

Twyford Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Meeting held at The Loddon Hall, Twyford, on Tuesday 22nd January 2008 at 7.45p.m.

Present: Mr. D. Hymers (Chairman) Messrs R.Mantel, N Crush, C.Smith, S Clark, J.Bowley, Mrs K Peck, Mrs. B. Ditcham and Ms S Doughty.

In attendance: Mr J March Clerk, District Councillor Mr S Conway and one member of the press.

1. **Public Questions** – none.
2. **Apologies** –Mr J. Jarvis and Miss C La Trobe
3. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – None
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2007** – proposed by Mrs K Peck seconded by Mr C Smith - approved unanimously.
5. **Matters arising and action points**

Mr Jarvis to provide an article about the Neighbourhood Action Group for the spring issue of Twyford News. Carried forward – Article required early in February.

The Clerk to put energy efficient lighting on the agenda of the Planning and Amenities Committee. Completed

Councillors to contact the Clerk if they are interested in attending the BALC training. Completed.

Letter to Leader of WBC Councillor Frank Browne about proposals for a new library. No reply received so a follow up letter has been sent. Councillor Browne has replied saying he has asked Councillor Dianne King to deal with this.

6. **Borough Council Matters** – Borough Councillor Stephen Conway reported on the following: The rubbish and the uneven pavement at Longfield Rd shops have been dealt with and remedial work is in hand. There has been repeated vandalism to the fence adjacent to the bungalow on the corner of Springfield Park and London Rd as well as other locations around the village. There has also been a spate of graffiti attacks. He is trying to get WBC to use more modern methods of removing graffiti on domestic premises as the current method using high-pressure water is putting some resident off using the service due to possible damage to the surface being cleaned. Consultation is under way on the possible change of status of Piggott School to Voluntary Aided. With regard to planning applications he has asked the planning application for the new footbridge at the railway station to be listed, as he is concerned that the proposed design and finish will not match the existing buildings.
7. **Liaison with Ruscombe Parish Council.** – Nothing to report.
8. **Precept.** As detailed in the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 15.01.08 a precept of £57,000 is recommended to the Full Council for approval. Recommendation approved unanimously.
9. **Reports:**
 - 9.1 **Planning and Amenities Committee 07.01.08** Mrs Ditcham reported on meeting including the planning applications received, refusals and approvals given. A reply is being prepared to the consultation about adding additional capacity at Heathrow Airport indicating that the parish council does not agree to any proposals that will lead to planes flying lower and creating more noise over the village. The committee are still waiting to hear from WBC about their proposals for the Broad Hinton play area.
 - 9.2 **Parish Lands Committee 09.01.08.** Mr J Bowley reported on the meeting including the proposal to get prices for layering the hedge adjacent to Stanlake Meadow in Waltham Rd. At Hurst Rd allotments a number of tenants not keeping their plots tidy have been written to and as some have not replied their tenancy will be terminated. Friends of Ruscombe Wood have coppiced the hazel in the SW corner of the site.

Following a request from one of the football clubs playing at KGVR it has been decided to have the pitches rolled.

9.3 Finance and General Purposes Committee 15.01.08 Mr Mantel reported on the meeting. The quarterly budget and capital statement show that the budget is on target. The recommendation relating to the 2008/9 precept has already been discussed and agreed. Mr J Rowe has resigned from the council as he has back problems and finds it difficult to sit through meetings. He declined an offer for the council to provide a suitable chair for him to use. The committee **RECOMMEND** to the Full Council to make a Section 137 grant of £120 to Relate. Approved unanimously.

9.4 Meet the Public 12.01.08. Mr R Mantel and Mrs K Peck reported on the meeting. They had four visitors three of who were residents of Twyford. Mrs Dowell and Mrs Hill raised an issue about a fall that Mrs Dowell had on the uneven road surface in Station Rd outside the church and the unsatisfactory way it had been handled by WBC. Agreed the Clerk to write to WBC asking for an explanation and for them to inspect the road surface. The Clerk to write to Mrs Dowell to tell her the parish council is taking the matter up with WBC. A Springfield Park resident raised concern about the proposals to issue national rather than local bus passes and the effect on the alternative proposal of taking a grant. Mr Smith asked about progress on the skate park project.

