

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 12 January 2015, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

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

Parishioners: 2

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Pearson, County Councillor P Awford and Councillor Davies.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS held on Monday, 8 December were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: Not present. The Chairman said that he was attending a Flood Defence Meeting in Telford.

5 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: Not present. The Chairman said that he was chairing a Service Village meeting at TBC where Councillor Pearson was representing Minsterworth.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT (MAX 10 MINUTES): Question raised about provision of fibre optic broadband in the Village. Councillor Blowey said that Councillor Pearson was looking into this and should report at the next meeting.

7 PLANNING

7.1 Applications: None

7.2 Decisions: 14/00968/FUL Sunnybank, Main Road, Minsterworth: Proposed extension and sun room to Sunnybank Care Home - **Granted**

7.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions/Site Inspections:

7.4 Enforcement: Nothing to report

8 FINANCIAL MATTERS

8.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-31 January 2015	337.96		
Less Tax for January	<u>33.40</u>	304.56	Cheque No: 101261

Inland Revenue		33.40	Cheque No: 101262
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Minsterworth Village Hall: Meeting 8.12.14		28.60	Cheque No: 101263
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Total:	£366.56		
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Receipts:

Total:	£0.00		
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8.2 Financial Statement for the month ended December 2014 was circulated – contents noted.

8.3 The Villager – “Future”: Councillor Pearson was not present to give an update.

8.4 Precept for 2015/16: The Clerk circulated a second draft based on a 5% increase on last year's precept. The Councillors agreed the precept of £6840. Clerk to inform TBC.

8.5 Tewkesbury Borough Flood Project: Councillor Garbutt confirms that the Parish Council has been successful in obtaining a grant of £3,000 for flood resilience and also the Parish Hall has been successful in their grant application. The Councillors thanked Councillor Garbutt for his assistance. Emergency Plan: Councillor Thomas said that she had started putting this together and would put an article in The Villager stating that she is the Flood Warden etc in case of emergencies etc.

9 MATTERS ARISING:

9.1 Highway Matters:

Manhole Cover: by Wild Goose layby when heading towards the garage. The force of water coming out of the drain was lifting the cover. Clerk to report.

Overgrown Footways: No report as County Councillor Awford not present.

Downs Bridge: The weeds have still not been cleared from the drain outlets and this is causing ponding.

A48 Surface: After dual carriage way when travelling from Severnbank surface breaking up. Also from the garage to the otherside of Downs Bridge. Clerk to report.

Potholes: Outside High Cross Farm. Clerk to report.

Watery Lane: Gas pipe has been laid across the road and tarmac has not been reinstated properly. Clerk to report.

Over Roundabout: Reply received from the Highways Agency stating the following:

We are aware of the congestion along the A40 and so commissioned a study which looked at the A40 route we are responsible for, between Box Bush on the Gloucestershire County border and M5 junction 11. The A40 Over Roundabout was part of the study which included monitoring all traffic movement at this junction. The current scheme was identified from the findings of this study.

The study did look at the options of widening on both east and west approaches to the roundabout and analysed the impact of both options. In its findings the study identified potential ground condition issues and therefore increased construction costs with both eastbound and westbound improvements.

It identified that the existing layout of the western arm of the roundabout includes a long wide central island into which a widened carriageway could be constructed. This allows the road to be widened without adversely affecting the existing embankment, avoiding the potential ground condition problems identified within the route study. The eastern arm of the roundabout does not have a similar layout and so any widening would likely involve more complex and costly ground works. Taking into account these factors from the route study investigations, the report identified that widening of only the western arm would still achieve benefits to the operation of the roundabout.

Following the publication of the report the widening of the western arm, as recommended, was then assessed through our value for money process. However, at that time it did not score highly enough to secure funding to design and build when prioritised against other schemes assessed at the same time. With the introduction of the Pinch Point Programme, it was recognised the economic benefits to the area for this scheme and so was given the go ahead to be designed and constructed under this Programme.

Works have already commenced.

A short discussion took place about whether the hatchings should be removed. It was agreed that the preferred option would be for the cross hatchings to be left but to extend the bus lane back to the Highnam Roundabout, as this would still allow a double row of cars at the Newent turning lights and hence only a short obstruction for buses. It would also be most beneficial to include a filter lane from the Northern Bypass into Gloucester. Clerk to write to HA.

9.2 Affordable Housing Scheme: Councillor Blowey reported that the owner of the land had not heard from Treetops. Hopefully following the meeting later this month with all parties matters would progress.

9.3 Service Village Forum: The Chairman reported that he had met with Holly Jones at TBC along

with Councillors Blowey and Pearson. TBC have recalculated Minsterworth's housing allocation numbers and this has been reduced to around 30 now. It was a surprise to learn that TBC will be going to public consultation in Feb/March/April with possible sites where the houses might be located even though the 30 houses are to be built over the next 20 years.

9.4 Village Greens: Councillor Garbutt said that this matter was in hand and would report further next month.

9.5 High Tides/Severn Bore: During 2015 there will be some very high tides and if weather conditions are wet and windy these could cause some problems for the Parish. It was agreed that a list of the High Tides dates will go in The Villager. The dates are 22-24 January – 9.9metres ; 19-22 February – 10.14 metres; 20-23 March – 10.4 metres; 19-21 April; 31 August – 10,2 metres; 1-30 September – 10.4 metres; 1 October; 27-30 October – 10.2 metres; 27 November. It was also agreed to hire the toilet for the February, March and April Bores and to revisit later in the year.

10 CORRESPONDENCE: None

11 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION: None

12 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday 9 February 2015 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.