

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 11 June 2013, in Minsterworth Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillors - R Blowey
R Crisp
R Few – Chairman
S King
S Ruffley
County Councillor Awford
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: 2

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Garbutt and Thomas and Borough Councillor Davies.

The Chairman welcomed Richard Waters from Gloucestershire Highways. He wish Steve Thomas all the very best with his operation.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Monday, 13 May 2013 were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Councillors Crisp and Few in 8.1 13/00497/FUL and 13/00498/FUL.

4 RICHARD WATERS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE HIGHWAYS: He is Highways Manager for the North Forest and Tewkesbury. He presented a proposed scheme to improve the safety of the right turn into Church Lane. There are a number of requests from other Parishes for similar schemes but there are limited funds for these projects. Glos Highways look at the benefits of the scheme and divide it by the costs. He has made a bid for the scheme but cannot say at the moment whether it will be successful.

Councillor Ruffley said that he had been faced with this dangerous situation quite a few times and felt improvements to the junction were long overdue and would like it pushed through as it would be excellent for Minsterworth and for Road Safety.

Q Councillors congratulated Richard on getting the grass cut and asked if the second cut would be a full cut?

A It will depend on the how much the grass grows – if necessary it will be a full cut or a safety cut.

Mr Waters was asked to look at the following:

- Subsidence to the road by the Church Wall in front of Minsterworth Church.
- Adverse camber at the beginning of the A48.
- Watery Lane – ditch takes water from the other side- the water comes under the road. Mr Waters has written to the executors who are looking after the property but has heard nothing.

Mr Waters reported that some resurfacing work is planned for the dual carriageway section on the Gloucester bound side. This will inevitably cause delays in rush hour but the work will be done in August to minimise the impact.

5 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: As follows

- How GCC will be run following the recent elections.
- He sits on the Planning, Health Scrutiny and Flood Defence Committees.
- The Health Scrutiny Committee is looking at the potential closure of Hygrove Nursing Home at the end of the year. He will be stressing that residents with local connection with Minsterworth should be given priority in being relocated locally.
- Has offered Mr Waters £5k of his Highways Allowance from last year's budget to be used in connection with the improvements to the Church Lane turning. This year's budget of £20K will now have to be distributed between 21 parishes so will not go far.

6 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT: In his absence County Councillor Awford reported:

- Councillor Davies was Chairing a members seminar on the JCS where 21 sites for Housing were being considered. The JCS Policy will be out for consultation during the third week of September.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT (MAX 10 MINUTES):

8 PLANNING

8.1 Applications: 13/00497/FUL Highcross House, Minsterworth: First Floor extension to dwelling (revised scheme ref 12/00885/FUL)

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has **no objections** to this application

13/00498/FUL Highcross House, Minsterworth: Erection of a greenhouse (revised scheme ref 12/00885/FUL)

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has **no objections** to this application subject to a planning condition that it remains as a greenhouse.

8.2 Decisions: 13/00179/FUL Land at North and South Stables: Change of use of land to provide 4 pitches for travellers and associated works and landscaping proposals for a temporary period of 2 years - **Refused**

8.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions/Site Inspections: None

8.4 Enforcement Matters: None

8.5 Gloucester City Council – Site Options Consultations: It was agreed that the Clerk should complete the questionnaire stating that there is an imbalance of traveller sites between Tewkesbury Borough and other JCS partners and that Gloucester Tip had had a massive impact on Minsterworth.

Any Other Planning Matters:

The Chairman reported that he had been approached by a Churcham Parish Council about a planning application at The Camp, Church Lane, Churcham for a proposed dwelling and carport. They asked Minsterworth Parish Council to make a comment as it will spoil the view from Minsterworth Village Hall. It was agreed that no comment could be made as the Parish Council had not formally been consulted.

9 FINANCIAL MATTERS

9.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

The Clerk reported that Came and Co had not received the cheque that was raised at last month's meeting and posted to them. Cover would be continued however a new cheque needed to be raised. It would cost £10 to officially cancel the cheque. Councillors agreed this cost.

