

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 8 December 2014, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillors - R Crisp
R Few - Chairman
N Garbutt
S King
T Pearson
C Thomas
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk
County Councillor P Awford

Parishioners: 3

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Blowey and Councillor Davies.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS held on Monday, 10 November were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- Took up the matters raised at the November meeting with Richard Waters but it would appear that no further footway cutting back has been carried out.
- As the County Council are no longer carrying out any gully weeding he will set money aside from his budget to carry out this work next year. He does this for Highnam and is quite happy to do the same for Minsterworth.
- EA been talking to the Tewkesbury Flood Risk Management. There will be no proposals until March next year. He has challenged the EA that they are carrying out protection work over alleviation work.
- The proposed Park & Ride at Elmbridge has been passed by planning.
- Attended the drop in event at TBC last Tuesday which was being run by Marilyn Cox who is doing sterling work around the Parishes. Councillors Garbutt and Thomas also attended the event.

The Chairman said that the stretch of footway from the Stoneyard to Oakle Street was very narrow due to overgrown vegetation and one cut per year was not enough. All Councillors were in agreement that it should be cut back asap. Councillor Awford that he would raise this with Richard Waters again.

Councillor Thomas raised the vegetation growth on Downs Bridge and Severn Bank. Councillor Awford that he would raise this.

5 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: Not present

6 PUBLIC COMMENT (MAX 10 MINUTES): None

7 PLANNING

7.1 Applications: None

7.2 Decisions: None

7.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions/Site Inspections:

Parcel 7710 Hygrove Lane, Minsterworth: The use of land for the stationing of static and transit caravans for residential purposes for 5 no gypsy pitches, together with the formation of additional hard standing and utility/dayrooms ancillary to that use. Notified that the appeal would be dealt with by a Public Enquiry but had been changed to an Informal Hearing procedure. The Parish

Council's comments regarding this application would be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate and copies to the appellant but additional comments could be submitted. Councillors agreed that the following comments should be submitted:

The Parish Council would like to add the following comments to their objection to this application:

- 1 The proposed development would due to its form and location have a significant and harmful impact on the landscape and outweighs the unmet need for gypsy and traveller sites. The proposed development therefore conflicts with Policy LND4 of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011-March 2006.
- 2 The number of travellers is disproportionate to the number of residents. There are currently over 80 traveller pitches and only 183 properties in Minsterworth.
- 3 Concerns about Hygrove Lane being able to accommodate further traffic, due to it being a non-maintained lane.

7.4 Enforcement: 3 Bury Lane: The Clerk had received a reply from Catherine Crowley, Planning Enforcement Officer at TBC and stated that the owner has been invited to submit a planning application to retain the septic tank in its current position. The planning view that it would not be expedient to pursue any formal action should an application not be submitted as it is considered that the changes from the approved plans are acceptable and can be supported at officer level. The enforcement case has been closed.

Pound Cottage. Pound Lane: Concern has been raised that they are building a shower block/toilet not a house.

8 FINANCIAL MATTERS

8.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-31 December 2014	337.96		
Less Tax for December	<u>33.20</u>	304.76	Cheque No: 101257

Inland Revenue		33.20	Cheque No: 101258
----------------	--	-------	-------------------

Minsterworth Village Hall:

Meetings 8.9.14.	28.60		
Meeting 13.10.14	28.60		
Meeting 10.11.14	28.60	85.80	Cheque No: 101259

System Force IT: Renewal of contract for hosting

Fee for website	30.00		
	<u>VAT 6.00</u>	36.00	Cheque No: 101260

GAPTC: Training course for Tony Pearson –
Being a Better Councillor on 12 December 2014

	85.00		
Total:		£544.76	

Receipts:

TBC – Capital Grant in respect of rat run

Signs	100.00		
-------	--------	--	--

Total:		£100.00	
---------------	--	----------------	--

8.2 Financial Statement for the month ended November 2014 was circulated – contents noted.

8.3 The Villager – “Future”: Councillor Pearson reported he had heard back from Steve Taylor but he had misunderstood what was being asked. Hopefully would be able to report further at the January meeting. In the meantime The Villager is continuing although funds were running low.

8.4 Precept for 2015/16: The Clerk had prepared a draft budget which was circulated to the Councillors. Obviously the major expense for the current financial year was the bailiff's fees of £2000 plus VAT for evicting the travellers so this had depleted the Parish Councils' reserves. It was agreed that the Councillors would consider the draft budget and revisit at the January meeting.

