

Twyford Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Meeting held at The Loddon Hall, Twyford, on Tuesday 15th December 2009 at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mr R Mantel (Chairman), Messrs, J Jarvis, D Hymers, C Smith, S Clark, J Bowley, Mrs B Ditcham, Mrs K Peck, Mrs S Harriott-Kerr and Ms S Doughty from item 10.

In attendance: Mrs Bulman Ruscombe Parish Council

1. **Public Questions** – None
2. **Apologies** – Messrs C Tennant, M Shepherd, N Crush and A Dimmock
3. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – None
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2009** - Proposed by Mr J Jarvis seconded by Mr J Bowley - approved unanimously.
5. **Matters arising and action points**
 - 5.1 The Clerk to put public toilets on the agenda of the Planning and Amenities Committee. Completed.
 - 5.2 The Clerk to put the request for lighting on KGVR on the agenda of the Parish Lands Committee. Completed.
 - 5.3 The Clerk to write to residents in Orchard Estate regarding the demolished streetlight. Completed.
 - 5.4 The Clerk to put bench as commemorative item from the Scouts on the agenda of the Parish Lands Committee. Completed.
 - 5.5 The Clerk to send off the nomination for Mr J Heggadon as Town and Parish representative to WBC. To complete this required Mr Heggadon to prepare a personal statement so Mr R Mantel spoke to him. Mr R Mantel reported that as a result of this discussion it was agreed that the existing proposal of second past the post being elected as deputy was not very satisfactory so following discussions with WBC it was agreed that the deputy representative should also be nominated and voted on. Each council will now have two votes, one for the council representative and one for the deputy. Mr Heggadon's own council will nominate him as the representative and Mr R Mantel asked the Parish Council's permission for him to be nominated by them as deputy. Proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded by Mr C Smith that Twyford Parish Council nominates Mr R Mantel as the Deputy Town and Parish representative to WBC. Carried unanimously.
6. **Borough Council Matters.** Mr S Conway sent his apologies and gave the following report for the Clerk to read to the meeting: The Twyford Christmas Fayre took place on Friday 4th December and was quite successful. He thanked the council for their support. There is a good chance that two CCTV cameras will be installed on the station forecourt in the near future. He has had discussions with the police regarding anti-social behaviour in Twyford and Ruscombe and is hopeful that the situation will improve now the police are up to strength with an additional PCSO. The Bridge House planning application is unlikely to come to the WBC Planning Committee before February. Discussions are being held on the share of on site facilities by local residents. The WBC energy saving scheme is causing problems for residents of Badger Drive where all the streetlights are being switched off and he is trying to resolve this for them.
7. **Liaison with Ruscombe Parish Council.**

Mrs Bulman reported on the following: They have received a copy of the first draft of the TVP Parish Plan to comment on. They support the comments made by Twyford about the Bridge House planning application. Their District Councillor reported about

a proposed new strategy for libraries to become activity centres. A length restriction is to be placed on vehicles using Stanlake Bridge. Ruscombe PC has not participated in Remembrance Day Services to date. They are not sure why but will do so in future.

8. Reports:

8.1 Planning and Amenities Committee 07.12.09 Mrs B Ditcham reported on the meeting. There have been problems with demolished streetlights where it has been difficult to establish who caused the damage. The closing of the public lavatories in Polehampton Close was discussed and it was decided the parish council would not want to take these over. WBC is planning a borough wide litter pick in the spring. TVP have expressed an interest in participating but a parish councillor is required to lead the project due to insurance implications. Mrs K Peck is not available so another parish councillor is required to run this. Referred back to Planning and Amenities Committee.

8.2 Parish Lands Committee 09.12.09. Mr J Bowley reported on the meeting. The corner of the tennis courts affected by moss has been pressure washed. The Clerk is having difficulty finding an alternative supplier for the damaged back board on the ball court. Enquiries have been made with letting agents for Twycombe Lodge and Stuarts are offering the most competitive rate. The final clearance work at Hurst Rd allotments has been completed. Discussions were held about lighting for the skate park and sources of finance are being investigated. The replacement equipment in the children's play area should be installed early in the New Year.

