

## Twyford Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Meeting held at The Loddon Hall, Twyford, on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2004, at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mr R Mantel (Vice-chairman in the chair), Mrs L Dane, Mrs B Herbertson, Mrs G Wright, Mrs J Robinson, Miss P Lawrence, Messrs M Stillman, T LeMare, K Hogg, N Crush, Dr M Garrard  
In attendance: Mr J March (Clerk), Mr S Conway and two representatives of the press.

1. **Public questions-** None
2. **Apologies-** Messrs D Hymers, J Bowley, A Parkin-White, B Rogers.
3. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda-** Mrs J Robinson declared an interest in the grant request for Vivace Girls' Choir
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2004-** Mrs G Wright proposed Mrs L Dane seconded - agreed unanimously.
5. **Matters Arising –**

Reply from Inspector Finch regarding policing copied to members.  
The Clerk has written to WDC regarding the proposed 50mph speed limit on the A4.  
The Clerk has written to both WDC and Yellow Brick Nursery regarding the use of Stanlake Pavilion for elections.  
Letter detailing the budget problems in Colleton and Polehampton Infants and Junior Schools still to be drafted and sent to national and local decision makers.
6. **District Council Matters-** Mr Conway reported on additional funding for schools that has been provided by Central Government and his representations to the District Council on the need for CCTV in the village centre. He has asked for the planning application for 103-105 Wargrave Rd to be listed. New planning applications have been submitted for 3 properties at Mulberry Mead and for a new dwelling at 1 Longfield Rd. He was asked to take up the long outstanding problems with the traffic lights in the centre of the village with WDC.
7. **Liaison with Ruscombe Parish Council-** Mrs Dane reported on discussions with WDC regarding gritting footpaths in icy conditions and their decision not to pay allowances for councillors although help would be given to any councillors experiencing problems attending meetings. Due to elections they are having an extra council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June.
8. **Reports:**
  - 8.1 **Planning and Amenities Committee 02.02.04 -** Mrs Dane reported on the meeting including the planning applications for gates on access roads to developments. This was raised with WDC planning department who confirmed it is not agreed policy to allow this. The Village Ranger has been asked to carry out minor work on some of the council streetlights. A refuse lorry for large items of domestic refuse has been booked and will commence on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April. It will park at the bottom end of Broad Hinton near its junction with Hurst Rd. The village litter pick is now planned for 24<sup>th</sup> April. Mrs L Dane, Mr B Rogers and Mr T LeMare have attended a meeting to discuss Safer Routes to School with the WDC consultants and the details of their proposals were explained.
  - 8.2 **Parish Lands Committee 04.02.04-** Mr Stillman reported on the meeting including the proposal to erect a sign at the entrance to the car park area

adjacent to KGVR, the work of the Village Ranger and replacing dead trees in the Millennium Garden. He also explained the current position on the examination of quotes for CCTV to cover Parish Council property. A meeting is to be held with the Cricket Club to discuss the rent they are charged. The Tennis Club has been asked to provide details of the temporary accommodation they propose to erect. The current position regarding the proposed skate park was outlined. Concern was expressed that time had been wasted due to action being taken on the original letter from Twyford and Ruscombe Community Association that was then rescinded by a later letter received from them. It was explained that as the original letter was on their headed paper and signed by one of their officers there was no reason to question the contents and it was acted on in good faith. The recommendation not to allow the Scouts to develop premises on Stanlake Meadow was discussed and carried, for 9, against 0, abstentions 2

**8.3 Finance and General Purposes 10.02.04-** Mr Mantel reported on the meeting including the status of Stanlake Meadow which was felt to have adequate cover following information received from WDC. Details on the budget will be covered under item 9 on the agenda and the item on Standing Orders will be covered under item 10 on the agenda. Recommendation not to approve a section 137 grant for Vivace Girls' Choir discussed. Carried for 6, against 4, abstention 1. Recommendation to award a section 137 grant of £100 to Henley and District Citizens Advice Bureau discussed. Carried for 9, against 0, abstentions 2. Recommendation to make a section 137 grant of £110 to the Berkshire Blind Society discussed. Carried unanimously. Recommendation to appoint Mr G Wier as internal auditor agreed unanimously.

**8.4 TVCMI-** Mrs Dane reported on their last meeting. The finances are quite healthy and they covered the cost of the Christmas event. They need more volunteers to help run activities and an article about this will be put in the Twyford News. N Raybone will be arranging a meeting about the site of the Skate Park. A plant sale is planned for May. The letter from them to the Parish Council requesting payment of the cost of the road closure for the Christmas event was discussed. It was explained there was a misunderstanding about what the Council had agreed to pay for. They had agreed to pay a one off charge for the establishment of the road closure order and had not agreed to pay for the annual cost of signage for the event. The TVCMI Chairman agreed to contact WDC to query the cost charged for this. Concern was expressed at the lack of co-operation between the Council and the TVCMI and it was explained that if the TVCMI required a donation towards costs they should make a request to the Council first in the normal manner.

**8.5 Other Representatives reports –** Report provided from Polehampton Infants School – noted. Mr N Crush reported on WDC District/Parish Council Conference including discussions on too many traffic signs on roads, grid references requested to ensure adequate identification of trees with preservation orders, restrictions on the installation of speed activated traffic signs, reduction in the level of fly tipping by providing amenity lorries for residents and the change in the law which means in future WDC will be issuing liquor licences instead of magistrates. The lack of policing based on the contribution from Parishes was also raised and it was explained that this was designed to cover the infrastructure of the Thames Valley Police and not local beat officers.

**8.6 Clerk's report-** There has been one incident of minor vandalism in the Youth Shelter where a fire was lit and the fire brigade had to be called. The shelter was not damaged. A meeting has been held with Friends of Ruscombe Wood and they will be sending us their proposals for improving the area between KGVR and the car park in Wargrave Rd. The hedge behind the pavilion at Stanlake has been trimmed back to improve visibility and security. The Clerk has a meeting with the crime prevention officer on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the proposals for CCTV

**9.0 Precept 2004/5** The background to the make up of the figures was explained. The council resolved that the precept for 2004-05 will be £54,500.

**10. Dealing with negative decision made in committee** – The Chairman brought the meetings attention to the wording of Standing Order 50(d) – “To receive and act on correspondence received by the Council in relation to financial matters and recommend appropriate action to the Council” – in future recommendations will be made both for and against action.

**11. Councillors Questions** – A reminder was given about the public meeting of the Police Liaison Group at Hurst Village Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> March – questions should be submitted in advance by 1<sup>st</sup> March. The poor condition of the footbridge at the station was raised and what action could be taken to get it improved. It was explained that WDC have already tried without success. Agreed this is referred to the Planning and Amenities Committee to take appropriate action.

## **12 Correspondence**

12.1 WDC meeting of the Council 29.01.04 - noted

12.2 WDC Meeting of the Executive 29.01.04 - noted

12.3 WDC Code of Conduct – Register of Interests. Details of changes to requirements explained. Councillors asked to contact the Clerk if it affects them.

12.4 WDC Meeting of the Personnel Board 19.02.04 – noted.

## **13. Authorisation of payments**

As detailed on enclosed list – dated 12.02.04

Approved unanimously

## **14. Dates of meetings:**

Planning and Amenities Committee 01.03.04

Parish Lands Committee 03.03.04

Finance Committee 09.03.04

Meet the Public 13.03.04

Mr B Rogers and Mr M Stillman to attend.

## **15. Date of next meeting 16<sup>th</sup> March 2004**

The meeting closed at 9.17. p.m.
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