

## TITCHMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 19 February 2009 in the Clubroom

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

In Attendance: Emma Meen (Clerk)  
Mr & Mrs Jenkinson of St Andrews Lane, Titchmarsh

2009/02/1 **Public Open Time** The Chairman welcomed Mr & Mrs Jenkinson to public open time and asked them to make any comments relating to matters contained on the agenda within an allocated 5 minute period.

Mrs Jenkinson commented on agenda item 9 EN/09/00014/FUL - proposed new detached house with garage at land between 17 & 21 St Andrews Lane, Titchmarsh. Mr & Mrs Jenkinson reside in St Andrews Lane virtually opposite the site proposed for the new dwelling. They expressed concern that the proposed new dwelling will affect the street scene; it is proposed in the application for the footpath to be lowered in front of the site and the handrail removed. The handrail and raised pavement is a unique feature to St Andrews Lane and its removal will affect the street scene. Concern is also expressed at the health and safety issue surrounding the lowering of the footpath and the erection of a new boundary wall. There is no reference as to how high this wall will be. With the lowering of the footpath pedestrians will be walking along the new lower footpath in closer proximity to passing traffic. The scale and size of the property is very large and will overpower surrounding properties and dominate its neighbours. The angle of the proposed new dwelling impedes the privacy of Mr & Mrs Jenkinson's property. The chair thanked Mr & Mrs Jenkinson for attending the meeting and for bringing their comments to the attention of the Parish Council. Chair invited them to stay for the remainder of the meeting if they wish.

2009/02/2 **Chairman's Statement** MA reminded members of the conduct that is expected from all Councillors at Parish Council meetings

2009/02/3 **To receive apologies for absence:** SP on holiday. MA proposed that SP apology be accepted. All in favour

2009/02/4 **Declaration of Interests for items contained on the Agenda:**

IT declared a personal interest in agenda item 2009/02/8.5.

JG declared an interest in agenda item 9 – planning – application number EN/99/0579/FUL.

GL declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 – planning – application number EN/09/000161/FUL.

Members signed declaration of interest book confirming

2009/02/5 **Minutes of Last Meeting:** JG objected to the content of the minutes and proposed the following amendments:-

Typographical error 2009/01/3 duplicated. Second duplicated point re-numbered as 2009/01/3a

JG objected to the wording contained in minute number 2009/01/9. BA omitted as a seconder to JG proposal. Minutes amended to reflect this omission

The final sentence of the first paragraph to be amended to read "among the reasons by individual councillors as justification for not supporting the scheme"

Point 2 – remove The Parish Council and change to "some members"

Point 3 - remove The Parish Council and change to "some members".

Final paragraph amend to Whilst "most" members supported the principle of Affordable Housing.

Following further discussion regarding the amendments to the above points JG proposed that these amendments be incorporated in to the final minutes. JC seconded. All agreed minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2009, including

the above amendments to be an accurate record. Chair signed the minutes and also initialled the approved amendments.

2009/02/6  
2009/02/6.1

**Matters Arising (for information purposes only):**

Annual Parish Meeting Update Clerk reported that the speakers have been confirmed to attend the APM. Both Bob Seery and Phillip Hardcastle and confirmed their attendance. The Youth group and also the Pre-School confirmed their willingness to send a report to be read out on their behalf, should they be unable to send a representative.

2009/02/6.2

ENC Requested a copy of the January 2009 minutes to note the discussion which took place regarding affordable housing and justification why the scheme is not supported. Clerk to send minutes to ENC

Clerk

2009/02/7

**Finance**

Payments to authorise:

Dudley Office Supplies	Stationery	£69.76
Titchmarsh Clubroom	Clubroom hire for PC meetings October, November & December 2009	£58.75
Aylesbury Mains Ltd	Supply and erection of 6 streetlight columns and 7 lighting brackets as per their quotation dated 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2008	£12031.14
Bosworths Garden Centre	Christmas Tree	£88.19
Emma Meen	Clerks Salary December 2008 paid by standing order	£182.80

2009/02/7.1  
2009/02/7.2

GG proposed that payments be made. IT seconded, all in favour  
Letter to Barclays Bank requesting for a transfer of funds from the Tracker account to the current account for £12,600.00 to cover the cost of the invoice from Aylesbury Mains for the streetlight columns and lighting brackets. MA and GG to sign.

