

# TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Page 23/018

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 held at Tackley Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors Liz Marshall (LM) (Chair), Andrew Lines (AL) (Vice Chair), Angus Paxton (AP), Sue Lygo (SL), Richard Holland-Oakes (RHO), Steve Hill (SH).  
Councillors Andy Graham (OCC) and Tim Sumner (WODC).  
Cherie Carruthers (CC) (Clerk to the Council)  
7 Members of the public

**23/052: Public Participation:** The following people addressed the meeting:

- i. Amanda Darley: Ms Darley advised that she has lived in Tackley for 3 years and become aware of and involved in the Village Transport Network (in Woodstock). OCC are producing a local cycling and walking infrastructure plan (Active Travel Plan) for Woodstock and surrounding villages including Tackley. The Active Travel Plan did not initially include Tackley but does now. There will be consultation in December/January and proposals in April 2024, although dates might slip. The main issue seems to be the main road at Sturdy's. There was discussion with the Councillors and public. AG said the VTN had a long history and said the contact at OCC is Nathalie Moore. On request from LM, Ms Darley confirmed she would continue to be the village representative.  
It was **AGREED** that:
  - AL agreed to send some further information to Ms Darley
  - LM will also make further contact with Ms Darley
- ii. Jo Hales: Ms Hales is an equine vet and a rider, she lives in Kirtlington, but was representing the Tackley Bridleways group. She informed TPC of some of the details of Network Rail's proposal to move the bridleway and was wondering if the council was aware. LM confirmed that we are. Ms Hales said that the study on which Network Rail appear to be relying on to say that bridleways next to railways are not a safety issue was actually a Facebook survey, it is not a scientific study and would not stand up to scrutiny. Another study obtained following a freedom of information request did not involve a site visit.  
AG confirmed that the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order is renewed each 12 months. AP questioned whether OCC has the ability to decline the Order; AG confirmed that to be the case. AL mentioned the national program of crossing closures. There was general discussion about the unsafe nature of the proposed bridleway. AG has been informed about the proposal to permanently close the three crossings; he has asked if they've consulted properly but has not yet had a response.  
Ms Hales was keen to ensure that the proposal to move the bridleway is considered separately to the issues surrounding the siting of the new bridge.
- iii. Neil Blackledge: Reporting on behalf of TRAC on the progress of Network Rails plans to replace the crossing. He reported that everything had been pushed back, yet again. The public consultation was June/July; a Transport and Works Order application was intended for Sept 2023 but has not yet happened, final designs were to follow and then work was to commence in Q1/Q2 2024. So it appears that there is at least a 3-month delay.  
AG agreed to inform TPC as soon as he was aware the TWA application had been submitted.

**23/053: Apologies for absence:**

Cllr Richard Jackson – were noted.

Cherie Carruthers (CC)

The council was operating without a Clerk as CC was unavailable for medical reasons.

**23/054: Declaration of interest:**

LM declared an interest in item 12.i –the recipient is a family member.

**23/055:** Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved as a fair and true record: Proposer AL, seconder RHO.

**23/056: Matters arising from the September meeting:**

- i. French Drain: This has now been completed.
- ii. Allotment hedge: Greenscythe had confirmed they would be cutting on their next visit to village.
- iii. Jubilee Garden (old) Dog Poo Bin: not yet done – awaiting action by Ubico, CC to chase.
- iv. Playground: unable to report on the progress given CC absence. SH questioned the quotes received. LM noted that they seem high but was unsure if Trevor Stewart has been contacted by RJ. AL agreed to tape off any dangerous bits.
- v. Metalwork for hardcourt: photos needed: AP to get photos of the metalwork sent to LM & CC.

**23/057: To consider District Council Matters:** Tim Sumner updated on the following.

- SpaceHive fundraising platform for more inclusive facilities ("WestHive") - info on WODC website.
- Local mobile phone coverage inadequate - mobile network operators have formed Digital Mobile Spectrum Ltd. to boost coverage. WODC will be engaging with this.
- Botley West Solar Farm - Merton College have pulled out of the development, which has impacted timescales.
- Gardiner Arms - a meeting has been set up to discuss it with WODC officers (AG and senior officers including Phil Shaw, chief planning officer; end of month). TS had been invited to meet Mr and Mrs Perrin at the pub; he was shown around the upstairs and downstairs; he then met up with GACIG on Friday.
- Health and wellbeing strategy - comments open until 12 November. AP asked whether the strategy would include keeping village pubs open. TS to confirm.
- TS has been appointed to WODC Executive, with responsibility for major projects, leisure centres and car parks. TS is there to represent the people in communities (including Tackley).

**23/058: To consider County Council Matters:** AG had circulated his report, there were no further questions from the floor. He also noted the following:

- 20s Plenty scheme: The bus company and various commentators have different views on the impact on buses coming down hill at 30mph. AG will re-air his views at the OCC meeting. It then goes to 'scheduling', and it will take about 3 months. RHO suggested he take some measurements to the meeting.
- Catchment area study has been done. The Council was encouraged by AG to read it carefully and timeline it. LM thanked AG for his help in pushing it through.

