

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 12 November 2012, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

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

Parishioners: 3

1 APOLOGIES Councillors King and Ruffley.

The Chairman reported the very sad news that Roger Dauncey had passed away that morning. For the last 40 years he had been one of the most active members of the Community, was Chairman of the Parish Council from 1987-1993 and was the life and soul of Minsterworth – he will be sadly missed. The Chairman also said that Ken Jordon had passed away. He proposed a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Monday, 8 October 2012 were agreed and signed after one typo amendment.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Councillors Few and Thomas in 12/00885/FUL. Councillor Crisp had applied for a dispensation which had been granted to allow him to speak and vote on 12/00885/FUL.

4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: As follows:

- For the current financial year and next Gloucestershire Highways will give each County Councillor £10,000 to be used amongst their parishes. He has 17 parishes and £10,000 will not go far when distributed so has taken the decision to target Road Safety on the A48 and A38. Currently he does not exactly know what he will do. He is asking Tirley Parish Council whether they are willing to donate one of their speed indicator signs as they already have one and a further two have been donated by the National Grid PRI contractors.
- GCC are currently in the process of developing their budget and strategy for 2013/14. Currently adult care takes care of 50% of the County's Budget.
- As of the 15 November the Police Authority will be dissolved and he will therefore no longer be a member.
- Badger debate will be discussed at the next County Council meeting.

5 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: As follows:

- Wanted to say a few words about Roger Dauncey – he was the first person to speak to him when he and his wife moved into Minsterworth; he was a true gentleman who will be sadly missed.
- JCS – currently a gypsy count is being undertaken. Also the housing need for 2011-2031 has been agreed with Cheltenham requiring 8,300, Gloucester 11,900 and Tewkesbury 8,200
- Wednesday's A48 meeting had been postponed.
- TBC are currently undertaking a new IT strategy with improvements to the planning IT - £100,000 spend.

- Town and Parish Seminar on Wednesday, 12 December - encouraged two Councillors to attend.
- Went through the history of budget savings for TBC - 2008-9 £714,000, 2009-10 £859,000, 2010-11 £1,328,000, 2011-12 £1,563,000, 2012-13 £725,000 making a total of £5,189,500. The Council's net budget for 2012/13 is £7.05m with a current savings requirement for 2013/14 of £1.39m.
- Garden waste bins - The scheme was introduced in March 2006 in response to government targets for increased recycling. Since its introduction, there are now over 12,800 households subscribing to the scheme. This has prevented over 25,000 tonnes of compostable waste from going to landfill. Rotting garden waste in landfill sites produces methane—a greenhouse gas that is considerably more harmful than carbon dioxide. The annual licence started at £26 per annum and is now £32 per annum.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT (MAX 10 MINUTES) None

7 PLANNING

7.1 Applications:

12/00885/FUL Highcross House, Minsterworth: Extensions to dwelling & erection of a greenhouse
Decision by 12.11.12 (extension to 13.11.12)

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

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

12/01043/FUL Court Cottage, The Street, Minsterworth: Single storey front extension

Decision by 15.11.12

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

Any Other Matters:

Enforcement: The Firs, Main Road, Minsterworth: Reports have been received about the fact that various items are being sold from the property. Although County Councillor Awford has previously reported that this matter was being looked into by TBC it was agreed that the Parish Council should officially email David Taylor at TBC.

8 FINANCIAL MATTERS

8.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-30 November 2012	317.64		
Less Tax	<u>57.40</u>	260.24	Cheque No: 101154
Inland Revenue: Tax for FJW		57.40	Cheque No: 101155
MVH – Hire of hall 8.10.12		28.60	Cheque No: 101156
Total Payments		£346.24	

Receipts

Deerhurst Parish Council: compensation

For use of Epson printer to produce

Copies of plans
 21.30 | | |

Total Receipts **£21.30** | | |

8.2 Financial Statement for the month ended October 2012 was circulated – contents noted.

8.3 Budget for 2013/14: a draft budget had been circulated with the agenda. The Clerk took the Councillors through the draft budget and it was decided to increase by £50 the contribution made to

the Church in respect of grass cutting. Also to add £50 to cover the costs of clearing the ditch by the Church which the IDB will no longer clear.

9 MATTERS ARISING:

9.1 Report from representative of Village Hall Committee: Not present

9.2. Highway Matters:

Area Team Open Day: The Chairman and Councillor Crisp to attend this at Cannop.

A48/Telephone Box: The Clerk reported that she had spoken with BT who had removed the smashed telephone box from the hedge. Apparently it may take some time before the kiosk is replaced.

Grass Cutting/Verges: Clerk reported that she had not received a response regarding this matter.

A48 between Appithorne to Railway Bridge: Email received from Richard Waters reporting that the gullies had recently been cleaned out along the A48 and wondered if the flooding had occurred since this work was carried. He requested that if a photograph could be taken when the problem occurred that this would help them greatly. He also said that Alan Smith would visit the location during heavy rain to investigate further.

Watery Lane: Email received from Richard Waters stating that he remembered stating at the APA that when Severn Trent had completed their works Glos Highways would undertake some carriage patching works along the Lane. He will try and action this as soon as resources are available.

Road to Mrs Trigg's property: No further update.