2009/02/8  
2009/02/8.1

**Correspondence**

Letter and contract for grounds Maintenance from ENC re: Grass cutting 2<sup>nd</sup> March to 1 November 2009 (35 weeks) Clerk confirmed that the additional cut requested to take place in May is included within the contract and the amount quoted for the grass cutting is also correct. Members agreed for contract to be signed by Clerk and returned to ENC.

Clerk

2009/02/8.2

Letter from CPRE – Northamptonshire’s Stop the Drop Campaign County wide litter pick taking place 20<sup>th</sup> March to 29<sup>th</sup> March. Members agreed not to participate as Titchmarsh is fortunate not to experience a litter problem.

2009/02/8.3

Northamptonshires Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Locations for Waste and Minerals Development – Proposed Submission Details circulated in the float file

2009/02/8.4

Correspondence from ENC re: Schedule of proposed changes to the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan Circulated for information and comment prior to the meeting. Several amendments to plan relating to areas of Titchmarsh, including the playing field which has not be noted as “important open land deletion – policy 12. IC requested for further information to be requested from ENC advising why this has been amended.

Clerk

2009/02/8.4.1

Letter from Parishioner regarding proposed changes to settlement boundaries resident from Islington requested if the parish Council would support and make representation on behalf of Islington to be included in the settlement boundaries. An example has been quoted of a similar situation at Easton on the Hill where a number of dwellings are detached from the main body of the village, this has therefore set a precedence to support the request. JG proposed that TPC make representation to ENC requesting that Islington be included within the settlement boundaries. All in favour. Clerk to contact ENC and also letter of acknowledgement sent to parishioner confirming the same.

Clerk

2009/02/8.5

**GL arrived at 8.15 pm**

Email from Parishioner re: problems with cars being parked on the village green A complaint has been received that vehicles parked in and around the green restrict access to and from Manor Farm Court and at times the cars belong to customers

Clerk

	visiting the shop, parents taking children to and from School and also cars belonging to employees of the business in Chapel Street. The problem has been increased with the recent icy conditions. The members sympathise with the problems and have assisted all they are able to, in their power to alleviate the problem but feel that there is really very little else that can be done to stop parking in this area. Clerk to send a letter to parishioner detailing the above.	
2009/02/8.6	<u>Letter from East Northants ACRE re: Village of the Year competition</u> Members agreed not to participate for 2009. Consideration will be given again in the future.	
2009/02/8.7	<u>Letter from Barbara Ding, Monitoring Officer at ENC</u> advising that she will be retiring from the Council at the end of May. Members instructed clerk to send a letter of acknowledgement to Barbara wishing her every happiness in her retirement and also to thank her for all of her help and assistance over the last 9 years.	Clerk
2009/02/8.8	<u>Letter from ENC re: Street Closure order for 24 February 2009</u> Road closed for the purpose of the pancake race. Notice of closure displayed on Parish notice board.	
2009/02/8.9	<u>Invitation from Chairman of ENC to Race Night at Raunds Cricket Club 21st February 2009</u> No one available to attend	Clerk
2009/02/9	<b>Planning</b>	
2009/02/9.1	EN/09/00014/FUL planning application Proposed detached house with garage at Land between 17 and 21 St Andrews Lane, Titchmarsh. Application not supported on the following grounds:- The size and scale of the development is far too large, which impacts on the surrounding properties.	
2009/02/9.2	EN/09/00047/FUL planning application Erection of double garage with hobby room/workshop room above (amendment to previously approved EN/99/0579/FUL) at Hill House 47 High Street Titchmarsh – application supported	
2009/02/9.3	Variation of condition 40 of planning permission 07/00035/min to extend the end date to 30 September 2015 at Castle Manor Farm, Titchmarsh (Mick George Gravel extraction site) – Further supporting details received from NCC to advise that they are aware that concern has been expressed within the locality that there is a possible flooding issue. The site has been inspected and a swollen watercourse was found flowing towards Titchmarsh. NCC felt that very little of the water appeared to be coming from the quarry site. The environmental Agency have been invited to comment. Application supported	
2009/02/9.4	EN/09/000161/FUL planning application to erect a two storey side extension at 30 Chapel Street, Titchmarsh – application supported	
2009/02/10	<u>Policy for correspondence by email between Parish Council meetings</u> members have now had the opportunity to peruse the model policy defining the use of email between meetings. JG proposed that TPC adopt the model email policy dated October 2008, as previously circulated in the float file. IC seconded. 3 members objected to the wording of the policy. After further discussion it was agreed that circulation of emails, which require a response ie for the attendance of an outside meeting, that these will be circulated at the discretion of the clerk. Model Email Policy formally adopted by TPC.	
2009/02/11	<u>Questions for Local Council Spring Conference 18<sup>th</sup> March 2009 – JG to attend</u> No particular questions members felt they wished to table to the panel. JG to report feedback from conference at March meeting	
2009/02/12	<u>Redundant electricity columns to Chapel Street and Church Street</u> Members inspected the two columns in question and felt that they did not propose a risk when removed. MA proposed the two poles be removed. JG seconded. Clerk to instruct EON to remove the poles.	Clerk
2009/02/13	<u>Programme of training available for Councillors and Clerks for Spring 2009</u> NCALC notified of Spring training programme. Are you acting legally? Aimed at Councillors. JG expressed an interest in attending. Members agreed for clerk to find out the date of the course and notify JG. The cost of the course is £29.00. Members agreed that only one Councillor is permitted to attend if the date is	Clerk