**23/059: Proposed new Oxford United Stadium - [Planning application: 23/02276/SCOP - Planning register | Planning register | Cherwell District Council](#)**

SH made a statement; the main points were:

- OCC agreed to lease the land (rather than sell it) so that conditions can be stipulated.
- OCC as Highways Authority possibly have a conflict of interest.
- Bridge across Oxford Road was initially required but has been dropped. SH wondered whether Cherwell District Council might require it as part of granting planning permission.
- A bridge across Frieze Way has been proposed.
- On match days/major events, the road between Sainsbury's roundabout, to the Park and Ride, would be closed.
- Friends Of Stratfield Brake (FOSB) are meeting OCC's Dan Levy on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November.

- Local residents are opposed as are FOSB.

AL responded that he is generally in favour of the new stadium, because of the social benefits, and noted the social benefits would not be achieved if the site was developed into something else, such as a retail outlet, housing estate, factory, etc.

There was general discussion on the implications on traffic, and the potential inadequacy of car parking and public transport. It was noted that the Police have objected to the plans.

It was **agreed** that, notwithstanding that we are not a statutory consultee, the Council will draft a communication commenting on the plans, specifically regarding the road closures.

**Action:** SH to draft a response.

**23/060:Gardiner Arms update:** AP noted that the Gardiner Arms Community Interest Group had or were intending to make separate offers to each of the two halves of the ownership of our pub.

James Wild (public) informed the Council that he had made complaints to WODC officers but had received an inadequate response.

TS (WODC) noted the forthcoming meeting previously discussed.

AP and James Wild discussed the possible legal interpretations of the Localism Act sections 95 and 96.

James Wild stated that Martin Perrin has sometimes charged rent on an informal basis for parking on property that he is not the registered proprietor of. James Wild said he would provide AP with specific details of these situations.

## **23/061 Parish amenities:**

- i. Heath update:  
Consultation responses are currently being collated.
  - Trees: SSE have completed their work. The fallen trees are to be to be done in the coming week.
- ii. Playground update: Dealt with under minute ref 23/056. iv.
- iii. Shop/Café/Public Toilet: the Council heard from James Wild and Tony Perry it was agreed that a Formal lease arrangement to be presented to Council by TVMH.  
The shop's view is that opening up the toilet is not an option. TPC supportive of finding a solution and agree to meet Shop and TVMH.
- iv. 20's Plenty: RHO updated that the consultation for the scheme was out and asked that it be circulated to residents via Notices. Closing date it the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023 for comments.
- v. Safety Railings: Dealt with under minute ref 23/058.
- vi. Graveyard Update Rev. Harriet Orridge had not spoken to Andrew Peake. SL will set up a working group with CC
- vii. Footpaths: Lower Hades Road, and footpath to Foxhill: The council noted a complaint and discussed the situation, agreeing we must take action these being:
  - CC: contact Greenscythe to clear the footpath on Lower Hades Road; write to relevant householder(s) to trim their hedges on the footpath to Foxhill; dig out the old "J Greatbatch" quote for the underpinning work, and to arrange for additional quotes.
  - SL to speak to Julian Whitehead about trimming his big hedge on the corner.
- viii. Hardcourt metalwork repainting: AP agreed to get one of his children to take photos and to send them to LM so that AL can arrange for some quotes from Playground Facilities Ltd and others.
- ix. Clean Up Tackley Campaign: SL mentioned there is a new website - cleanupUK.org, she noted that winter not good for a litter picking campaign and advised that schools require a teacher with environmental responsibility. LM commented that much of the rubbish actually thrown out of cars by adults rather than children being the problem. SL agreed to set up a social media site.

# TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Page 23/021

## 23/062: To consider matters of finance and policies:

- i. It was approved that the following payments were ratified and the impact the payment would have on the budget and reserves.

Proposed: AP, seconded: AL: **APPROVED**

Gross Amount (£)	VAT Value (£)	Payee	Details	Power
797.33		Clerks Pay	Sept payroll	LGA 1972 S111
50.00		A Marshall	Sept bin emptying	LGA 1972 S112
872.35	145.39	Greenscythe	Sept Green spaces maintenance	Open Spaces Act

- ii. Shed purchase for Heath equipment storage: Deferred to Nov.

## 23/063: To consider other matters:

- i. The Council wondered about a relevant date for Section 106 money discussion. Andy Lines will take forward.
- ii. It was noted that the train timetable has changed from December 2023, removing two very popular services (the 08:52 to Oxford/Didcot, and the 17:55 from Oxford to Tackley). AL will draft a letter of complaint to GWR and LM a letter to MP Robert Courts.

**Next meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm

Meeting closed at 9:37pm.

Signed as a true record of the Tackley Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

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Date.....