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-30 June 2013	328.12		
Less Tax	<u>43.80</u>	284.32	Cheque No: 101181
Inland Revenue: Tax for FJW		43.80	Cheque No: 101182
MVH – Hire of hall 13.5.13		28.60	Cheque No: 101183
Minsterworth Church		175.00	Cheque No: 101184
Came & Co: Replacement cheque for cancellation Of cheque no which was lost in the post		318.69	Cheque No: 101185

Melba Swintex: Cost of litterbin for layby by
Copse House Farm 158.50

VAT31.70

190.20

Cheque No: 101186

Total Payments

£721.92

Receipts

Total Receipts

£0.00

9.2 Financial Statement for the month ended May 2013 was circulated – contents noted.

10 MATTERS ARISING:

10.1 Report from representative of Village Hall Committee: Councillor Ruffley reported:

- The VHC had made an application to the Community Building Grant fund awaiting outcome.
- Fund raising events are ongoing.
- Quiz night will take place run by Richard Few.
- Windows will be replaced with UPVC and also the kitchen door
- No current plans for internal painting or exterior rendering.
- Due to a loss of a booking the VHC has decided to install wifi.

10.2. Highway Matters:

Bury Lane: Potholes have been marked by spray paint but not filled in.

Winter Maintenance: The Clerk reported that Glos Highways wanted an update. The Chairman said that he did not require any more bags of salt. Gordon King would continue to be the snow plough warden.

SandBag Policy CC Awford said that this had now been put into draft form.

10.3 Review of Severn Estuary Strategy: The Chairman reported:

- EA are no longer maintaining the floodbanks from Cornham to Tewkesbury. There is talk about the Drainage Board taking this on and will be discussed at the Drainage Board meeting on Thursday. EA will not be collecting any driftwood on breaks in the floodbanks.
- Has distributed the consultation papers to all Councillors.
- Nothing really has changed since the last consultation apart from the predicted rise in sea levels have been downgraded and the Village of Minsterworth is safe
- It does raise concern for Minsterworth Hams.

It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk would draft a response to the document and circulate it for approval at the July meeting.

10.4 Affordable Housing Scheme: The Chairman reported that despite speaking to Frances Evans after last month's meeting and she had promised to get back to the PC with an update, nothing further had been heard from her.

County Councillor Awford said he would speak with Mike Dawson and inform him of the Parish Councils problems in taking this scheme forward. He does know that Frances Evans will be leaving TBC as part of the re-organisation.

10.5 Dog Fouling: The Chairman thanked Councillor Blowey for putting an article in The villager about the dangers of dog mess to people, other animals and the environment. Councillor Thomas not present to update the Council whether the school are willing to create some posters.

10.6 Closure of Minsterworth Post Office: Councillor Blowey reported that he had attended a site meeting along with Councillor Crisp, Tony Pearson, Neil Jenkins from the Post Office and Debbie, subpostmaster from Highnam Post Office. Village Hall was considered unsuitable from security and cost aspects, Hawkins Garage visited – potential suitable site and owner agreeable, Apple Tree – potential site and owner very keen. Although both sites are very close to Highnam, Highnam Post Office is already very busy and a 'Hosted Outreach Service' is needed. Contract for one year. Debbie has the final say, but rear dining room at Apple Tree seemed favourite, depending on a suitable review from the Post Office.

The Clerk reported that she had officially heard from the Post Office with a Public Consultation of a Branch Re-Opening in the Side Bar of the Apple Tree, on a Tuesday and Thursday 09.30-12.30 with disabled access at the rear of the premises, adequate car parking and run by the subpostmaster from Highnam Post Office. The consultation period runs from 4 June to 16 July 2013. It was agreed to respond as follows:

- Suitability of new location and premises – good.
- Comments on the opening hours – good to start with
- Easy access.
- Easily accessible
- No concerns on new location
- Coffee will be available for visitors using the Post Office
- Cohesive for the Village keeping a useful service.

11 CORRESPONDENCE: None

12 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION: None

13 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday 8 July 2013 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed 9.20pm.