- agreeable. Clerk to also make enquiries if Councillors qualify for a training bursary. Clerk expressed an interest in attending the Power of well being seminar. Clerk to find out further details and if attendance will prove any benefit to TPC.
- 2009/02/14 State of verges generally around Titchmarsh members discussed generally the state of the verges around the village. Drydens Close is particularly unsatisfactory with the verges in a very muddy state. Members instructed clerk to contact highways department and request that the verge be inspected, and a suggested cause of action to rectify the problem. IT also reported that a HGV vehicle is habitually parking around the back of Chapel Street. The HGV is causing damage to the verge, green area and kerb. The HGV is also damaging trees in chapel Street by catching the high sides on the branches. Members instructed clerk to write to the driver of the HGV to bring this complaint to his attention and to also seek clarification of the validity of parking in the village. JG reported that he is aware of at least two vehicles that have experienced damage to tyres and wheels from driving in to gullies situated at the side of the road in Islington. This has been reported to highways who have placed two cones alongside the dangerous gully area, but nothing further has happened to rectify the problem. Clerk to write to highways department asking for this matter to be addressed to alleviate further damage to vehicles. Also the trees overhanging the boundary to the field just after Mobile Promotions as entering in to the village from Thrapston still have not been cut back. Despite the clerk reporting this problem to streetdoctor last year. Clerk to chase streetdoctor for an update and ask for the overhanging trees to be addressed urgently as this is contributing to the problem of cars having to mount the verge and consequently drive in to the gully, when vehicles are driving in the opposite direction, further over in the road so as not to drive through the overhanging trees. An article will also be placed in TT regarding the state of the verges generally and the lack of respect by motorists for the grassed areas. Clerk
- 2009/02/15 State of Highway particularly outside the village shop and Islington junction with Church Street JG brought to the members attention that the anti skid surface to the junction of Islington with Church Street is insufficient. Following the snow and ice we have recently experienced it is apparent that this needs addressing, together with the road outside the village shop which is in a deformed state and the surface needs addressing. Clerk to report to highways Clerk
- 2009/02/16 Clerks Appraisal MA & IT volunteered to carry out the Clerks appraisal. Following comments made last year whether an effective appraisal had been carried out Clerk has downloaded appraisal guidance notes and form from the SLCC website to assist with the process and will issue these to the appraiser. Date to be arranged between Clerk, MA & IT
- 2009/02/17 Report received from Titchmarsh Village Shop Association For information purposes only. No further action required. Copy of report attached.
- 2009/02/18 Date of next meeting Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009
- 2009/02/19 Items for report only  
 BA – Reported that the salt bin to Drydens Close is empty and has not been re-filled during or after the recent cold spell.  
 BA – asked if the trees that have been removed on the entrance to the playing field, will these be replaced?  
 BA – asked if a decision has been made regarding the Poplar trees which bound the playing field?  
 MA – advised Chairman Dudley Hughes circulated an invite to an evening with Dr Busker at Barnwell Village. MA attended and the evening was a huge success. The Chair closed the meeting at 9.40 pm