

TITCHMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 17TH January 2008 in the Clubroom

Councillors Present: Michael Alderman (Chair) Sylvia Prestwich
 Ian Teague Bert Ash
 Gina Gaskin John Greig
 Geoff Love Ian Curtis

In Attendance: Emma Meen (Clerk)

2008/01/1 **Public Open Time** As there were no members of the public present at 7.30pm, the Chair deemed Public Open Time to be closed

2008/01/2 **Apologies For Absence:** Julie Cheney

2008/01/3 **Declaration of Interests** IT declared an interest regarding agenda point 13 – Titchmarsh Village Shop Association. IT signed Declaration of Interest book.

2008/01/4 **Minutes of Last Meeting:** JG proposed and GG seconded that the chair sign them

2008/01/5 **Matters Arising:**

2008/01/5.1 **Affordable Housing**

Clerk

The meeting scheduled for 16th January with representatives from Northants Rural Housing (NRH), representatives from TPC and planners from ENC has been put on hold and Joanne Richardson (JR) from NRH will contact Clerk to advise of further date.

2008/01/5.1.1 JR advised in update that the ENC preferred site is that in Islington and a meeting has been arranged with JR, Natalie Westland from Northants ACRE and the landowner and will be held towards the end of January. JR to report to Clerk once meeting has taken place

2008/01/5.2 **Missing Sign to Polopit**

IC

Clerk reported details of the missing sign to ENC and a plan has been faxed to ENC showing the location of where the sign was previously sited, where it has since been re-erected and where the location for sign should ideally be located. Clerk arranged for John Kenny from ENC to have a site meeting with IC in order to resolve the matter. IC to give update at next meeting

2008/01/6 **Finance**

Payments to authorise:

SLCC	Annual Membership	£77.00
H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE October to December 2007	£119.24
Dudley Inkwell	Stationery	£91.60
EON	Streetlighting	£323.97
Bosworths Garden Centre	Christmas Tree	£79.99
Society of Merchant Venturers	Allotment rents (Islington & Tofts)	£324.40
Emma Meen	Clerks Salary December 2007 by standing order	£134.16

2008/01/6.1 GG proposed that all payments be made. IT seconded, all in favour
 2008/01/6.2 **Payments Received** BACS credit from ENC of £681.42 Grass cutting grant

2008/01/7 **Correspondence**

2008/01/7.1 **Letter from NCC Draft Budget Consultation 2008/2009** Invitation from NCC to review draft budget consultation 2008/2009. Details circulated in float file

2008/01/7.2 **ENC – Concessionary Fare Scheme** ENC advised they are operating a Concessionary Travel Scheme for 2008/09. Two schemes available, either travel tokens or a county wide bus pass. £47.00 of tokens can be purchased for £10.00. Scheme available

- to persons over 60, or disabled. Tokens available between 1 February 2008 and 30th June 2008. Clerk holding forms for applicants to sign and verify eligibility. Notice also displayed on Parish notice board advising of scheme.
- 2008/01/7.3 Letter from Northamptonshire Police requesting TPC to provide details of dates and venues of all Council meetings for the forthcoming year. The Safer Community Team acknowledge they have been absent from Parish Council meetings during 2007 and wish to be more proactive during 2008, in attending meetings, but stress that should they have to attend incidents this will affect their ability to be able to attend meetings.
- 2008/01/7.4 Rural North Oundle & Thrapston Plan public meeting held on 15th January at The Bridge Hotel to provide detailed policies for the development of the area including Thrapston, Oundle and surrounding villages. Whilst there is little impact to Titchmarsh several members attended the forum. Those who attended felt that it was an interesting meeting with somewhat lively participation from the audience, it was apparent that ENC had underestimated the public attendance and the meeting was not very well handled. A comprehensive folder produced and provided by ENC circulated in the float file.
- 2008/01/8 **Planning**
New Planning Applications
EN/07/02266/FUL Extension to garage to provide additional garage with studio over and external staircase at The Old Forge, High Street, Titchmarsh Application supported (7 in favour, 1 against)
- 2008/01/9 Highways
Clerk provided members with progress report on the following Highways matters currently ongoing:-
- 2008/01/9.1 Letter received from John Trimble (JT) at NCC formally proposing a Prohibition of waiting by goods vehicles over 5 tonnes at any time starting at the roundabout on the A605 past the industrial site all the way to the bottom of Islington/Church Street. Members support this application and JT is progressing this matter with haste. JT updated that he has received 2 letters in response to his consultation, one from the Police supporting the order and the second letter from the Road Haulage Association (RHA) objecting on the grounds that there is no where else for HGV's to park. JT goes on to remind that as far as he is aware it is illegal for HGV's to park on public highway overnight in any event. JT assumes that Cllr Seery will support the application and it is his belief that the CC will overrule the RHA objection. Further updates to be provided at the next meeting.
- 2008/01/9.2 Clerk instructed NCC to remove the VAS signs from Polopit as clearly the results of the speed survey concluded that there was not a speed problem in this area. NCC responded to the effect that they were pleased to see that there was not a speeding problem but the scheme calls for 2 visits and the second visit is planned for the end of January. In order to complete the scheme 2 visits will have to take place but perhaps a different venue would prove more success, such as The High Street/ Church Street. In most instances the speed poles are not removed and they have found that the blue "Police Speed Watch" signs are generally sufficient to act as a speeding deterrent, in particular to strangers to the area.
- 2008/01/9.3 Regarding TPC request for the visibility splay to the junction on to the A605 to be reviewed. NCC responded that they cannot act upon this unless they have data to suggest that this is an accident black spot. NCC have to show that any monies spent would produce a return in the form of reduced casualties, and as we have no casualties they have no return. NCC acknowledge that TPC

