

MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 8 November 2010, in Minsterworth School.

PRESENT:

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

Parishioners: 4

1 APOLOGIES: Councillors Crisp and Borough Councillor Davies.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING:

The minutes of the meeting held on the Monday, 11 October 2010, having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- GCC budget will be in the public domain on Wednesday – there will be large cuts but it could be an opportunity to work smarter. Possible cuts could be to certain bus routes – those that are not used will be lost, home to school transport could disappear.
- 1,000 job losses, review of library services.
- Highways will move to a maintenance only scheme with no new major road scheme being scheduled.
- The £600k set aside for road safety measures on the A48 has been withdrawn. This will not be received well following yet another fatality. The MP has demanded to have all the facts etc in connection with all the serious accidents along the A48
- “Things” that GCC don’t have to do will be given to the voluntary sector.
- A meeting had been held with Richard Gray and the resident concerned about ragwort.

Councillor Thomas said that she had seen GCC contractors leaf blowing – this is a waste of time until the all the leaves are down and the cost of this should be put elsewhere.

Councillor Ruffley entered

5 PUBLIC COMMENT: (MAX 10 MINUTES)

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public comment.

6 PLANNING

6.1 Applications: None received.

6.2 TBC Decisions:

6.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions: Hybank, Main Road, Minsterworth: Change of use of an existing commercial building to provide student let accommodation, creating a total of 11 student let bedrooms and the erection of a lobby extension to the outbuilding – Planning Inspectorate dismissed the appeal

Land at Starcroft Lane, Minsterworth: Three-year temporary use as transit gypsy site for eight touring caravans – Planning Inspectorate allowed the appeal.

The Chairman reported that he had contacted Mike Dawson personally requesting that TBC lodged an appeal against the Inspectorate's appeal. He was very disappointed with the decision as there was hope that following the likelihood of Circular 01/2006 being revoked it would weaken the travellers case but unfortunately it would appear that this Circular will not now be revoked.

Concern was raised by Councillors that TBC had never pursued the removing of the hard standing and who was going to control the log of caravans in and out.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would formally request that TBC appeal against the Inspectorate's decision with the main fact lack of consistency of the Highways Officer and also remind TBC that in accordance with their Local Plan there is no new development in Minsterworth.

The Clerk had received a reply to the Parish Council's email to Mark Power and this was read out at the meeting stating that the PCs response was not accurate and attached a copy of his letter to TBC. He pointed that as part of his assessment of the application he did review the accidents, including the causations and had regard to the temporary transit use of the site and Circular 01/06.

6.4 Hygrove Lane – The date of the Appeal Hearing is Tuesday, 30 November and will be held at Minsterworth Parish Hall. The Parish Council needed to put together a potted history of what has gone at the site to be put forward at the Hearing.

Any Other Planning Matters:

Fairlie, Main Road – An advert has been seen advertising this property as a care home. This would be subject to a change of use. Clerk to report to Enforcement.

The Firs, Main Road – The owner of the property was supposed to be submitting a planning application which has not yet been done. The garage is now being lived in. Clerk to report to Enforcement (David Taylor).

7 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

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

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-30 November 2010	294.81	Cheque No: 101065
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Minsterworth School– Hire of Hall:

PC meeting 8 November 2010	26.00	Cheque No: 101066
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Total Payments	£320.81	
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Receipts

Total Receipts	£0.00
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7.2 Financial update to end of October 2010 - This was circulated with the agenda -noted.

7.3 Draft Budget for the financial year ending 2011/2012 – This had been circulated with the agenda. The Chairman said that the Clerk had recommended a 13.5% increase in the precept as provision had to be made if it was a contested election but even with a 13.5% increase the forecast is for a deficit of £1335.11. It was agreed that the Councillors would further consider this prior to next month's meeting and that the Clerk should produce drafts showing a 17.5% and a 20% increase.

8 MATTERS ARISING:

8.1 Neighborhood Watch Co-ordinator – One message – There is a company by the name of Storm Secure Homes conducting a telesales campaign in the Glos area. They are offering quotes for police monitored alarms and are stating that they are registered with the police. This company is not registered with Glos police.

8.2 Report from representative of Village Hall Committee – Works are due to be completed by the beginning of December. An extra ordinary meeting was called to sign a Deed of

Covenant that was required by TBC before the funds of £27,000 could be released. This will give TBC some sort of say for the next 21 years if the Parish Hall was to be sold.

8.3 Police Matters – The Clerk reported that she had received two emails from PC Sharon Duberley informing:

The Police will not be attending Parish Council meetings with immediate effect. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask why and what has changed and to ask how many times in the last 6 months had they visited Minsterworth.

They will be conducting speed surveys in the area and would like to work closely with the Parish Council. Clerk to ask where they intend to park the van?

8.4 Highway Matters:

Rat Run Signs – The Clerk reported that GCC could no longer provide the signs due to cost cutting but had sent the artwork for the Parish to produce themselves. The Clerk had obtained a quote from Severn Signs – to supply a full colour printed paper A3 poster complete with gloss finish £64.80 plus VAT or to vinyl stickers £108 plus VAT. Councillor Thomas said she had an A3 laminator and as the Parish Council had recently purchased an A3 printer they could be produced “in-house”. Clerk to liaise with Councillor Thomas.

A48 – Fatalities The Chairman reported that very sadly there had been yet another fatality near the Severn Bore pub – and this was only several days after GCC had resurfaced the stretch of road. Something has to be done about the number of accidents on this stretch of road whether it is a speed camera, signs stating the number of fatalities at this spot.

It was agreed that Phil Awford would take this up with Richard Gray and that the Parish Council would write to the Chief of Highways – Jo Walker, the Chief Constable and the Chief Executive of TBC

Watery Lane – Despite the ditch being cleared it is in a dreadful condition both with water running down the lane and the surfacing breaking up.

Potholes by the Church – These have still not been attended – Clerk to chase up Richard Gray.

8.5 Severn Bore – River Traffic – The Clerk reported that she had not heard back from the Parish Hall Committee or the Church regarding the request for financial assistance towards the cost of the signs for the Severn Bore. [Following the meeting Mr Dauncey informed the Clerk that it was recorded in the Church Minutes that they would not be contributing to the cost of the signs.]

8.6 Standing Orders – The Clerk reported that this had been a very time consuming job. Within the next week she would send out a draft to Councillors.

8.7 Footpath EMW/8 – The Clerk had spoken with Suzanne Hopes from GCC that she would programme the works within the next couple of months.

Any Other Matters:

Town and Parish Seminar TBC – The Chairman said that he attended this along with Councillor Crisp. The general feeling by those attending felt that the agenda needed to be more specific as the event just really turned into a “talking shop”.

10 CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

11 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Monday, 13 December 2010 at 7.30pm to be held in Minsterworth School.

The meeting closed 9.03pm.