas within the village that are most in need of financial support.</p>
--	--	--	--

The clerk reported that she had spoken to WBC planning department about the delay in the D W Lusted Keeper's Cottage application. She was told that the planning department was meeting at the site on Friday. The delay is due to pressures on staff workloads.

It was noted that an application for an oak-framed garden room, replacing a rear extension, has been submitted for Box Cottage, Sulham Lane (application numbers 16/02028/HOUSE and 16/02030/LBC2), but no plans have been received by the council so it could not be discussed.

48. Purchase of a parish council computer and application to the Transparency Fund

Proposed by Cllr Webb and seconded by Cllr Broun. It was resolved that the clerk purchases a parish council computer, so she no longer has to use her personal one, and applies for funding from the Transparency Fund to cover the costs.

49. External audit report

The clerk reported that the external audit had been received back and the relevant notices displayed on the noticeboards and website. The only note raised was that the total fixed assets sum had not been updated to reflect the purchase of the new bus shelter in the last financial year.

Proposed by Cllr Broun and seconded by Cllr Elliot. It was resolved that the parish council accepts and acknowledges the annual return.

50. Installation of the new bin in Tidmarsh

Although he wasn't present it was reported that Cllr Pawson had found someone willing to help put in the new bin and the Sulham parish noticeboard. Cllr Broun to speak to Cllr Pawson and move it forward as quickly as possible.

51. Highways and footpaths matters

Cllr Pearson noted that the flood warden, George Davidson, had circulated an email to WBC where he reported drains blocked with gravel. The clerk was asked to follow this up and ask WBC for a long-term solution. The pipe to the Sulham Brook is clearly blocked and whether a ditch would be feasible was discussed.

Cllr Pearson also reported that there was an incident where temporary traffic lights were in place in Tidmarsh, although no work appeared to be taking place, and they were both stuck on red, causing a

lot of traffic problems. It was noted that they were Thames Water works and eventually work appeared to be carried out on a private driveway. Rick Jones suggested feeding the information back to WBC for future reference. Cllr Pearson to email clerk more details.

Cllr Haggarty noted that the foliage around the chevrons at Moor Copse corner had been cut back and the holes in the road at Sulham Hill have also been repaired.

52. Pangbourne Library update

This item was discussed under Item 45 - Matters Arising.

53. Environmental matters, including flood update

The clerk read out a flood report emailed to her by the flood warden. He reported:

“Progress with the Pang Valley Flood Forum continues and we have now almost completed the mapping exercise which covers all flood risk assets down the entire Pang Valley. We have now combined into a new web address that anyone can access and has all the latest up to date information on river levels, ground water and all relevant documents. This will be our portal for all information and I intend to feature in the Parish Magazine. The address to access is: www.floodalleviation.uk

I have also submitted a funding proposal to the flood alleviation fund provided by SSE – thanks to Sarah for her help with providing key information – I have had a telephone interview about the proposal and expect to hear if we have been successful or not around the 5th of October. The funding application is for support items to assist in times of flooding – fingers crossed we are successful.

You will have also seen I have submitted a request to get the road drains properly maintained at the phone box at Sulham Lane – this is an ongoing request and I have also asked for confirmation that the gully cleaning schedule is being maintained. We now have these assets mapped on our website and these will be checked at times of increased rain.

Finally just to highlight that I have now started the annual maintenance of the streams around Mill Lane and Sulham and this should be completed by the end of October.”

Cllr Haggarty reported that the Forestry Commission are taking down a total of 93 poplar trees on Sulham Lane. The trees are currently dangerous and it is hoped it will open up the lane and make it safer. It is something the Forestry Commission has been trying to do for several years as the trees have reached their natural life span. The EA is monitoring the works to ensure the brook remains completely clear.

54. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group report

Cllr Haggarty has emailed all councillors the minutes of the previous NAG meeting. He noted that he has raised the concerns regarding Hogmoor Copse again, but that crime figures given out showed no reported crimes in Tidmarsh or Sulham in the past month.

The next meeting is on October 10th and Cllr Haggarty will bring up concerns of speeding in the villages.

Cllr Broun thanked Cllr Haggarty for attending the NAG.

55. AWE Liaison Group report

The clerk noted that Jon Chishick has said he will attend the next meeting of the AWE Liaison Group and report back afterwards.

56. Pension update

No current update.

57. Financial Matters

Proposed by Cllr Broun and seconded by Cllr Webb. It was resolved to pay £800 to the Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Magazine as an annual contribution to its production.

Proposed by Cllr Webb and seconded by Cllr Broun. It was resolved to make the following payments:

Payments made:

Payee	Description	Total amount	VAT
BBOWT	PVFF grant of £250 and £100 from Berkshire Fund, held by Tid PC (reissued after previous cheque expired) (462)	£350	£0
Tidmarsh Parish Magazine	Annual contribution (463)	£800	£0
Zurich Insurance Plc	MG annual insurance (464)	£302.18	£0
Mazars	Annual external audit (465)	£120	£20
Sarah Bosley	Clerk's salary and allowance for September (466)	£236	£0
Sarah Bosley	Clerk's salary and allowance for October (467)	£236	£0

Cllr Webb reported that the village hall committee had contacted him with regards to the boiler in the hall, which needs replacing. The committee has asked for a contribution of £2,500 towards the installation of a new boiler. Councillors were shown the hall's finances, which showed £15,400 in the bank.

Proposed by Cllr Elliot and seconded by Cllr Pearson. It was resolved that the parish council refuse the request for £2,500 from the hall committee towards the boiler costs because councillors agreed that it was what the committee's reserves were there for. It was also decided that in the future, if money becomes available from CIL or S106, then the parish council may look to provide some for village hall refurbishments.

58. Clerk's Report

The clerk reported the following:

- The parish conference is being held on October 18th. If anyone would like to attend can they let her know by October 11th.
- There was a public meeting on September 6th, regarding the closure of Pangbourne toilets. Enough support and finance was offered at the meeting for the campaign group to set up a charitable incorporated organisation and they hope to reopen the Station Road public toilets as soon as possible.
- The clerk has received a copy of the winter roads programme and noted that the A340 is the only road in the parish on the primary treatment network. The road from Tidmarsh to Sulham is on the secondary network, but last year no roads on the secondary network were treated due to tight budgets. This programme will go to the Full Council for approval on October 20th.

59. Close of meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 10pm. The next meeting is on November 16th, 2016.

Date

Signed