8.3 Finance and General Purposes Committee 10.12.09. Mr D Hymers reported on the meeting. Enquiries have been made about making payments electronically. Parish councils are unable to do this until the relevant law is changed. Total figures for next year's precept were discussed and agreed. It will not be necessary to ask committees to reconsider their proposals. The committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Full Council to make a section 137 grant of £240.81 to Age Concern. Carried 10 for 1 against. The committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Full Council to make a section 137 grant of £310 to Keep Mobile. Carried unanimously. The committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Full Council to make a section 137 grant of £260 to Wokingham and District CAB. Carried unanimously. Mr B Rogers asked about the contact from Maiden Erlegh Rotary Club. Mr D Hymers explained they wished to establish contact to discuss possible joint initiatives and that this has been referred to the Parish Lands Committee to consider.

8.4 Other Representatives reports.

Mr C Smith reported on a recent NAG meeting. The new PCSO is now in post and we are to get another constable in the village. Thieves are targeting expensive cars. They are trying to have monthly speed checks at various locations in the NAG area. Two ASBOs have been issued in the Twyford and Ruscombe area. A system of contacts has been set up to report incidents at the station and the police have said they will respond in force. They ask for residents to report all crime and to get an incident number so they have an accurate record for the area and are asking for an article in the next issue of Twyford News to emphasise this. Mr A Luck from the TVP traffic management unit talked about the establishment of Special Parking Areas where the local authority manage the situation and can finance the scheme from revenues obtained from parking fines. This has worked quite well in Reading, Slough and High Wycombe. Agreed District Councillor Mr S Conway to be asked about this at the next Full Council Meeting.

8.5 Clerk's report. The Clerk reported that WBC had contacted the council and offered a number of free trees for "Plant a Tree" week. The council were asked to make a bid for some. Due to the short timescale a bid was agreed with Mr J Bowley and submitted. The council have now been offered 17 mature trees. These are 2 Hornbeam, 12 Rowan and 3 Hawthorn. However, once again this is at very short notice and the trees have to be collected immediately. The Clerk has obtained a quote from our appointed contractor SCS to collect and install for £320.82 inc VAT. He has spoken to the Chairman who has given authority for the work to be carried out under Standing Order 74. The Full Council is asked to note this proposed expenditure. The Clerk has had an enquiry from a veterinary practice about the possibility of leasing Twycombe Lodge. Agreed the Clerk can continue discussions with them.

9. Councillors Questions.

Mr D Hymers reported that when Twyford station is unmanned the disabled lifts are locked off. Agreed the Clerk to write to 1st Great Western with a copy to Teresa May. Mrs S Doughty to provide details of the contact at 1st Great Western.

10. Correspondence -

10.1 VAWB invite to Community Lunch – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

10.2 VAWB training bulletin 23.11.09 – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

10.3 VAWB training bulletin 07.12.09 – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

10.4 VAWB Volunteer Dec – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

10.5 VAWB Independent Member –circulated on e-mail. Noted.

10.6 VAWB Groups Update - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

10.7 Twyford Village Partnership Community Newsletter Nov 2009 – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

10.8 Twyford Village Partnership Draft Parish Plan for consultation – circulated on e-mail. Planning and Amenities and Parish Lands Committees to consider and report back to the January meeting of the Full council.

10.9 Revised BALC leaflet – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

10.10 BALC update 27th November 2009- circulated on e-mail. Noted.

11. Authorisation of payments – list dated 10.12.09 Approval proposed by Mr J Jarvis seconded by Mr J Bowley. Carried unanimously.

12. Dates of meetings:

Planning and Amenities Committee	04.01.10
Parish Lands Committee	06.01.10
Finance Committee	12.01.10 William Penn Room
Meet the Public	16.01.10

Mr D Hymers and Mr S Clark to attend. Mrs B Ditcham reserve.

13. Date of next meeting – 19th January 2010.

The meeting closed at 8.59 pm.