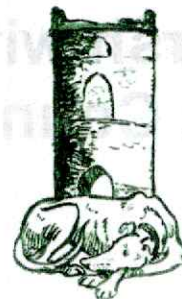


# Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council



## Parish Councillors:

CLlr Mark Farrington, Chairman  
CLlr Jonathan Pearson  
CLlr Sima Elliot  
CLlr Bronwyn Wynne

## District Councillor Matt Shakespeare

Members of Public - 2

On January 15<sup>th</sup> 2025, at 8.00pm. (postponed from 8th January, 2025)  
private room at Greyhound as hall double booked in error

## AGENDA

24/100 Apologies for absence - CLlr Jonathan Chishick (holiday)

24/102 Declarations of Interests from Councillors - none (SE & MF Nightingales)

24/103 Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 - agreed - proposing SE second JP

24/104 District Councillor's Report

1. **MS** updated the attendees with confirmation that the complex planning application known as the Eagles Quarter (Kennet Centre) was rejected.
2. **MS** reminded everyone that the Local Plan Consultation will close on 31st January 2025 - [Proposed Main Modifications to the Local Plan Review 2022-2039](#). (The clerk emailed parish councillors the details and posted them on Facebook).
3. **MS** is pleased to report that the agency staff spending at WBC has reduced from £12mil to £7mil. This can then fund more local services.
4. **MS** spoke about the government's devolution white paper. WBC is a unitary council, and there will be pressure to grow the population or think about changing the shape of the council. There is a suggestion to merge with another unitary council. This new principal authority will be accountable to a strategic authority with a (super) Mayor so that the Central Government can manage a smaller number of responsible heads of areas and greater efficiency and streamlined services. This will impact the District Councillor's role in dealing with local issues with immediate access to WBC officers and Executive membership. This is all still open to speculation and there are no specifics to confirm.
5. **MF** gave an update regarding the Manor Farm planning applications. There has been no feedback since 18th December from WBC, as promised. Any planning applications pending submission are not in the public domain and, therefore, cannot be discussed further. **MS** said that it is lawful to have this office and/or welfare site, that is now in situ.
6. **MF** raised concerns that on the Manor Farm property, there are now charging EV points and a car park and asked if this is considered lawful.
7. **A public member** advised there is now a post box. The Post Office does not recognise the postbox on the new gates as unregistered.
8. It was asked if a legal business address is registered to the Company's House. **MF will investigate further.**
9. **MF** advised that all new plans will be rigorously reviewed with historical data.
10. **MF** reminded **MF** that WBC officers' promises to serve legal documents and take actions within a specific time frame, such as the appeals and fines, have been ignored or not adhered to.
11. **JP** suggested that the messaging is that planning applications are not necessary and that the process is unfair.
12. **A public member** reminded **MS** that the Environment Agency had inspected the area where the burning of fridges, etc., had taken place and that the report stated that the ground was toxic. What action has been taken on that? **MS will follow up.**



# Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council



13. A public member reminded **MS** that the enforcement notice on the caravan has still not been actioned, and it should now be removed.
14. **MF** has asked **MS** to follow up on the enforcement notice, the car park with EV and the EA toxic land report (24/104.9).
15. **JP** asked if the budget consultation and lack of funds impacted SEND services. Could or would the central government help? **MS** responded that the WBC Exec is working hard to avoid it, but the final action would be bankruptcy and serving a section 151, as in Slough's case. (Sorry, Jon, what was the question?)
16. **MF** asked if Sulham Hill could be gritted as there was an accident last week. **MS will raise that.**

## 24/105 Chairman's Report - MF acting as Chairperson in absence of JC

**MF** gave an update on the meeting with Kay Lacy to discuss the flooding issues and resolutions of Sulham Hill to Mill Lane

## 24/106 Parish Councillors' Reports

**JP** raised a question about a landowner's idea to give away a pocket of land to build two homes to support young people who wish to get onto the property.

**BW** reported that the Carols on the Green was a success. Two members of the public wish to support two future events, which are VE day, 8th May and VJ day, 15th August. The Wi-Fi is now installed in the village hall. She is also arranging a community task day to tidy the hall and the area outside. This is part of an incentive to boost the hall's appeal and encourage community engagement.

## 24/107 Clerk's Report

An email from a resident regarding a water leak from the church was shared to highlight an issue, but will respond by stating that it is not a PC matter. In future, report to Thames Water.

## 24/108 Public forum

1. An update was requested regarding the protective fencing along the permitted path in the field owned by Mr and Mrs Cope. The meeting will take place at the end of January 2025.
2. It was advised that there was an unacceptable amount of water spray due to cars being allowed to continue with access on Sulham Hill to Mill Lane during the January 2025 floods. **MF** has raised this with Kay Lacy, the Flood Forum lead. **MF** confirmed that options are available, and WBC will take action to get water off the road.

## 24/109 Review Tasks - To be discussed at the next meeting as short on time

- I. Review Task Report
- II. Any new items to discuss?

## 24/110 Planning Applications - no comments made

- I. Current planning applications
  - a) Planning Application 24/02609/HOUSE, 24/02610/LBC and 24/02688/HOUSE  
Response: Regrettably, the 24/02610/LBC and 24/02609/HOUSE are done retrospectively, but there are no objections.
  - b) WBC update regarding all applications and enforcement notices regarding Manor Farm.  
Response: see District Councillors Report.
- II. Any additional planning correspondence.

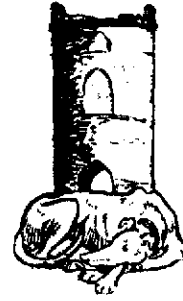
## 24/111 Financial matters

- I. Approval of receipts & payments. - Proposed by **MF** to accept. Seconded by **SE**

|            |                  |                   |         |
|------------|------------------|-------------------|---------|
| 17-12-2024 | Mr J Murby       | Q4 plus hedge etc | £530.00 |
| 27-12-2024 | Clerk's salary   |                   | £408.80 |
| 27-12-2024 | Office Allowance |                   | £26.00  |

*mf*

# Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council



30-12-2024 Bibby Financial (tactical facilities)

2759

£110.64

Sub Total

£10,250.35

II. Approval of budget monitoring report.

III. Agree 2025/2026 precept

24/112 Highways and Speeding - follow up next meeting, 12th March

I. New items to add

II. Current list to discuss:

A. **VAS** (Vehicle Activated Sign)

B. Speed Gun

C. Village White Gate with speed sign

24/113 Community - follow up next meeting, 12th March

I. Flooding updates and concerns: See the Chairman's report

II. Devolution of services from WBC will be challenged for charges for additional work for Gully and Ditch cleaning as the basic service is not specific.

## 24/114 Close of meeting

It was noted that the Council's next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th February at 8.00pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 22.12pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 14-5-25