

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 11 January 2010, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillors - T Bourne
R Crisp
R Few - Chairman
S King
L Simms
S Ruffley – Vice Chairman
C Thomas
County Councillor P Awford (partial attendance)
Borough Councillor D Davies
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: 6

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2010.

1 APOLOGIES: PC Sian Roberts.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING:

The minutes of the meeting held on the Monday, 14 December 2009, having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Councillors Bourne & Ruffley on planning application 09/00130/FUL.

4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- Re grit bins not being refilled – shares the Parishes dismay with Richard Gray’s response - the priority being the A & B roads. He did assure that the grit bins will be refilled when they can.
- County Council has identified those members of staff who are to “go” in the first stage of redundancies.

The Clerk asked if County Councillor Awford had considered whether GCC would share the cost/send a representative to the LUGI workshop – Gypsies & Travellers Learning Network? They are offering a series of workshops on Gypsy and Traveller issues for councillors and officers with relevant responsibilities. The aims are to strengthen the confidence of councillors in dealing with the provision of sites in their wards, as Cabinet members in ensuring that provision is made in strategic plans, and as members of planning committees in hearing contested applications, and to facilitate improved planning and decision-making. The cost is £750 plus VAT for two sessions for two representatives. County Councillor Awford said he would make some enquiries and Borough Councillor Davies said that if there was some interest then perhaps TBC could contribute to the cost of the workshop.

5 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- Due to no gritting being carried at Highnam he has not been able to get to TBC offices.
- TBC are benefitting from the changes at the top of the management structure.
- Re Hatchings outside Linton Lodge – TBC are looking into this - He had a private conversation with the owner of Highnam Court. A discussion took place whether part time lights could be installed to enable the two occupants of Linton Lodge to exit onto the A40 safely. Currently the argument for the hatchings is for the safety of the two occupants but it is quite the opposite as thousands of vehicles use the road every day and

very shortly there is going to be a serious accident with people entering the hatchings and coming around the corner into the back of a bus waiting at the bus stop – there would appear to be no police presence monitoring what is going on.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT: (MAX 10 MINUTES)

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public comment.

7 PLANNING

7.1 Applications:

09/01130/FUL Rosey Developments Ltd: 3 Bury Lane, Minsterworth: Erection of a single detached private dwelling & detached garage (Revised application).

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has **no objections** to this application however there is a covenant not to build on the boundary strip of land at the bottom of this plot and the Parish Council request that TBC ensures that the proposed garage is not built on land covered by the covenant.

7.2 TBC Decisions: None

7.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions: None

7.4 Elmbridge Court Possible Traveller Site – The Clerk reported that she had questioned with Duncan Jordan that Elmbridge Court was owned by the Government and he replied that “Government land” is technically Crown Land and suggested that Land Registry should hold details. The Clerk had emailed Mark Harper requesting that he would speak to the Government Minister concerned about putting the site forward as a possible traveller/gypsy site. Awaiting a reply.

7.5 TBC – Viewing planning applications on line – the Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Councillor Robert Vines, Leader of TBC informing PCs & TCs that since 1 October 2009 the ‘Borough Council has been sending electronic consultations followed by a paper copy. It is intended that major application will continue to be considered on a case by case basis with paper copies still provided where appropriate. They have a helpline and are happy for Officers to attend individual Council meetings or provide technical support or advice on best use of equipment. For those Councils who cannot receive electronic consultation from the 1 January, interim measures can be put in place ie paying for paper copies at around £6-8 per application.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Faye Smith highlighting various problems with the planning website ie that planning applications are listed with the older ones first not showing the latest ones first – this means you have to scroll through about 9 pages; the fact that when a decision is made plans etc are not available to be viewed so PCs would have no records of planning applications to refer to at a later date if paper copies not available. Faye Smith said that there was funding available from BT for a laptop and year’s broadband connection so as online applications had to be submitted by 7 January 2010 the Clerk completed the application and will await the outcome. Winners will be announced the week commencing 8 March 2010. The PC would require permission from MVH if they were agreeable to the broadband connection being installed at the VH. TBC also inform the Clerk that the Lottery runs an award scheme and I have included a link to their website for further information, www.awardsforall.org.uk.

