

TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Tidmarsh Village Hall on Wednesday 19th September 2007, commencing at 8.00.p.m.

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

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

35. 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.

36. Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Parish Council

The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 18th July 2007, having been circulated, were confirmed a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

37. Matters Arising on the Minutes

- i. A reply was received from the District Council Senior Enforcement Officer, and the information was considered. An alternative location was to be brought to his immediate attention.

38. District Council Report

District Councillor Tim Metcalfe explained the procedures for the current checking of the District Council delivery of services. Other items mentioned were the waste disposal depot at Newbury and the re-building of the Dolphin Center at Pangbourne.

39. Planning

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 31st August 2007 were received and the proceedings endorsed and adopted.

The Report of the Panel appointed by the Secretary of State to examine the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East was received, for information only, and noted. Representations were not invited on its recommendations. There will be a twelve week period of public consultation on the proposals.

In terms of housing numbers, the Draft Plan proposed that 578,080 new dwellings should be delivered to 2026 across the Region. The EIP Panel recommends that this figure should be increased to 640,160, an increase of 10.7%. This increase is substantially less than the Government had indicated would be required. However, the Panel recommended that the building rate in West Berkshire should rise from 10,500 during the plan period to 18,000, an increase of 7,500 units or 71.4%. More specifically, the Panel recommended that the 7,500 additional dwellings should be built in a single "Strategic Development Area"-in the South West of Reading and North of the M4! This is the area for the proposed Prudential's Kennet Valley Park development, and would meet the

needs of the “Reading Growth Diamond”

The Joint Strategic Planning Unit, working on behalf of the six Berkshire unitary authorities, is producing a local Development Framework to guide the future planning of mineral extraction and waste management and disposal in Berkshire. A number of documents have been produced, and these would be available for consultation over a six week period between 24th September and 5th November 2007.

The Core Strategy Documents are:

The Core Strategy Preferred Options, A Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment and A Strategic Transport Assessment.

The Detailed Minerals and Waste Site Documents are:

Detailed Minerals and Waste Development Control and Preferred Areas Issues and Options and A Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report.

Another related document is A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

The above documents can be inspected at www.berks-jspu.gov.uk/news If paper copies are required that can be obtained by emailing minerals.waste@rbwm.gov.uk

A paper received from the Directorate of Community Services in regard to the provision of sites for Gypsies and travellers was received and noted.

Following an examination of the possibility of a new entrance at Strachey Close, West Berkshire District Council was to be requested to issue a blanket Tree Preservation Order on all qualifying trees on the land encompassing Strachey Close.

40. Highways, Traffic and Footpaths

The West Berkshire District Council Highway Improvement Programme for 2007/8 was received and noted. Also received was a paper entitled Service Procedure and Plan for the Traffic Services Team, a report prepared by the Head of Highways and Transport at West Berkshire District Council.

Members offered no objection to the proposed conversion of Footpath 21 Tilehurst and Footpath 10 Theale to a cycle track.

It was reported that the edges of Tidmarsh Lane had broken at many places along the entire length, whilst the recent resurfacing work on Mill Lane had resulted in the deterioration of the road side edge. These defects were to be brought to the attention of the District Council.

The Chairman had liaised with the Parish Plan Group and submitted Capital Bids on behalf of the Parish Council.

41. New Parish Council Notice Board for Tidmarsh

The Chairman had received three estimates for a replacement notice board for erection adjacent to the existing location in Tidmarsh. The agreed specification had included the requirement for a double door, glazed unit, with both halves capable of displaying four A4 pages. It had been a lengthy exercise due to the fact that suppliers had difficulty in quoting for specific requirements, but tended to prefer their own versions.

The details from the three tenders were as follows.

Village and Urban	£ 841.00 plus VAT
Greenbarns Ltd.,	£1,135.51 plus VAT
Harry Stebbing Workshop	£1,204.70 plus VAT

Following a detailed examination of the tenders, taking into account the specific requested requirements, it was **resolved** that the tender submitted by Harry Stebbing be accepted.

42. Pangbourne and District NAG

Councillor James Hutchison had attended the meeting held earlier that day, and gave a verbal report on the business transacted.

A request that the Parish Council contributes to signage in Sulham Woods to deter the mini motor bike activities would be considered when more information was available.

Thames Valley Police representatives had stated that parking on the footway outside the Greyhound public house was subject to a fixed penalty notice if the parking was seen by police. The attention of the licensee was to be directed to the unauthorised activity.

Debbie Morton had been appointed to the post of Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

Speeding issues were raised by most parishes represented, and it was agreed to proceed with SID training for local use.

43. Parish Plan

The draft Parish Plan had been endorsed by West Berkshire District Council, and a final version was awaited.

44. Flooding

West Berkshire District Council had requested that the area flooded during the heavy rains in July be marked on a map. This exercise was undertaken at the meeting.

It was not considered appropriate to complete the questionnaire on the work of the Parish Council after the local flooding.

45. Local Environmental Issues

Following consideration of the local issues arising as a result of the flooding, it was **resolved:**

- i. that Councillor Colin Pawson requests a meeting with an appropriate representative from the Environment Agency.
- ii. that the EA be requested to check the banks of the Pang from Moor Copse to the Mill.
- iii. that the EA be requested to produce guide lines for the operation of the sluices along the Pang.

46. Parish/ District Conference

The next Parish/District Conference was scheduled for 15th October, commencing at 6.30 p.m. at the Market Street offices. The main focus of the meeting would be to consider the recent floods in West Berkshire as part of the Council's review of flooding.

47. Finance

The audited Annual Return had been received from UHY Hacker Young, and the 2006/2007 financial year audit was now complete.

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

UHY Hacker Young	
External Audit 2006/2007	£58.75

48. Eastern Area Forum

The next meeting of the Eastern Area Forum was scheduled for 4th October, commencing at 6.30 p.m. at Theale Village Hall.

49. Conclusion

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.08 p.m.

Chairman
21st November 2007