

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 9 January 2012, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillors - R Blowey
R Few – Chairman
N Garbutt
S Ruffley – Vice Chairman
C Thomas
County Councillor P Awford
Borough Councillor D Davies
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: 5

1 APOLOGIES - Councillors Crisp and King. The Chairman reported that Councillor King's mother had broken her shoulder and wished her all the best.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Monday, 12 December 2011 were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: County Councillor Awford now sits on the flood defence committee for Wessex

4 MARTIN HUTCHINGS – PRESENTATION OF DRAFT HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Martin Hutchings took the Parish Council through the main points of the survey. In short a total of 188 questionnaires had been distributed with 63 completed replies received representing a response rate of 35%. 8 households completed Part 2 of the HNS indicating that they wished to move home in Minsterworth with all 8 being regarded as having the financial means to afford suitable housing in the private sector in Minsterworth. The survey revealed no households in need of affordable housing.

It was agreed that the final report should be published on the website with a copy being sent to TBC. Martin agreed to produce an A4 sheet summarizing the report that could be published in The Villager and he also agreed to do a breakdown on Council Tax in the Village. Councillors felt that Minsterworth needed to attract younger families to the Village to support the School and without an element of affordable housing this was unlikely to happen.

5 DAN MATTHEWS & SIMON CULLEN, STRATEGY ENGAGEMENT OFFICERS FOR THE EA

The Chairman introduced Dan Matthews and Simon Cullen who are the Strategy Engagement Officers for Gloucestershire. Dan explained that he and Simon's role is to work closely with communities to help them describe and assess their preferred short and longer term options for managing flood risk within legislative and technical constraints before the next consultation document is produced on the Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management. On Friday, 6 January they toured Minsterworth along with the Chairman and Steve King who showed them areas of the village that will have the greatest impact and what affects Glos Tip has had on Minsterworth. They found this tour very beneficial. Following the consultation held at the beginning of 2011 a number of issues have been raised and the EA are very conscious that the previous consultation had a number of significant errors in it, could have been much clearer and did not receive much consultation with affected parties. The EA's aim this time is to consult much earlier during proceedings on the pressures and constraints of managing flood risk and life span of local flood defences. Dan suggested that perhaps a workshop would work in Minsterworth to discuss with those residents who are most going to be affected in the next 10 or 50 years. One problem is ascertaining what risks are acceptable for Minsterworth, ie how often flooding will occur and the consequences involved with the flooding.

Councillors/parishioners asked several questions:

Q Will the improvements recently made in Gloucester give any benefits for Minsterworth?

A The work could lead to downstream benefits however if there is a change to the climate the benefits could be lost.

Q Will all the water that comes from above the strategy be taken into account?

A Yes.

Dan concluded that the EA will be focusing on the most up to date climate change information and felt that the new Flood Risk Management Strategy for Gloucestershire would be out in the Summer.

The Chairman thanked Dan and Simon for coming along to talk to the Parish.

6 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- Apologised that he would have to leave early as had to attend two other PC meetings.
- Severn Estuary Study - He and the Chairman have a meeting with Tony Hicks on Thursday afternoon and would have a similar tour to the one the Chairman had taken the EA on.
- Libraries – GCC would have to start the whole consultation process again which would be later this year.

7 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- JCS is now open for consultation from the 13 December 2011 until 12 February 2012 – he had already attended three workshops so far at Uckington, Highnam (where there were two residents from Minsterworth) and Churcham.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT (MAX 10 MINUTES)

9 PLANNING

9.1 Applications:

11/01059/FUL Dinney, Main Road, Minsterworth: Conversion of existing store building to provide self-contained annexe, with single storey extension – This application has been withdrawn however another application has been submitted under a CLP. The Clerk spoke with the case officer – Jake Passmore who explained that TBC would have refused the original application but advised the applicant that if they removed the proposed extension at the side then with rearranging a few things the applicant could carry out the works on a “CLP” which does not require planning. The Councillors could not believe this and Borough Councillor Davies said he would clarify this with Jake Passmore.

