

Twyford Parish Council Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council

Meeting held at The Loddon Hall, Twyford, on Tuesday 18th May 2010 at 7.45p.m.

Present: Mr. R Mantel (Chairman) Mrs. S Harriott-Kerr, Mrs. B. Ditcham, Messrs D. Hymers, C. Smith, N.Crush, J.Bowley, J. Jarvis, S Clark, M Shepherd, and Ms S Doughty from item 12.

In attendance: Mr J March Clerk, Borough Councillor Mrs A Drake and 1 member of the press

1. **Public Questions** – there were no public questions.
2. **Apologies** – Mrs K Peck and A Dimmock.
3. **Election of Chairman** – Mr R Mantel nominated by Mr J Jarvis seconded by Mrs B Ditcham. Mr Mantel elected by a unanimous vote. He signed his declaration of acceptance of office and took the chair for the rest of the meeting.
4. **Election of Vice-Chairman** – Mr J Jarvis nominated by Mr C Smith seconded by Mr J Bowley. Mr J Jarvis elected by a unanimous vote.
5. **Appointment of Councillors to Committees** – councillors expressed their preferences for membership of committees. Membership as detailed on the attached list dated 21.05.10 proposed by Mr J Jarvis, seconded by Mr J Bowley and agreed unanimously.
6. **Appointment of Councillor Representatives.**
 - BALC and District/Parish Conference - Mr R Mantel and Mr J Jarvis
 - Ruscombe Parish Council – Mr D Hymers proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded Mr J Bowley and carried unanimously.
 - Loddon Hall/TRCA – Mr S Clark proposed Mr J Bowley, seconded Mr D Hymers and carried unanimously.
 - Age Concern – Mrs B Ditcham proposed Mr J Bowley, seconded Mr J Jarvis and carried unanimously.
 - Hurst Consolidated Charity – Mr R Mantel
 - North Parishes Area Youth Committee – Mrs K Peck proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded Mrs S Harriott-Kerr and carried unanimously.
 - Neighbourhood Action Group –Mr C Smith proposed Mr J Bowley seconded Mrs S Harriott-Kerr and carried unanimously.
 - Twyford Village Partnership – Mrs B Ditcham proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded Mr J Bowley and agreed unanimously.All details on attached list dated 21.05.10
7. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** – None
8. **Minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2010** – proposed by Mr. J Jarvis seconded by Mr S Clark and approved unanimously.
9. **Matters arising and action points**
 - 9.1 The Clerk to follow up missed deliveries of Twyford News with the Scouts. Delivery arrangements checked. Deliveries carried out by scouts to all houses in this area. It is thought that the notice on the door saying no free newspapers may have been read to include Twyford and Ruscombe News, which is free. Scouts briefed to deliver to all properties in future.
 - 9.2 All councillors to forward any ideas for commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee to the Finance and General Purposes Committee. On-going.
 - 9.3 Parish Lands Committee members to look at the surface of Loddon Hall car park and loose stones on graves in the Burial Ground. Completed.
 - 9.4 The Clerk to put Colleton School admissions policy on the agenda of the Planning and Amenities Committee. Completed.

10. Borough Council Matters – Borough Councillor Annette Drake reported on the proposed WBC Core Strategy briefing on 25th May. A consultation is taking place on Adult Social Services and feedback should be sent to Pippa Freegard at people-first@wokingham.gov.uk. Following the poor report about the quality of Children’s Services changes were made and the current report put the service amongst the best in the country. A new web sit has been set up for 13 to 19 year olds – active youth.co.uk. Borough Councillor Stephen Conway sent his apologies and asked the Clerk to report the following: Planning Matters –The planning application for the Bridge House development has been approved. Further discussions have been held regarding funding for the library but no firm proposal has been agreed. A recent meeting of the TVP Business Group was very well attended with some positive outcomes for the future including a commitment by some businesses to contribute to the costs of the Christmas Fair. After the recent elections the Conservatives continue to run WBC with the Liberal Democrats providing the opposition.

11. Liaison with Ruscombe Parish Council. No report.

12. Reports:

12.1 Planning and Amenities Committee 04.05.10. Mrs B Ditcham reported on the meeting including the planning applications, approvals and refusals. 101 replies have been received to the Station Rd one-way questionnaire and they will be discussed at the next meeting. She also remarked about the various potholes reported to WBC. The background to the changes in the admissions policy at Colleton School leading to an increase in the intake from 35 to 60 was explained.

