

TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council was held at the Tidmarsh Village Hall on Wednesday 17th March 2004, commencing at 8.25 p.m.

Present: Mr. M. Broun (Chairman),
Mrs. M. Kennet, Mr. J. Harland, Mr. C. Pawson.

In Attendance: Mr. J. Chapman, Mr. T. Metcalfe (District Councillors)
Clerk to the Parish Council

Apologies: Mr. E. Ayerst, Mr. R. Taylor.

78. Declarations of Interest

Chairman Mike Broun and Vice Chairman declared a personal interest in item 86, in regard to an application for a donation from Tidmarsh Millennium Green Trust.

79. Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Parish Council

The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 17th January 2004, having been circulated, were confirmed a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

80. Matters Arising on the Minutes

A further communication had been received from Martin Salter, MP, giving additional details of the proposed measures to curb the sale of fireworks.

81. Planning

The following planning applications were considered.

App. No	Location and Proposal	Observation
04/00323	Beechings, Maidenhatch, Single storey extension to dwelling, erection of carport and alterations to access.	No objections.
04/00392	Welford, Manor Farm Lane, Demolition of existing house. New house and detached garage. (Previous application 03/02587)	No objections, but draw attention to main sewer.

The following decisions were received:

03/01486	Barn at Sulham Stables.	Approved subject to sect 106 agreement.
03/02587	Welford, Manor Farm Lane.	Sent to Committee, refused.
03/02579	Mayden Farm, Tidmarsh Lane.	Refused.

Two consultation papers were received in relation to Proposed Alterations to Regional Planning Guidance in the South East:

- i. Regional Minerals Strategy
- ii. Regional Waste Management Strategy.

The documents were taken by the Chairman of the Planning Committee for subsequent perusal and reply if considered appropriate.

Parishioners had drawn attention to alleged irregularities at properties within the parish council's area. It was agreed to refer the properties at Greenacres, Green Gables and Kingfishers Reach to the attention of the District Council Planning Department for verification of the various planning conditions.

82. Highways, Footpaths and Traffic Issues

A letter was received for the West Berkshire District Council Highways Department, setting out the position in regard to the work that had been requested in the Sulham Hill area. The letter is appended to the minutes.

The Highways Department had requested the Parish Council to give consideration to any footpath improvement schemes that they would like to see undertaken during the forthcoming year. After consideration of the issues, and taking into account the views expressed at the earlier Parish Meeting, the following schemes were to be submitted.

- i. Improvement of the surface of the footpath from the Village Hall to the Greyhound public house.
- ii. Improvement of the surface and raising of the level of the footpath from the corner of Sulham Lane to the point opposite Manor Farm Lane.
- iii. Grubbing out the base of the hedge alongside the footway on the A340 from the Village Hall to the Pangbourne boundary.

Correspondence had been received from Forest Enterprise, stating that they were proposing to close the car park at the top of Sulham Hill. This was an area much frequented by persons enjoying the nearby walks, and the reasons for closure appeared to be, at least, flimsy and inaccurate.

It was agreed that the closure should be strongly opposed, and that Forest Enterprise notified accordingly.

83. Environmental Issues

One of the Rural Action Group's priorities was to encourage the removal of the worst areas of Ragwort infestation along highways and on private land in Berkshire, and the Englefield Estate was working closely with farming and landowning organisations to develop a strategy for the removal of the plant.

Members were of the opinion that there was no evidence of the plant growing within the Parish Council's area.

84. Crime Related Issues

It was pleasing to be able to record that there were no issues to consider under this heading.

85. Risk Assessment and Management 2003/2004

A Risk Assessment and Management Schedule had been circulated prior to the meeting, and Members had considered the various types of risk and the proposed control that should be exercised.

Resolved that the Risk Assessment and Management Schedule be adopted, and that it be reviewed at the September meeting of the Parish Council.

86. Financial Matters

- i. The Internal Audit Report for 2002/2003 was considered and the Action Plan was endorsed.
- ii. The valuation of the bus shelter was increased to £1,500, and the insurance cover was to be amended.

Resolved i that an amount of £250.00 be donated to the Tidmarsh Millennium Green Trust under the provisions of section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972.
Mike Broun and Colin Pawson declared a personal interest but remained.

- ii that the items shown below be authorised for payment, such sums to be debited to the account of the Parish Council.

R. B. S. Auditing Solutions Internal Audit Fee 2002/03	£117.50
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Hacker Young External Audit Fee 2002/03	£ 58.75
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Tidmarsh Millennium Green Trust
Sect 137 Donation towards ground maintenance £250.00

87. Calor Village of the Year

Resolved not to enter the competition.

88. AWE Liaison Committee

The Local Liaison Committee Report for March 2004, the monthly Assurance Report and the Company Assurance Key Performance Indicators and Targets were received and noted.

89. Eastern Area Forum

Notification was received that the date of the next Eastern Area Forum was scheduled for 30th March, at the Burghfield Village Hall, commencing at 6.30 p.m.

90. Conclusion

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.37 p.m.

Chairman
19th May 2004