A lengthy discussion took place as to the best way forward with various options of increasing the precept to purchase a laptop with broadband connection (if not successful with application), purchasing an overhead projector or an A3 printer, printing plans in A4 and getting them enlarged (possibly at the school). Councillor Thomas did confirm that there was an Internet cafe at the school on Tuesday from 3-5pm for those parishioners/councillors who do not have internet access at home.

8 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

8.1 Accounts for payment and receipts - Councillors agreed the following finances:

Mrs F J Wallbank – Salary 1-31 January 2010	289.03	Cheque No: 100129
Minsterworth Village Hall – Hire of Hall: PC meeting 14.12.09.	26.00	Cheque No: 100130
Total Payments	£315.03	

Receipts

Total Receipts £0.00

8.2 Financial update to end of December 2009 - This was circulated with the agenda -noted.

9 MATTERS ARISING:

9.1 Neighborhood Watch Co-ordinator – Nothing to report

9.2 Report from representative of Village Hall Committee – Nothing to report

9.3. Highway Matters:

Grit – The Chairman reported that he had been to Cannop and collected some grit and put it down on the lane from the Church to Pound Lane (the vital parts) with help from Councillors Crisp, Thomas and Andrew Wardle and he also filled up the grit bin at the bottom of Watery Lane, however people were using the grit out of the bins for their own drives and it is to be kept for use on the road. Note to go in The Villager.

It was agreed that further grit bins are required at the following locations:

Top of Bury Lane
Top of Church Lane
Top of Pound Lane
Wild Goose Layby
Top of Oakle Street

The treacherous situation on Watery Lane is not helped by the constant water running down the lane. The Chairman said that he would arrange yet another meeting with Richard Gray once the weather gets back to “normal”.

Councillor Thomas said that the snow plough had been out clearing where possible.

Bin/Recycling – Councillor Bourne reported that he had spoken with TBC and these would be collected as normal on 12.1.10.

9.4 Joint Core Strategy – It was agreed that the Chairman together with Councillors Ruffley and Thomas would compile a response before the 1 February 2010.

9.5 Severn Bore for 2010 – It was agreed that a toilet should be hired for the following dates:

Saturday 30 January to Thursday, 4 February 2010
Sunday, 28 February to Friday, 5 March 2010
Monday, 29 March to Friday, 2 April 2010
Wednesday, 8 September to Sunday, 12 September 2010
Thursday, 7 October to Monday 11 October 2010

9.6 Local Transport Scheme – The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Councillor Landon at Westbury and she had said that the first step really was identifying if there was a need for such a scheme in Minsterworth. It was agreed to put a note in The Villager and the Parish Magazine.

10 CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 TBC Emergency Planning Workshop – 10 February 2010 TBC Offices 6pm. Councillor Thomas and the Clerk said that they would attend.

10.2 GCC - Local Transport Plan (LTP3) - The current LTP expires in March 2011 and work has commenced on the development of the next LTP (LTP3) which needs to be in place by April 2011 and will go through to 2026. The current consultation runs through to the start of February 2010 and GCC encourage the local community to participate in the process and for

PCs to submit a questionnaire response. There is also a series of workshops during January and PCs are asked to send a representative. Councillor Simms agreed to take the questionnaire and complete it.

Any Other Correspondence:

Link Event – Notification that the event planned for the 12 January has been postponed until Thursday 11 March 2010.

Chartered Parishes Meeting – Notification that the date has been changed to Tuesday, 26 January 7-9pm.

The Clerk reported that there were no crimes for the month of December 2009.

11 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday, 8 February 2010 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9pm.