12.2 Parish Lands Committee 05.05.10 Mr. J. Bowley reported on the meeting. He referred to item. 7.1 – inspection of the allotments at Hurst Rd, item 7.1.2 – problems caused by the spring at Hurst Rd allotments and the proposed remedial action, item 8.3- the placing of loose stones on some of the graves in the burial ground, item 8.5 the need to enlarge the gap in the beech hedge at the burial ground to allow burials to take place in the Millennium Garden, item 8.5 the problems with youths at Jubilee Corner, item 9.1 discussions about the possibility of installing floodlighting on the ball court and skate park, item 9.2 the problem of dog mess on KGVR, 9.4 progress on the installation of the new equipment in the children’s play area and item 10.1 the discussions about creating a running track around Stanlake Meadow. Mr C Smith reported he has spoken to the youths at Jubilee Corner and they commented that they play around this area because there is no lighting on the recreation ground. Mrs S Harriott-Kerr asked what the cost of a running track would be as she felt, in view of the completed projects for young persons some consideration should be given to providing something for adults. Mr Bowley replied that this had not actually been costed but due to the high cost of drainage for parts of the football pitches it was felt the cost would be too high for current budgets. Mr N Crush asked if grants could be obtained and Mr S Clark suggested this could be linked to a project for fitness equipment for adults. Agreed this matter be referred back to Parish Lands for further consideration.

12.3 Other Representatives Reports. None

12.4 Clerk’s Report The Clerk pointed out that a large number of the proposed actions in the Parish Plan require the involvement of the Parish Council. Agreed this is put on the agenda of committees for further consideration. Risk assessment -the Clerk pointed out the reduction in funds in the bank deposit account and stressed the need to be aware of any proposals for non-budgeted expenditure. To be put on the

agenda of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. He has had a quote from the solicitor to prepare the commercial lease for Twycombe Lodge, which seems rather high. Mr J Jarvis to check typical costs with business contacts and the Clerk to Ask NALC for advice prior to discussion at the next Parish Lands Committee meeting.

13. Annual Audit Return – The Clerk presented details of the proposed return to the meeting. Proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded Mr J Bowley that the Chairman signs the audit report as presented. Carried unanimously

14. Councillors' Questions – Mr S Clark asked about responsibility for the rubbish on the land adjacent to the highway outside the Silk Mill site. It was felt that this is private property. To be put on the agenda of the Planning and Amenities Committee for further discussion.

15. WBC - Request for discussion topic suggestions for the Town/Parish Conference. Various items discussed and agreed to submit a question regarding the WBC system for predicting pupil numbers for initial school admissions and to request a presentation on the operation of Wokingham Direct. The Clerk to submit these to WBC.

16. Correspondence

16.1 VAWB Training Bulletin 4th May – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.2 WBC – Nordic Walking Taster Sessions - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.3 VAWB Uni Conference and AGM – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.4 WBC Town and Parish News April 10 – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.5 BALC Update 25 27th April – circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.6 BALC briefing on allotments - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.7 NALC event programme - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.8 TVP AGM reminder - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.9 VAWB Election Special Tackling social exclusion - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.10 VAWB Advert for Administrative Officer post - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.11 VAWB EDI Training - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.12 VAWB Community Lunch 27.05.10 - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.13 VAWB Training bulletin 17.05 - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.14 NALC Events bulletin - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.15 WBC Town and Parish News - circulated on e-mail. Noted.

16.16 WBC invite to presentation on Strategic Development Plans 25.05.10. Mrs B Ditcham and Mr J Jarvis to agree who should attend and let the Clerk know.

17. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 2010 and date for 2011 meeting. Proposed Mr J Jarvis, seconded Mr D Hymers. Approved unanimously. Mr R Mantel asked Mr D Hymers to liase with Ruscombe Parish Council regarding the proposal to create a footpath from the end of New Rd Twyford. The Clerk asked the meeting to agree a date for the 2011 meeting due to the problems getting the required date if booking the room is left until next year. Agreed the Clerk to book St Mary's meeting room for the APM on Wed 20th April 2011. If this is not available the alternative date is Thursday 21st April

16. Authorisation of Payments. List dated 18.05.10 distributed. Proposed Mrs S Harriott-Kerr seconded Mr M Shepherd. Carried unanimously.

17. Dates of Meetings

Planning and Amenities Committee

07.06.10

Parish Lands Committee 09.06.10

Finance Committee 15.06.10

Meet the Public 12.06.10

Mr R Mantel and Mrs B Ditcham to attend. Reserve Mr S Clark

18. Date of next meeting – 22nd June 2010.

The meeting closed at 9.12 pm.