

TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Tidmarsh Village Hall on Wednesday 15th November 2006, commencing at 8.00.p.m.

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

Apologies: Mr. J. Chapman (District Councillor).
Mr. T. Metcalfe (District Councillor)

In Attendance: Clerk to the Parish Council
No parishioners

Prior to the commence of the formal business, PC Allen, a member of the local Thames Valley Neighbourhood Police Team, gave a review of his duties and responsibilities. He explained the relationship with the local Neighbourhood Action Groups, and other West Berks partnership groups.

Local issues were discussed, the items including speeding along the A340 and alleged antisocial activities in Moor Copse.

PC Allen emphasised the need to raise parish related issues at the Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group meetings. He was thanked for his attendance and informative comments.

50. 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.

51. Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Parish Council

The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 20th September 2006, having been circulated, were confirmed a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

52. Matters Arising on the Minutes

- i. The Tidmarsh Manor Lane road name plates had been erected.
- ii. The District Council had yet to determine the outcome of the applications for the Vehicle Activated Signs. It had been understood that the Tidmarsh sign had been the subject of a special capital allocation, but no written confirmation had been received. It was agreed to request the support of District Councillor Tim Metcalfe.

- iii. In rejecting the revised speed reduction requests for Sulham and Tidmarsh, the District Council had stipulated that minor signage improvements would be considered. There was still no evidence of this work. Further information would be requested.
- iv. Councillor Rod Taylor reported on his visit to the Neighbourhood Policing briefing at Holdsworth Hall, Sulhamstead on 4th October. The PCSO's would have limited powers, but their presence on the streets was considered to be a visible deterrent to certain activities.
- v. Councillor Colin Pawson had written to the Environment Agency about the Flood Emergency Plan considered at the last meeting. There was no perceived risk to property in Tidmarsh or Sulham.
- vi. The Chairman and Rod Taylor reiterated their intention to attend a SID training session.
- vii. Councillor Colin Pawson had received a reply from West Berkshire Council in regard to his request for updated information on the Tidmarsh Barn location. An invalid planning application (06/02515) had been received, and further information was awaited.

53. To receive a report from a District Councillor

The District Councillors were committed to other locations and a report was not available. Tim Metcalfe had asked for any issues arising from the meeting to be sent to him.

54. To give consideration to Planning Applications and related issues.

The following planning applications were considered

App. No.	Location and Proposal	Observation
06/02515	Tidmarsh Barns, Tidmarsh Lane, Retrospective completion of works approved under application 03/01121	To be discussed with nearby residents.
06/02431	Bereleys Proposed alteration to vehicular access.	No objection
06/02433	Bereleys Proposed demolition of fire damaged dwelling and erection of 5 bedroom building.	No objection

It was agreed that the Chairman and Councillor Rod Taylor would represent the Parish Council at the appeal hearing on 6th December in regard to Tow Acres.

55. To Consider any Highways, Footpaths and Traffic Matters

The following items were considered.

- i. The damaged stone sets alongside the A340 had been reported to Streetcare.
- ii. Mill Lane would be closed on 26th November and 3rd December to allow overhead cable work and tree trimming.
- iii. Safer Driving pamphlets were received from West Berkshire District Council.
- iv. Councillor Ted Ayerst undertook to prepare a list of the defects along Sulham Lane.
- v. Concern was expressed at the positioning of a large metal container at the front of Silver Cottage, Sulham Lane. It was considered to be unsightly and a potential traffic hazard.

56. Parish Council Notice Boards

This item was held over to the next meeting.

57. To receive any issues arising from the Pangbourne and District Neighbourhood Action Group.

The views expressed earlier by PC Allen were reviewed. Councillor John Harland was requested to ensure that the speeding and anti social issues were reported to the next NAG meeting.

58. To receive an update on the preparation of the Parish Plan.

The Chairman reported that the Parish Plan was proceeding satisfactorily. The next action would be for the Focus Groups to examine the results matrix.

59. West Berkshire District Council Draft Policy on Gambling

The above document was received and noted.

60. Rural Housing Trust.

Details of the Rural Housing Trust activities were received and noted. It was considered that such a scheme would not be applicable for the local area.

61. Financial Matters:

- i. Account Reconciliation: The bank reconciliation for the period to the 30th September was received and noted.

ii. Accounts for Payment:

Resolved that the under mentioned item be authorised for payment, such sums to be debited to the account of the parish council.

CPRE			
Annual Subscription			£ 25.00
Tidmarsh Village Hall			
	Hire of Hall	£150.00	
	Sect 137 contribution	<u>£500.00</u>	£650.00
D. Pickering			
Parish Plan Expenses			£ 41.95

62. Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

The Parish Council had received information that 72 acres of land bordering the existing Moor Copse nature reserve in Tidmarsh was for sale, and the Trust had mounted a wide appeal for the £235,000 needed to purchase the land. If the land could be obtained it would double the size of the existing reserve, providing huge benefits for local wildlife. The money had to be raised by 8th December; otherwise the opportunity would be lost.

Members consider the various ramifications of the situation and **resolved unanimously** to offer £500 under the provisions of section 137 of the Local Government Act, on the proviso that the sale proceeded and the land was obtained by the Trust. There was an obvious benefit to the parishioners if the site could be extended. A safeguard would be required in writing prior to the payment of the donation.

The access to the Trust land was briefly considered and it was agreed that if the site was extended, the Trust would be invited to consider improving the pedestrian access from the centre of the parish of Tidmarsh.

63. Conclusion

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.13 p.m.

Chairman
17th January 2007