

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 12 March 2012, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

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

Parishioners: 9

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chair took the meeting.

1 APOLOGIES - Councillors Blowey and Few.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Monday, 13 February 2012 were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 DAN MATTHEWS, STRATEGY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER FOR THE EA

- Attended the January meeting to provide a briefing on the Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management plan which is being re-consulted on following last April's consultation and the comments received. The EA have taken stock of those comments and are now entering into a period of engagement to work out a FRM plan for those communities that will be affected by the new plan for the next 100 years considering the change in sea levels, how flood defences can be maintained/improved.
- He had a site visit to Minsterworth which was very useful highlighting those areas that will be greatly affected.
- The information in the previous consultation was quite generalized (especially for Minsterworth) so the information in the new consultation will be more detailed and specific to the various parishes effected.

Councillors agreed that it would be beneficial if Dan Matthews could attend the APA on the 2 April as there would be a wider audience present and possibly from that meeting a working group could be formed with interested parties to work on what should be included in the new FRMP.

Councillor Ruffley asked if the EA were responsible for moving some of the big rocks and Dan said that some re-stoning up and down the river was taking place.

Councillor Ruffley thanked Dan for attending the meeting.

5 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: As follows:

- Highlighted that the County Council had kept to its pledge of no increase in Council Tax again this year despite the challenges to service provision. He went on to advise of the Administrations investment in moving the County forward economically and referred to Government Grant for some projects including particularly the Park and Ride at Elmbridge Court .
- Attended a meeting on Friday last where a Park and Ride for the West of Severn remained on the projects but in his opinion this is unlikely for at least 7 years.
- He spoke about the demise of the Police Authority in November and how Gloucestershire were leading nationally by putting in place a Crime Panel that will be carrying forward the Scrutiny of the Police Commissioner when elected together with the County Councils own Scrutiny Committee. The panel will be made up of 4 County Councillors, a District Councillor from each of the Districts and 2 Independent Members.
- Anticipated a Cabinet decision soon on proposals for Libraries.

- Gloucestershire Highways have undertaken some personnel changes reducing our area from three Stakeholder Managers down to two. Our new officer will be Richard S Waters or possibly Brian Watkins; we retain the services of Alan Smith.

6 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: As follows:

- TBC is busy with the JCS – consultation ended on the 12 February. They have had 2,500 responses which they are going through this will then enable them to get to the next stage of the preferred options.
- TBC has produced a draft strategy on Housing and Homelessness
- TBC would like to thank Minsterworth Parish Council for carrying out a litter pick alongside such a busy main road.
- Standstill budget for the second year running. TBC are still the lowest Council Tax in the County and the fifth lowest in the Country.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT (MAX 10 MINUTES) None

8 PLANNING

8.1 Applications:

12/00135/FUL The Ryders, Minsterworth: Proposed replacement dwelling

Decision by 19.3.12

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council **objects** to this application for the following reasons:

- The site fronts a section of the A48 Trunk Road at a point where traffic speeds are high which would be to the detriment of highway safety and in conflict with Policy TPT1 of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011 adopted March 2006.
- The width of the proposed entrance gates.
- Increase in the size of the proposed dwelling over the existing footprint.

The Parish Council request that this application goes to Committee rather than be dealt with by a delegated decision.

12/00166/FUL Fairfield, Main Road, Minsterworth: Existing garage to be converted into annex and erection of proposed attached garage

Decision by 19.3.12

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council **objects** to this application for the following reasons:

- No design and access statement. The Parish Council is concerned as to the use for the annex
- Concerned about the increase in the footprint size as it will not be in keeping visually with the neighbouring properties

12/00206/FUL North & South Stables, Starcroft Lane, Minsterworth: Use of land for the stationing of static and touring caravans for residential purposes for 4 no gypsy pitches together with the formation of additional hard standing and utility/dayrooms ancillary to that use

Decision by 23.3.12

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council **objects** to this application for the following reasons:

1. The vehicular access to the site is located off a single track road. The increased vehicular turning movements that would be created by traffic going to the site on a daily basis will increase highway dangers and create more hazardous conditions than exist at the present time to the detriment of highway safety and in conflict with Policy TPT1 of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011 adopted March 2006.

