

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 11 February 2013, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillors - R Blowey
R Crisp
R Few – Chairman
N Garbutt
S King
C Thomas
Borough Councillor D Davies
County Councillor Awford
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: 4

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Ruffley

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Monday, 12 January 2013 were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: As follows:

- Council busy with budget setting – no increase this year.
- Re Highways – Traffic lights that were on A48 the previous week had been left in situ on the Friday despite all works being completed which caused traffic chaos. He arranged for them to be removed. The works were to repair a water leak on the footway.
- With recent rain Tewkesbury was filling up again – never known 4 flood situations in such a short timeframe.

5 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: As follows:

- Re-organisation of TBC taking place on Wednesday – major changes going to happen.
- No increase in precept for 2013/14 again – Lowest in the County and 5th lowest in the Country.
- A48 meeting – attended. New Chairman Simon Phelps from Westbury.
- Court Cottage, The Street, Minsterworth – There will be a Site Inspection by the Planning Committee on Friday, 15 February. The Chairman said he would attend.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT (MAX 10 MINUTES):

7 PLANNING

7.1 Applications:

13/00075/FUL Deep Furrow Bungalow, Main Road, Minsterworth: Proposed extended length of existing dropped kerb at junction with the Main Road from the existing driveway.

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has **no objections** to this application.

7.2 TBC Decisions: None

7.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions: None

7.4 Enforcement Matters: Councillor Thomas queried why TBC kept issuing the Enforcement Update List when there are no changes/updates on it. County Councillor Awford said he would take this up with TBC Enforcement department.

8 FINANCIAL MATTERS

8.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-28 February 2013	317.64		
Less Tax	<u>57.40</u>	260.24	Cheque No: 101167
Inland Revenue: Tax for FJW		57.40	Cheque No: 101168
MVH – Hire of hall 14.1.13		28.60	Cheque No: 101169
Total Payments		£346.24	

Receipts

Total Receipts **£0.00**

8.2 Financial Statement for the month ended January 2013 was circulated – contents noted.

9 MATTERS ARISING:

9.1 The Standards Regime and the Localism Act 2011: The Clerk had circulated to all Councillors a copy of the TBC's Code of Conduct and the FODDC Code of Conduct. She explained that Sara Freckleton was still waiting to get a reply to her letter to Government challenging them about the decision of having to put the Register of Members Interest on the internet. To date she had still not got a reply and said until such time as she does the Register of Members Interests Forms will remain in her office and promised to advise all Town/Parish Councils at such time when she has to put them on to the TBC website. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council adopts the FODDC Model of Conduct as it seemed straighter forward than TBCs. The Clerk said that Councillors needed to register their interests within 28 days. The Clerk also said that the Standing Orders would have to be amended accordingly and it was agreed to look at these next month.

9.2 Severn Bore 2013: It was agreed to hire the toilet for the Bore on 12-13 March and 21-23 August 2013.

9.3 Report from representative of Village Hall Committee: No report.

9.4. Highway Matters:

Watery Lane: Richard Waters and Alan Smith from GCC have inspected the drainage issues. He agrees that there is an issue with roadside ditches and possibly the culverts in the road. The problem they have with the culverts is that if they clean them and the ditches are not cleaned then the water won't flow properly and the culvers will silt up again very quickly as it is the flow through them that helps to keep them clean. Therefore what is required is a joint effort between GCC and the landowners and requested the name of the landowners. Councillors reported that the landowner recently died and the house is being dealt with by executors – Clerk to supply details of executors to GCC.

A48 between Appithorne to Railway Bridge: Richard Waters will arrange for this to be cleared – not yet done badly flooding during Sunday's rain.

A48/Church Lane Turning: Awaiting update.

Bury Lane: These potholes have not been dealt with.

Highcross: Bad pothole. Clerk to report.

Church Lane: Crash Barrier: No date for repairs but being progressed.

Footpath EMW/8: Councillor Garbutt reported that he had walk the footpath over the weekend. The overgrown foliage has been cut back to head height and the damaged wall has been fenced off and will not be repaired until the better weather.

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign: County Councillor Awford reported that Tirley Parish Council had still not come to a decision regarding their spare VASS. If they decided to let it go then they will want some money for it.

Sign re Road Accident Casualties: The one at Oakle Street was still knocked over. Clerk to email Richard Waters.

Traffic Lights A40 at Over: Councillor Thomas reported that the lights can turn to red when there is no traffic coming from the Wharf or the Bus Lane. County Councillor Awford said he would take this up again with Highways Agency.

Ponding by Linton Farm: The Chairman reported that this was very bad from the stretch from Linton Farm to the Highnam roundabout. County Councillor Awford said he would take this up with Highways.

9.5 Review of Severn Estuary Strategy: New consultation out shortly. It would appear that some work has been done beyond Lydney with the EA purchasing farms which are being lost to the river anyway. This farmland will be used as flood plain.

The Chairman reported that he had met with Dyfed Evans at Lydney who actually apologized for the previous consultations that the EA carried out and said that this time they were trying to get it right. The Chairman highlighted to Mr Evans the problems that affected Minsterworth Hams and Minsterworth if the proposed changes were made and the affect that Glos Tip had. He said that he would visit Minsterworth himself. Meeting to be arranged.

9.6 Affordable Housing Scheme: Councillor Blowey had attended this along with Borough Councillor Davies who had replaced the Chairman. Councillor Blowey reported as follows:

- Meeting very poorly organized.
- TBC are very keen to develop “clusters” of parishes that want to work together. The idea of Place Plans are a means of bringing together bottom up and top down social, economic and environmental priorities and actions.
- Place Planning Expression of Interest form received and needs to be completed if Minsterworth wishes to be considered as one of the borough council’s front runners. Councillors agreed that the form should be completed but there was no logic in Minsterworth clustering with adjoining parishes.

The Chairman said that although the Parish Council had a site in mind they did not want disclose this at the current time until TBC have given some positive feedback. He was extremely frustrated along with other Councillors about how long it was taking to get feedback back from TBC on the site. Borough Councillor Davies said that TBC are trying to comply with the Localism Act and that is why Place Planning has been introduced.

9.7 Annual Parish Meeting –Monday, 8 April 2013: The Clerk requested that the various people give her their reports by the Wednesday, 6 March. It was agreed to invite Richard Waters, Police, Fire & Rescue to attend and the Chairman will give updates on Affordable Housing and the Severn Estuary Strategy.

10 CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 TBC Draft Statement if Community Involvement: Open for consultation until the 25 March 2013. Noted.

10.2 GCC – Elmbridge Transport Plans consultation runs until 11 March 2013: People are being asked to give their views on plans to tackle congestion and improve public transport between Cheltenham and Gloucester. GCC is planning to build a 1,000 space park and ride at Elmbridge Court. Consultation will run until Monday, 11 March 2013. This will mean that any proposed Park & Ride west of Severn will be delayed for at least 10 years. County Councillor Awford encouraged those present to complete the questionnaire – Clerk to forward email.

11 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Proposed Houses to be Built at Highnam: Clerk had written to the JCS team about the Parish Councils concern regarding the water from these houses.

13 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday 11 March 2013 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed 8.45pm.