A48/Church Lane Turning: Following a site visit with CC Awford and the Chairman and some adjacent residents the main concerns appears to be the vulnerability of motorists waiting on the A48 to turn right into Church Lane. Although accident statistics do not indicate that there have been accidents related to this manoeuvre he actually witnessed the situation himself. Since then he has met with the police and discussed ideas for revising the existing hatching markings and his colleague Chris Townley is considering this further.

Crash Barrier: Email received from Richard Waters reporting that the Schemes Delivery Team was obtaining estimates for the repair works required to the three sections of fencing. The section at the dual carriageway will require some minor modifications to ensure that it complies with updated standards relating to the ends of the fence.

Ditch by Church and Bungalows –The Chairman reported that the IDB would no longer clear the ditch Councillor Thomas said that it belonged to the Parish Council. The Chairman said that it would not cost much to clear it approximately £50. It needed to be done as during heavy rain flooding in the gardens adjacent to the ditch was occurring. It was agreed to put the sum of £50 into the budget for next year.

Traffic Speeds A48: The Clerk had received an email from Richard Waters which had been circulated to all Councillors. He confirmed that his colleagues in the Road Safety Partnership had undertaken the study Richard Gray referred to in his e-mail of 2009 on all of the County's 'A' and 'B' class roads in line with guidance published by the Department for Transport circular 01/2006 entitled *Setting Local Speed Limits*. It is possible that this approach may in the future be revised. In July 2012 the Department for Transport published a revised draft version of this circular for consultation and indicated that a revised appraisal tool will be launched on the Department's website later this year. However in advance of this revision the existing 01/2006 circular had been used.

The assessment framework operates on the principle that the speed limit choice should be guided by whether the accident rate on a section of road is above or below the 35 injury accident threshold. The Department Circular specifies the following speed limits that for upper tier A and B roads:

- 60mph: high quality strategic roads with few bends, junctions or accesses. When the assessment framework is used, the accident rate should be below a threshold of 35 injury accidents per 100 million vehicle kilometres.
- 50mph: lower quality strategic roads which may have a relatively high number of bends, junctions or accesses. When the assessment framework is used, the accident rate should be

above the threshold of 35 injury accidents per 100 million vehicle kilometres and / or the mean speed already below 50mph.

His colleagues in Road Safety Partnership had revisited the data for the A48 through Minsterworth Parish and utilised the assessment framework to provide the following table of results:

A48 length	Length (km)	Number of Collisions (July 2009-June 2012)	Accident rate per 100 million vehicle km
50 mph Highnam r/b to Minsterworth village	3.6	10	20.5
De restricted Minsterworth Village to Parish boundary	1.5	3	16.7

From the table the accidents rates for both sections of the A48 within the Parish are below the 35 injuries per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled which is suggested by the Department. He appreciated that whilst the accident rates are below the Department for Transport’s thresholds, 13 accidents along the A48 in Minsterworth is nevertheless a concern and he hopes that the current road safety campaign work being undertaken will help to reduce these figures within the Parish. Councillors felt that the figures on the yellow signs were not updated enough with the current accident figures.

A40: The Chairman reported that the vegetation has still not been dealt with on this road and the visibility when turning left out of Linton Farm was greatly reduced.

Bollards by the Minsterworth School: County Councillor Awford reported that these have now been replaced.

9.3 Review of Severn Estuary Strategy: Councillor Thomas reported that she had attended the workshop at GCC which was a “complete waste of time”. They gave 5 scenarios of flooding and people were put in groups. The result was that people’s views were that it was acceptable to lose small communities to save Tewkesbury.

The Chairman reported that he had spoken with Simon Cullen who has been working on some proposals for Minsterworth Hams – sea levels have been reduced but it is proposed that the Hams will flood annually by 2030. The Chairman feels that basically nothing has changed and Minsterworth is back where they were in 2011. He was meeting with the EA and local landowners.

9.4 Affordable Housing Scheme: The Chairman reported that he and Councillor Blowey had met with Paul Skelton and was hoping to have a reply back from him in time for tonight’s meeting. It was a very good and successful meeting and Paul Skelton said that he would consult with some colleagues and find out further information and get back to the PC hopefully in time for this meeting. Unfortunately when the Chairman contacted him on the day of the meeting he was out of the office all day. Paul Skelton was very pleased indeed that MPC was taking the lead with this scheme. Clerk to write to Paul Skelton after liaising with Chairman.

9.5 The Standards Regime and the Localism Act 2011: The Clerk reported that Sara Freckleton had still not received a reply to her letter she had sent to the Government so it was agreed to defer this matter for another month.

10 CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 Town & Parish Seminar: Wednesday, 12 December 5pm TBC Offices – Councillors Blowey and Few said they would attend.

Any Other Correspondence:

Ash Trees: Email regarding the Ash Tree Problems had been forwarded to Councillors. Contents noted.

GCC Budget 2013: As County Councillor Awford reported earlier in the meeting GCC are looking at their budget and strategy for 2013/14 and would like to hear peoples’ views by 17 December 2012. In 2011-14 the Council strategy set out the GCC plans for services and spending over a four year period. The plans reflect the changing demand for council services as well as the

need to save £114 million. They identified three clear values to help shape their decision making which were 1) Living within their means 2) Providing good basic services and 3) Helping communities to help themselves. Councillors agreed that these values still remained however more money should be allocated on Highways in rural communities.

11 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Christmas Bazaar : To be held at the Church on the 15 December from 9-3pm.

12 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday 10 December 2012 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed 9.05pm.