2. Increased traffic onto the A48 at two dangerous points of egress & exit (opposite The Ryders) which the Highways Authority deemed unsafe for towing caravans in and out of – inability to turn from Gloucester into Starcroft Lane safely across the flow of traffic on the corner and likewise at the other end when coming from Westbury and turning on the ‘Wild Goose’ junction.
3. The proposed development would conflict with Policy S4 of the Gloucestershire Structure Plan Second Review and Policy HOU4 and HOU 12 of the TBC Local Plan to 2011 – Adopted March 2006 in that the site is situated in open countryside where residential development will only be permitted if it is essential to the efficient operation of agriculture or forestry.
4. The proposed development would form a visually intrusive and discordant feature in the surrounding rural area and would have a detrimental effect on the rural character and appearance of the landscape in conflict with Policy NHE1 of the Gloucestershire Structure Plan Second Review and Policy LND4 of the TBC Local Plan to 2011 Adopted March 2006
5. The proposed development conflicts with the Policy H10 of the Gloucestershire Structure Plan Second Review and Policy HOU15 of the TBC Local Plan to 2011 – Adopted March 2006 by its virtue of its encroachment on the open countryside, inconsistency with countryside and landscape protections policies and the deficiencies of the lane leading to the site.

The Parish Council request that this application goes to Committee rather than be dealt with by a delegated decision.

8.2 TBC Decisions: None

8.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions: None

Any Other Planning Matters:

Number of Traveller’s Sites/Pitches – Concern was expressed that Minsterworth finds themselves faced again having to consider a planning application for further pitches in Minsterworth due to the lack of new pitches being provided by Tewkesbury Borough Council. Considering the population of the Village the number of travelers is completely disproportionate. The Parish Council regularly has to consider applications for a small number of pitches. MPC insists that TBC finds a fuller broader solution to the growing number of pitches being granted in Minsterworth. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mella McMahon with a copy to Mike Dawson.

9 FINANCIAL MATTERS

9.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-31 March 2012	306.60		
Less Tax	<u>61.40</u>	245.20	Cheque No: 101122

Inland Revenue: Tax for FJW		61.40	Cheque No: 101123
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Minsterworth Village Hall – Hire of Hall: PC meeting -13.02.12		28.60	Cheque No: 101124
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GRCC – HNS Survey: Printing of questionnaires	32.37		
Cost of freepost (63 returns)	20.34		
VAT	<u>6.47</u>	59.18	Cheque No: 101125

Westbury Wood: Clearance of site prior to rebuild of Bus shelter	425.00		
Rebuild of bus shelter as per Quotation	<u>5947.50</u>	6372.50	Cheque No: 101126

NB The above cheque will be held until payment has been received from the Insurance Company

Mrs F J Wallbank

Expenses:

Travelling 73.80

Photocopying 16.90

Tel/Broadband expenses 12.00

Expenses 7.38

Colour ink cartridges for Epson

Printer 24.58

VAT 4.91

Use of room July-Dec 2011 37.50 177.07

Cheque No: 100127

Total Payments **£6943.95**

Receipts

Total Receipts **£0.00**

9.2 Financial Statement for the month ended February 2012 was circulated – contents noted.

10 MATTERS ARISING:

10.1 Report from representative of Village Hall Committee – Nothing to report.

10.2.Highway Matters:

Sunken manhole cover near Church Lane – The Clerk reported that Richard Gray confirmed that this cover belonged to Severn Trent Water and a section 81 notice required them to take action had been served. Hopefully this will be rectified within the next month.

Replacement Water Main/Road Closure – No further update.

Watery Lane – Richard Gray had agreed to a site visit with the Chairman but due to Chairman's situation that was postponed. It was agreed that in view of the fact that Minsterworth now had a new Stakeholder Manager to leave this matter until the end of the month and then arrange for a site meeting with Richard Waters. Also see if he can attend the APA.

Litter – Councillors Crisp, Garbutt and Roughly carried out a litter pick through the village and collected a lot of litter. Clerk to let Stuart Bowes where the filled bags had been left.

Incorrect Postal Addresses – Nothing further to report.

Church Lane – Potholes had been filled in.

Incident Signs – The one by Highnam roundabout was without numbers.

Tree by Oakle Street – Councillor Garbutt reported that this was rotten and had reported it to Highways who have agreed to remove it next month.

10.3 Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Councillor Thomas said that she would update Councillors at the next meeting but said that helpers were wanted for the event. It was agreed that Councillor Thomas would give an update on the celebration arrangements at the APA – and the Clerk to put this matter on the agenda.

10.4 Review of Severn Estuary Strategy – This had been covered earlier in the meeting.

10.5 Welcoming of New Residents in the Village – The Clerk distributed the leaflets that the Chairman had photocopied but the Vice-Chairman said that to defer this matter until the next meeting to discuss in more detail.

11 CORRESPONDENCE: None

12 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION: None

13 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: APA Monday, 2 April 2012 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed 9.15pm.