

TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Tidmarsh Village Hall on Wednesday 16 July 2008, commencing at 8.00.p.m.

Present: Mr. M. Broun (Chairman),
Mr. J. Chishick, Mr. J. Hutchison,
Mr. C. Pawson, Mr. S. Webb, Mrs. M. Kennet (8.37)

In Attendance: Clerk to the Parish Council
Mr. T. Metcalfe (District Councillor)
No parishioners.

18. Declarations of Interest

There were no items on the agenda that resulted in Members, at this stage, declaring either a personal or a prejudicial interest.

19. Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Parish Council

The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 4th June 2008, having been circulated, were confirmed a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

20. Matters Arising on the Minutes

- i. The Vehicle Activated Sign had now been joined with the pole and the system was working.
- ii. Councillor Colin Pawson confirmed that he had completed and returned the consultation paper on options for development in the rural areas of West Berkshire.
- iii. The Clerk confirmed that the list of schemes considered appropriate for the section 106 expenditure had been sent to Stewart Souden at West Berkshire District Council.

21. District Council Report

The District Council report consisted mainly of numerous anecdotal experiences on the failures of the new refuse and recycling collection scheme, it being generally regarded as a shambles. Introduced by means of many press releases, the scheme had yet to live up to the grand deliverances assured.

District Councillor Tim Metcalfe assured Members that the section 106 contribution had been signed off for payment to the Parish Council.

22. Planning Applications and related issues.

The following planning decision was received.

App. No.	Location and Proposal	Observation
08/01252	Yew Tree Cottage, Sulham Lane, Demolition of existing outbuildings within The listed building cartilage and re build New outbuilding.	No objection

23. Highways, Footpaths and Traffic Matters.

i. Proposal for a shared use Pedestrian/Cycle path between Tidmarsh and Pangbourne

A discussion paper prepared by Councillor Colin Pawson had been circulated with the agenda and the proposal was considered. It was explained that, at this stage, the proposal was in outline format, and considerable detail would be required to complete the paper. The discussion paper is appended to the minutes in the official minute book.

Resolved that the proposal be fully supported and that Councillor James Hutchison be requested to present the proposals to the next meeting of the Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group.

- ii. Concern was expressed at the number of heavy lorries being driven along Mill Lane and Sulham Lane to a location in Sulham Lane. Councillor Steve Webb undertook to get more information and, together with the Chairman, would visit the site.
- iii. The hedge on the corner of Sulham Lane and Mill Lane was overgrown and obstructed the view of oncoming traffic. West Berks District Council would be requested to ensure that the maximum sight line possible was available at the junction.

24. Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group.

The next meeting of the group was the following Wednesday, the date having changed due to revised administrative procedures.

25. To receive any issues in connection with the Parish Plan.

i. Proposal for improvements to the lay by at the foot of Sulham Hill.

The Parish Plan Environmental Group had produced a proposal for the improvement of the lay by at the foot of Sulham Hill, and a paper had been circulated with the agenda. The paper is appended to the minutes in the official minute book.

Resolved that the proposal be fully supported and the Group requested to continue with the project.

- ii. Councillor Colin Pawson gave a brief report on the proposed Parish Walk. A route had been surveyed and land owners asked to consider the placement of suitable styles. New points of access to the walk were being considered and wooden replacement finger posts had been requested. The paper is appended to the minutes in the official minute book.

26. Local Environmental Matters.

i. To give consideration to the appointment of a River Pang Warden

Following a report from Colin Pawson on discussions that had taken place with representatives from the District Council and the Environment Agency, it had been established that the appointment of a local warden to monitor the Pang would be extremely beneficial. The duties would consist of keeping a

watching brief on the river levels, liaising with landowners and reporting obstructions.

Resolved that Colin Pawson be appointed honorary River Pang Warden, and be thanked for his work in creating the post.

- ii. No flooding problems had been encountered during the recent heavy rain. Steve Webb undertook to seek someone to undertake the duties of Warden for the Sul. The Flood Group were still working on the draft of the local flood plan.

27. District Council communication on the Future of Area Forums.

The District Council had given notice that it wished to consider the most beneficial ways of engaging and consulting with residents, and therefore intends to review the effectiveness of the current processes including the Area Forums. All future Area Forums had been cancelled pending the outcome of the proposed review which would be presented to the District Council in September.

28. AWE Liaison Committee.

Councillor John Chishick, the Parish Council representative on the AWE Liaison Committee, gave a brief report on the last meeting held on 5th June.

29. Financial Matters:

i. Bank Reconciliation.

The Bank Reconciliation Statement for the period ended 30 June 2008 was received and is appended to the official minutes.

ii. Accounts for Payment

Resolved that the item shown below be authorised for payment, such sum to be debited to the account of the Parish Council.

Project Audiovisual	
Purchase of projector and screen (out of parish plan grant)	£1,496.97

iii. Re allocation of Parish Plan Grant income

An Hitachi projector with associated peripheral kit, intended for the Village Hall Management Committee, had been acquired as part of the Parish Plan grant money, but had been lodged with the Parish Council because the VHMC had declined to accept it. Following the relaxation of the Hall Management Committee views, it was **resolved** to transfer the asset to the Hall Committee, the rightful owner, together with the under spent amount of grant associated with that particular acquisition.

iv. Appointment of Internal Auditors

Resolved that Auditing Solutions Ltd of The Offices, Griffin Farm, Bowden Hill, Lacock, Chippenham be appointed Internal Auditors for a consecutive period of 5 years with effect from 1 April 2008.

30. Appointment of Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer to the Parish Council

Consideration was given to the procedure necessary to appoint a replacement Clerk to the Parish Council. The Current Job Description was circulated and a note of the items that should be taken into account had been prepared by the current post holder.

- Resolved**
- i. to appoint an interview panel consisting of the Chairman and Councillors Chishick, Hutchison and Webb.
 - ii. to contact the Clerks of the adjoining parish councils to ascertain if anyone would be interested in the post.
 - iii. to display the vacancy on the Tidmarsh and Sulham web site.

31. Thames Valley Police

It was noted that the Thames Valley Police were holding a family open day at the Thames Valley Police Museum on Saturday 9 August.

32. Thatcham Nature Discovery Centre

A one day workshop was being held at the Thatcham Nature Discovery Centre on Saturday 6 September, the subject being River Invertebrate Monitoring. The cost would be £35.00 per person.

33. Conclusion

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

Chairman
17 September 2008