

Twyford Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

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

Present: Mr. D. Hymers (Chairman) Messrs, J Jarvis, C Smith, S Clark, J Bowley, B Rogers, Mrs B Ditcham, Mrs K Peck, Ms S Doughty, Mrs S Harriott-Kerr. In attendance: Mr J March Clerk and Borough Councillor Mr S Conway and Mrs C Bulman Ruscombe PC.

1. Public Questions – None

2. Apologies – Mr R Mantel, Mr N Crush, Mr M Shepherd and Miss C La Trobe.

3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda – None.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2008 – proposed by Mr J Jarvis seconded by Mr C Smith - approved unanimously

5. Matters arising and action points

The Clerk to forward suggested items for the Town and Parish conference to WBC. Completed.

The Clerk to ask the Youth Centre Manager for regular reports on the work of the Street Workers. Completed.

The Clerk to add the provision of additional bollards in London Rd to the list of Highway Matters submitted to WBC. Completed.

The Clerk to order a replacement dog waste bin. Completed.

The Clerk to arrange for the glass in the Waitrose notice board to be replaced. Completed.

Mr C Smith to raise enforcement of parking restrictions and Jubilee Corner CCTV at the next NAG meeting. Carried forward as NAG meeting has not taken place.

The Clerk to put enforcement of parking restrictions on the agenda of the Planning and Amenities Committee meeting. Completed.

The Clerk forwarded suggested agenda items for the meeting with the Chief Executive to WBC. Completed.

6. Borough Council Matters – Borough Councillor Stephen Conway reported on the following: He gave details of the operation and control of the village centre CCTV system. The following planning applications are being considered. The additional 3 houses at 9 Wargrave Rd, Tudor House 24 High St which he has asked to go to the Planning Committee due to concerns about parking and revised plans are awaited for the replacement footbridge at the station. The library petition has been handed in to WBC and he has had discussions with the Chief Executive about it. He has also had discussions about the admissions policy for rising 5s at Polehampton Infants and Colleton Schools. WBC has stopped the grass and hedge cutting service for tenants who cannot do it themselves and he has asked them to reconsider their policy. Care Services for the elderly is under review by WBC following a judgement against another council for breach of the Disability Discrimination Act. He is hopeful that Broad Hinton play area will be discussed at the next meeting of the WBC Executive to be held in May.

7. Liaison with Ruscombe Parish Council. – Mrs Bulman reported on the following: Their Annual Parish Meeting is being held in Loddon Hall on Thursday 24th April. They are making further enquiries about possible future alterations to the London Rd /A4 junction. Resurfacing New Rd is now completed. The planning application from Banner Homes for land off London Rd with access from Northbury Avenue has gone to appeal and another application with fewer properties has been submitted. The

refurbishment work at Castle End Pond enabled them to receive a grant to cover the cost.

8. Reports:

8.1 Planning and Amenities Committee 07.04.08 Mr J Jarvis reported on the meeting including the planning applications received. The committee are still waiting to hear about progress on the Broad Hinton Play Area. A consultation document has been received from the Fire Service. Cover for Twyford is being provided from Reading now Sonning and Wargrave, volunteer manned, stations have been closed. It is proposed to build a new fire station for Twyford in the near future although details of the location have not been announced yet. Investigations are taking place about the cost of installing a solar/wind powered streetlight in a location where servicing a mains powered light will be expensive.

8.2 Parish Lands Committee 09.04.08 Mr J Bowley reported on the meeting including confirmation that the contractor appointed to install the new footbridge at the railway station will carry out repair work to the gate and access rd as well as installing hard standing for parking. This is in return for using spare land at the top of the Hurst Rd allotments as a works compound. With regard to the skate park project he outlined the current position regarding the ballpark where it may now be possible to leave it in the original position as revised quotes have been received for reinforcing the construction of the base.

8.3 Finance and General Purposes Committee 15.04.08 Mr D Hymers reported on the meeting including discussions on the full year figures for expenditure against budget and capital. The committee considered a grant and a loan request. Berkshire Blind Society. The committee **RECOMMENDS** to The Full Council that a grant of £100 be made. Carried unanimously. Polehampton Swimming Association. The committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Full Council that a loan of £2000 be made repayable at a rate of £1000 a year for 2 years. Mr J Jarvis reported that repaying the loan at this rate will be difficult and he proposed an amendment to make the repayments £500 a year over a 4 year period. Seconded by Mrs K Peck and carried unanimously. Amended recommendation from Finance committee carried unanimously.

8.4 Other representatives Reports. – Mr D Hymers referred to his written report on a recent WDALC meeting. Mrs K Peck reported on a recent TVCMI meeting where it was resolved to change the name to Twyford Village Partnership (TVP). Discussions have started about the preparation of a Parish Plan and they propose to launch the start of this at the Scouts' Donkey Derby on 1st June. A report was received from the Governors of Polehampton Infants School. Noted.

8.5 Clerk's Report. – The Clerk reported the following: He attended a recent Society of Local Council Clerks Regional Conference where presentations were given on changes to the planning process and the introduction of electronic processing for planning applications. He has received a request from Loddon Hall regarding a National Lottery grant application they are making for the refurbishment work in the toilets. As the Parish council are the landlords of the site the National Lottery require a letter saying that there is no objection to the proposed work. Agreed. The Clerk to provide a letter.

9. Chairman's Report to APM. Draft report circulated, discussed and approved.

10. Annual Audit – The Clerk circulated details of the information to be provided on the Annual Return to the external auditor. Proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded Ms S Doughty that the Annual Return be signed by the Chairman as a true record of the statement of affairs and operation of the council. Carried unanimously.

11. Councillors Questions – Mr C Smith has been approached by elderly residents regarding problems caused by stones from residents' drives spilling on to the footpath. Referred to Planning and Amenities. Mr S Clark has been approached by a resident about the time delay in getting someone from pest control at WBC to visit and deal with a rat infestation in their garden. The Clerk to make enquiries about the current situation. Mr B Rogers asked about the timescale allowed for completion of a property following a planning approval. The Chairman gave details of the regulations.

12. Correspondence -

12.1 WBC Town and Parish News March 08 – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

12.2 WBC Notes from Town and Parish Meeting 03.04.08 – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

12.3. WBC Home Library Service – request for more readers. Noted

12.4 VAWB Notice of next meeting – circulated on e-mail. Noted

12.5 Twyford and Wargrave Volunteer Centre – invite to AGM. Noted

12.6 WBC Out of Hours Stray Dog Service. Details taken by Mrs K Peck for Twyford News.

12.7 Invite from Army Presentation Team to attend a presentation at Reading Town Hall. Ms S Doughty to attend.

12.8 WBC. Questionnaire on Anti-Social Behaviour. As requested, councillors to send in individual replies.

12.9 VAWB Training Bulletin – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

12.10 NALC Annual Conference. Noted.

13. Authorisation of payments – list dated 22.04.08. Proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded Ms S Doughty. Carried unanimously.

14. Dates of meetings:

Planning and Amenities Committee	06.05.08
Parish Lands Committee	07.05.08
Finance Committee	13.05.08

15. Date of next meeting – 20th May 2008 – Annual Meeting of the Council

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.