9.2 TBC Decisions: None

9.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions: None

Any Other Planning Matters:

11/0115/FUL Pound Cottage, Pound Lane, Minsterworth – Site Inspection Panel met on Friday, 6 January 2012 which was attended by the Chairman and Councillor Blowey. The Parish Council’s objections to this application were raised with the planning committee re moving the house, proposed timber cladding was not in keeping with other properties in Minsterworth and the width of the front gates which the applicant had stated needed to be this size so vehicles could pass side by side. The Clerk had received notification that this application will be going to Committee on the 17.01.12 with a recommendation for it to be permitted. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Oliver Rider requesting that the letter should be read out at the meeting on the 17.01.12 stating that the Parish Council is very concerned about the width of the gates and these should be of a normal size and there should be a definite permissive line for future development.

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

10.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-31 January 2012 306.60

Less Tax 61.40 245.20

Cheque No: 101116

Inland Revenue: Tax for FJW	61.40	Cheque No: 101117
Minsterworth Village Hall – Hire of Hall: PC meeting 12.12.11	28.60	Cheque No: 101118
Total Payments	£335.20	

Receipts

Total Receipts £0.00

10.2 Financial Statement for the month ended December 2011 was circulated – contents noted.

11 MATTERS ARISING:

11.1 Report from representative of Village Hall Committee – Councillor Ruffley reported that there had not been a meeting.

11.2 Joint Core Strategy – Consultation period ends on the 12 February 2012. Councillor Blowey had agreed to attend the seminar regarding this matter on Thursday, 19 January commencing at 5pm. The Chairman said that he would also attend and then suggested that Councillors met following the seminar to formulate their response.

11.3.Highway Matters:

Bury Lane – Councillors felt this road was all in order now.

Minsterworth Sign – Richard Gray has confirmed that a replacement sign has been ordered and will be erected when delivered.

Overhanging Trees Pound Cottage, Watery Lane – Richard Gray confirmed that a letter had been sent to the owner, Mrs Shepherd to cut back the overhanging vegetation.

Sunken manhole cover near Church Lane – Richard Gray reported that this hydrant cover has been reported on several occasions with the last one on the 29 November requesting immediate action from Severn Trent. His colleague, John Ambrey will chase this.

Replacement Water Main – The Chairman reported that works will commence on the 17 January.

Pothole new Church Lane – The Chairman reported that a white line had been put around this.

Litter – Councillor Garbutt reported that this project was not suitable for the Community Payback Scheme due to the dangers of the speed limit along the road that they would be collecting litter. It was agreed that there would be a working party on Sunday, 11 March and it was agreed that those Councillors who could make the date would attend. Borough Councillor Davies suggested we inform Julie Davies at TBC.

11.4 Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Cathy Thomas reported that celebrations would be on Saturday, 2 June commencing at 2pm. It will start with a procession of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh coming up the river followed by a fete at the Village Hall. Children would be in fancy dress and there may be some horse riders that will accompany the procession. A road closure order had been applied for in respect of closing the road for the duration of the procession from Severn Bank to the Hall. There will also be a BBQ, disco and music from Rod Crisp. Any profits from the event will be split between the Church, School and Village Hall.

Re insurance – need clarification that the Parish Council’s public liability will cover the procession from the Landing Yard up to the Village Hall. Clerk to speak to the Insurance Company.

11.5 Bus Shelter – near Oakle Street was demolished on the 17.12.11 at 6.30am by a driver whose car slipped on the black ice. The driver was not seriously hurt. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the police and insurance company who said that one quote was required if under £5,000 and two quotes if over £5,000. The Clerk had obtained two quotations – one of these was Mark Maycroft who had rebuilt the bus shelter opposite the Appletree Pub and repaired the bus shelter at Hygrove. Mr Maycroft had also quoted for removing the pile of rubble which was now at the site of the bus shelter site – the skip would need to be dropped and picked up the same day as it was on the main road. The Clerk said that she would send the quotations off to Allianz Insurance.

12 CORRESPONDENCE: None

13 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Proposed Diversion of EMW/17 at Hygrove Lane, Minsterworth – The Clerk reported that she had received an update from Suzanne Hopes who would be recommending that this application is not taken forward as there had been objections from the Parish and District Councils. Needs to serve the official decision which she will do so in due course.

14 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday, 13 February 2012 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed 9.16pm.