

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 8 February 2016, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillors - R Blowey – Chairman
R Crisp
N Garbutt
S King
G McGrath
T Pearson
C Thomas
County Councillor P Awford
Borough Councillor D Davies
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: 11

1 APOLOGIES: None

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING The minutes of the meeting held on the Monday, 11 January had been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- Confirmed that he would still received his County Councillors £20,000 divided between his 21 parishes which breaks down to £900 per parish
- Amey has carried out work at Downs Bridge and there has been a significant improvement.
- Litter picking has been carried out as far as Downs Bridge. Probably part of the Highnam pilot scheme but would find out who carried it out.

5 TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT:

- TBC budget after no increase for 4 years the net budget of 9,663,342 has been agreed by the Executive for ratification by the full Council. A band D council tax of £104.36 will increase by £5 per annum - TBC will still be the fifth Lowest Tax in the Country.
- TBC are Building a new leisure centre and is planning to open in May 2016.
- TBC have decided to adopt the comingled recycling service with separate food waste as the preferred option Collections for implementation in 2017.
- Recommended to Council that the allocation of £3.25m from capital resources to fund the vehicle replacement programme be approved. This is to ensure that the wonderful waste collection and recycling carried out by TBC is maintained in future years.
- Grants -TBC is also a distributor of funds to good causes within our Borough. For instance, the Roses Theatre received a grant from TBC of £150,000
- Another project is the riverside walk to connect the high-street with the river, part of the regeneration of the Town centre.
- TBC also has funding available for community projects. The grants Officer is Martha Munday.
- The JCS has been allocated £135,000 additional funding to keep within our commitment with Cheltenham & Gloucester.. Public inquiries are mandatory. This amount is to cover the next period 2016/17.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT (MAX 10 MINUTES) Received

7 PLANNING

7.1 Applications:

15/01376/FUL Stonelea, Main Road, Minsterworth: Construction of arena to exercise horses in existing paddock

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has no objections to this application

7.2 TBC Decisions: 15/0132/FUL Greenacres, Main Road, Minsterworth: General enhancement of existing, private equestrian hard area, to include removal of dilapidated barn and some stabling and erection of new stable block including stone and some perimeter walling - **Granted**

7.3 Appeals: None

7.4 Planning and Travellers:

JCS Meeting with Inspector Elizabeth Orde: Following the meeting the Chairman had circulated notes to the Councillors for their information. At the meeting Elizabeth Orde reported:

- The whole of Glos CC have a duty to accept sites, not just TBC
- Strongly suggests that no more G+T sites should be permitted in Minsterworth.
- Accepted that Minsterworth had a very large portion of the total G+T's and she requested that TBC/JCS supply her with a) Total number of sites in Minsterworth b) Total pitches in Minsterworth c) % G+T people vs total 'rest' of population.
- Has agreed to visit Minsterworth at the end of March.

Meeting with Mark Harper MP: Councillor Blowey and Councillor Pearson met with Mark Harper MP on Friday 29th January 2016. The Councillors raised two items the Gypsy and Traveller Sites and Broadband speed. Mr Harper already knew the background to the problem, and had obtained and read the relevant JCS documents. Although MPC did not expect any reduction in existing G+T sites, the concerns are:

1 That the figure for an increase of 151 G+T sites was wrong – 85% increase in G+T vs 9.4% increase in conventional households

2 The system would lead to a disproportionate allocation to Minsterworth

Mr Harper said that he would:

1 Write to JCS asking for details of the 151 calculation

2 Copy in to Inspector Elizabeth Orde, and send MPC a copy of her reply

3 Express concern over disproportionate allocation to Minsterworth, + ensure that JCS had taken into account the new Legislation from August 2015 whereby 'stationary' G+T's should be assessed as though they were conventional households.

Ian Kemp has confirmed that Elizabeth Orde will make a site visit mid to end of March.

Broadband: Councillor Pearson reported that Mark Harper said that the Government has promised that everyone will have 2.0MB minimum at the moment, increasing to 10MB in the near future, as Government had made money available for broad band companies to achieve this. Mark Harper suggested village survey:

To assess the number of households with unsatisfactory broadband speeds, download + upload

How many households are trying to run small businesses from home (which I suspect includes most of the PC for example) = 'demand' for services

Then submit results to BT

It was agreed that Councillor Pearson and McGrath would devise a questionnaire and this would be sent out in The Villager.

Councillors thanked the Chairman and Councillor Pearson for taking the time to attend these meetings.