9.5 Other representatives Reports. - Report from the Governors of Polehampton Infants School – noted. Mr D Hymers reported on a recent WDALC meeting where only two parishes were represented. The annual conference with WBC was discussed and it was agreed the format of this needed reconsidering. Mr D Hymers also reported that a meeting of the London Hall Council due on 16th January did not take place because nobody from Loddon Hall was present. The Clerk to investigate why this happened. Mrs K Peck reported on a recent Area Youth Committee meeting where vandalism in Longfield Rd was discussed. The police have written to residents asking them to report anything suspicious. The Youth Worker would like to carry out more youth work but she is finding it difficult due to funding limitations.

9.6 Clerk's Report. – The Comets Football Club has lost the lock for the main gate at Stanlake Meadow. They have purchased a replacement lock and had a number of keys cut. The Clerk is issuing them to persons who need to access via this gate. Mr J Bowley raised the point about keeping records of persons who have keys issued to them. The Clerk to put this on the agenda of the Parish Lands Committee for discussion. Yellow Brick Nursery have asked for permission to install a PVC strip door on the external door used by children going out to the play area. This is designed to cut down heat loss from the building. Agreed.

10. Councillors' Questions. Mr C Smith asked if there were any points to be raised at the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Action Group. It was agreed he be asked to raise enforcement of parking regulations, particularly in the areas adjacent to the station, now we have a PCSO. Mrs B Ditcham asked about the structure and operation of the committee running Loddon Hall. Mr D Hymers and Mr R Mantel explained the relationship between Twyford and Ruscombe Community Association, the Loddon Hall Council, the Loddon Hall Management Committee and their functions.

11. Correspondence -

11.1 WBC Town and Parish News December – circulated on e-mail – noted.

11.2 VAWB LSP Newsletter Dec 07 – circulated on e-mail – noted.

11.3 VAWB The Volunteer Dec 07 – circulated on e-mail - noted.

- 11.4 BALC Green Spaces Manager Seminar – circulated on e-mail - noted.
- 11.5 VAWB Wokingham Community Safety Conference – circulated on e-mail - noted.
- 11.6 BALC Councillors and Clerks training 8-10th February 2008 – circulated on e-mail - noted.
- 11.7 WBC Wokingham Borough Strategic Partnership Briefing – circulated on e-mail - noted.
- 11.8 Proposed change of status for the Piggott School. Discussed. The Clerk to circulate the information and questionnaire and put this on the agenda of the next meeting for further discussion.
- 11.9 BALC CRC Participation Inquiry launch event 31st January – circulated on e-mail - noted.
- 11.10 WBSP Stronger Communities Partnership – circulated on e-mail -noted.
- 11.11 WBC Children’s Centres name and logo competition – noted.
- 11.12 WBC Sponsorship opportunities and annual conference – circulated on e-mail. Discussed. Agreed the council do not wish to have sponsorship of village name signs. The Clerk to reply to WBC. The Clerk to put the annual conference on the agenda of the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for discussion.
- 11.13 VAWB Training Bulletin 18th January - circulated on e-mail - noted
- 11.14 WSBP Management Group meeting 9th Jan – circulated on e-mail - noted.
- 11.15 VAWB Training Bulletin 18th Jan – circulated on e-mail - noted.
- 11.16 WBC Invitation to 2008 Community Conference – circulated on e-mail - noted.
- 12. Authorisation of payments** – approval of expenditure on list dated 22.01.08 proposed by Mr C Smith, seconded by Ms S Doughty and carried unanimously.

13. Dates of meetings:

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| Planning and Amenities Committee | 04.02.08 |
| Parish Lands Committee | 06.02.08 |
| Finance Committee | 12.02.08 |

14. Date of next meeting – 19th February 2008.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.