	wish for this to be addressed and assure the PC that that they will not ignore the problem and this issue will be checked at regular intervals to ascertain if there are casualty problems developing. NCC went on to advise that after inspecting the junction an illegal sign situated on the side of the A605 was discovered restricting the view between the poles at this junction and NCC will be contacting the sign owner in the near future.	
2008/01/9.4	Letter received from ENC in response to letter asking for their thoughts and proposals for HGV parking at the industrial site. ENC acknowledge that there is a shortage of such facilities and the Rural north Oundle & Thrapston Plan as referred to in minute 2008/01/7.4 includes a proposed policy against which the provision of strategic lorry parking facilities will be assessed in the future, but the plan does not specifically allocate a site for such use. In considering planning applications for new industrial development the provision of on site HGV turning and parking facilities are required. ENC also mention that they have been made aware of the consultation from NCC regarding a proposed HGV parking restriction and ENC will be consulting ward members on this before responding to NCC.	
2008/01/10	<u>Annual Parish Meeting Date and Speaker</u> Agreed for Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Tuesday 8 th April 2008. Clerk to book clubroom. Members felt that last years format was successful and for this years meeting to be along similar lines with refreshments with invitations to the following speakers:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church • School • Shop • Playing Field Association • Clubroom • Path Warden • Cllr Bob Seery • Cllr Phillip Hardcastle Clerk to prepare invites for speakers, poster and leaflets. Notice to be included in TT.	
2008/01/11	<u>Allotments (Islington)</u> Letting of newly staked out plots at Islington allotment ground has proved very successful with a further 12 plots staked out. Rent has been collected up to 31 December 2007. Further allotment rent collected after this date. Annual allotment rent due 11 October each year. Therefore a surplus of rent will be collected for the period 1 January to 11 October 2008 which will be unaccounted for within the last invoice. Members agreed for Clerk to write to Merchant Venturers to seek their permission to retain any rent collected for this period and be used to purchase a new gate on the entrance in to the allotment ground. Clerk to make further enquiries	Clerk
2008/01/12	<u>Contribution for cost of stile erected in North Street</u> Members instructed Clerk to contact landowner formally advising that stile has now been erected and would they consider making a contribution to the labour costs incurred.	Clerk
2008/01/13	<u>Titchmarsh Village Shop Association</u> Request received from Titchmarsh Village Shop Association (TVSA) to erect an outdoor covered display structure for fruit and vegetables as protection against the weather. They propose for structure to be along the lines of a cart style fixture sited on the grass outside the shop just before the entrance in to the Pound Garden. TVSA have made enquiries footpath department at NCC who do not envisage a problem as the footpath will not be obstructed. Members discussed request and felt that this is a	Clerk

decision that they cannot entirely make at this time and that TVSA will need to seek approval from ENC, but whilst TPC are content with the proposal in principle more detailed designs would need to be provided to TPC for consideration. Clerk to respond to TVSA to this effect.

- 2008/01/13.1 TVSA further requested if they could externally vent the existing chiller/freezer units to reduce the amount of hot air produced in the shop. This will involve the refrigerator units being vented externally through the wall of the shop to the east elevation, venting out along the rockery garden, which could easily be camouflaged with careful planting. GG proposed and GL seconded to consent to this installation in principle. Clerk to respond to TVSA to this effect. Clerk
- 2008/01/14 Clerk Review/Appraisal
MA and GG agreed to undertake Clerks annual review and appraisal. Clerk to liaise with MA and GG to arrange a suitable date and time. Any members wishing to make any comments regarding Clerk, to make contact with either MA or GG to lodge their comments.
- 2008/01/15 Chair for meeting 21st February 2008 Chair and Vice Chair conveyed their apologies for the next meeting. In both of their absence GG appointed as stand in Chair for meeting on 21st February 2008. Clerk to liaise with GG.
- 2008/01/16 Date for next meeting 21st February 2008
- 2008/01/17 Items for report only
SP – TT article agreed
BA – Reported an increase in dog fouling in Drydens Close
GG – Reported vegetation overhanging wall to front boundary of bungalow in the High Street
IT – Reported on the week leading up to Christmas £5100.00 of sales in the Shop
The Chair closed the meeting at 9.15 pm