8.5 Tewkesbury Borough Flood Project: Councillor Garbutt said that he and Councillor Thomas had met with Marilyn Cox. The grant money available was £3,000 and he had made a list of equipment and resources that could be purchased for use in an emergency situation. It came to over £6,000 however the Village Hall can also apply for a £3000 grant.

Councillor Thomas is working on the creation of a community flood plan with her as Flood Warden and lead and then appointing 3 or 4 other flood wardens.

The object of the grant money is to increase Minsterworth Village Hall's resilience to cope in an emergency situation. Councillor Garbutt briefly outlined the equipment that he felt should be included. The only costs to the Parish Council would be after an emergency event/annually would be to buy some batteries for torches etc and maybe some fuel for the generators. All Councillors thought this was an excellent idea and agreed to the Parish Council completing the grant application.

9 MATTERS ARISING:

9.1 Highway Matters:

Overgrown Footways: Not been cleared. Councillor Awford said he would take this up again with Richard Waters.

Downs Bridge: Vegetation still not been cleared.

Rat Run Signs: It would appear that Richard Waters is not happy with these signs.

Over Roundabout: The clerk had received a plan of the proposed works to the Over Roundabout and this had been circulated to Councillors for their information. Works are scheduled to start in the New Year. Councillors noted that traffic lights have not been included in the proposed plans however there is a filter lane for traffic going to Hartpury direction when travelling from Highnam. There are now two lanes to get traffic around the roundabout into Gloucester.

Councillor Awford said that the works to the Cheltenham & Gloucester roundabout have proved to be effective in moving traffic quickly and works to the Longford are due to start next week and will close the A40 for 4 nights to carry out the proposed works. Councillor still feel that a filter lane taking traffic into Gloucester when travelling from Longford roundabout (west bound) would be beneficial. Clerk to email the Highways Agency.

A48 Meeting: Councillor Crisp reported that there was discussion at the meeting of changing the accident signs along the A48 to keep them "fresh and current".

9.2 Affordable Housing Scheme: Nothing further to report. Update at the January meeting.

9.3 Service Village Forum: The Chairman reported following the last SVF meeting that he had attended along with Councillor Crisp:

- Every single house built since 2011 at service villages will count towards the total numbers for a service village
- 752 (total SV allocation) should not be seen as a maximum number.
- Borough Plan will not allocate in small numbers but in numbers larger than 10 as this enables infrastructure improvements
- Number of houses must be presented as those within the service village settlement itself- not those within the parish.
- Numbers- discussion of concern re numbers and suggestion that TBC performs the recount. It is important to address as, if communities see what they will consider to be errors in household counts, that will cloud the whole process and will lead to challenges at consultation or examination- ie that the core data underpinning the disaggregation is materially flawed and therefore unreliable
- Will be invited as a Parish to go to TBC to discuss potential sites if any.
- Councillor Davies is the lead member on this project
- JCS is due to be agreed early 2015

9.4 Village Greens: Councillor Garbutt confirmed that he was still working on putting together a procedure plan should the Parish experience another event of travellers parking illegally on their land. He would let the Borough Solicitor and Police have a look at a draft procedure. It was agreed

that £150 should be included in next year's budget for advisory projects.

9.5 Use of Council's Epson printer by Westbury-on-Severn Parish Council: The Councillors were in agreement for Westbury-on-Severn Parish Council to use their Epson printer to produce A3 copies of plans at a cost of 30p for black and white copies and 60p for colour copies.

10 CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 TBC Seminar Thursday 11 December at 6pm: The seminar will focus on the emerging TB Plan and the work being done to support this plan and neighbourhood plans. No Councillors were available to attend.

Any Other:

TBC: Methodology for Assess the potential of sites submitted as part of the 2014 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople 'Call for Sites'. Comments to be submitted by 31 December 2014. The Chairman said that he had looked the document and it was agreed to consider a response highlighting the disproportionate number of traveller pitches to houses in a Village, the considerable increase in traffic movements traveller sites generate throughout a 24 hour period and highlight that businesses are being run from most sites.

11 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Nativity Walk 21 December: Setting off at 4pm from the Appletree – all welcome to attend.

12 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday 12 January 2015 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed 9.10pm.