Any Other Planning Matters:

725 Houses at Twigworth: TBC refused this application – Developer will probably go to Appeal.

The Lodge, Hygrove: Earth movements – David Taylor had agreed to meet with the Chairman to discuss this further. Need to establish whether the each has been brought onto the site or the levels on the site had been altered so earth moved around.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

8.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-29 February 2016	348.10		
Additional Hours from Transparency Grant to upload financial information To website 2 hours per month for period 1 April 2015-31 March 2016	350.64		
Less Tax	89.80		
Less NIC	<u>3.21</u>	605.73	Cheque No: 101329

Inland Revenue

Tax FJW	89.80		
NIC FJW	3.21		
NIC MPC	<u>3.14</u>	96.15	Cheque No: 101330

Parish Magazine Printing:

Printing The Villager A5 booklet 200 copies of 20 pages –February	77.00		Cheque No: 101331
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Minsterworth Village Hall:

Meeting 11.1.16	28.60		Cheque No: 101332
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Tony Pearson reimbursement of postage costs in connection with The Villager for the period April-December

87.42		Cheque No: 101333
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System Force IT:

Cost of Laptop	350.00		
Cost of Scanner	99.00		
	<u>VAT 89.80</u>	538.80	Cheque No: 101334

Total: £1433.70

Receipts:

Donations towards cost of printing The Villager	35.80
GAPTC: Transparency Grant	799.64
Total:	£835.44

8.2 Financial Statement for the month ended January 2016. Signed by Councillor Blowey.

8.3 Severn Bore – Hire of toilets It was agreed to hire a toilet for the following Bores:

Thursday 10 –Saturday 12 March; Thursday 7 – Sunday 10 April; Monday 17 – Wednesday 19 October; Tuesday 15 – Thursday 17 November.

9 MATTERS ARISING:

9.1 Highway Matters:

A48 Road Safety: The Chairman reported the sad death of Mrs Jenner who was hit by a motorcycle near the Hygrove Bus Shelter. Concern has been raised about the speed of the traffic that travels the road, lack of street lighting and safe places to cross the road. It was agreed that MPC would write to Richard Waters so what improvements could be made to make it safer for people to cross the road.

Downs Bridge: Discussed earlier in the meeting.

Litter Picking: Received an email from Rachel North who said that Adrian Goode had co-ordinated the pilot scheme. Basically the scheme is to try and better co-ordinate the various external works within the parish including street cleaning, grounds maintenance, gully cleaning etc between the 3 tiers of local government. This is being trialled in Highnam but if successful they would like to roll it

out more widely – and they would intend to share the learning at a Parish and Town Council seminar. It was agreed that the Councillors would carry out a litter pick of the verges either side of the A48 before the grass grows. Clerk to contact TBC to arrange use of relevant equipment.

A48 Traffic Island: Councillor Blowey showed everyone the photos taken by Councillor Pearson showing the weeds, debris and mud. Clerk to forward these pictures to Richard Waters and CC Awford. The Chairman said that members of the public could send in pictures to Amey and it would be helpful if they copies in the Parish Council. Promote this in The Villager.

It was agreed that Councillors should take pictures of areas of concern send them to the Clerk.

9.2 Affordable Scheme: Revised application to go to Committee on Tuesday, 16 February – same number of houses but none will be for the open market. Final land deal has not been made with the owners but this is not a matter for the Parish Council.

9.3 Service Village Forum: Councillor Blowey reported that Matthew Barker, Planning Policy Manager at TBC had responded to some of the questions raised by the PC but had to seek answers to some of the questions from the Council Tax.

9.4 Village Green: Nothing further to report.

9.5 Resilience Plan: Ongoing. Meeting arranged with representatives from the VH and Helen Richards, GRCC to attend.

10 CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 GCC – Hempsted Household Recycling Centre: Will be undergoing development during early 2016. Had recently been closed but now reopened – further closure early March 2016

10.2 Post Office: As from the 8 February 2015 the Post Office will be introducing a Home Service to the area which will be run by the Postmaster from Highham.

11 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Village Hall Disabled Ramp: The Clerk reported that she had received an email from Paula Ruffley informing the PC that the Disabled Ramp has been repaired. The Parish Council would write to Richard Cockcroft to thank the Village Hall. Also ask if there were any plans to put wi-fi into the Village Hall and inform him of the possible grants available from TBC.

Public Comment: Position on the agenda – put on the agenda for March.

Any Other Correspondence:

Request for Sandbag Stock Information: It was agreed that the only name on the list should be Cathy Thomas as Flood Warden. Currently do not require any more sandbags. Councillor Garbutt said it would be helpful if he had a small stock at his end of the Village. County Councillor Awford said that he would obtain some bags for him.

12 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday, 14 March 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed 9.00pm.