

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th September 2024 held at Tackley Village Hall

Present: Councillors Liz Marshall (LM) Chair), Andrew Lines (AL) (Vice Chair), Sue Lygo (SL), Richard Holland-Oakes (RHO), John Gibbins (JG).

Rachel Strachan (Nature Spaces Committee) and Jan Read (Allotment Representative)

Cherie Carruthers (CC) (Clerk to the Council)

Councillors Andy Graham (AG) (OCC), Tim Sumners (TS) (WODC) and Genny Early (GE) (WODC).

6 Members of the public

24/035:Public Participation: Andrew Norton asked the members their thoughts on a proposal to build a single storey bungalow adjacent to his home on Rousham Road, the members advised him that the PC was unable to support or object at this stage and that he could submit a pre-planning application to WODC to obtain comments from both the planners and the PC.

24/036: Nature Spaces update and Heath Management Plan: Rachel Strachan had previously circulated the draft Heath Management plan and read aloud the information in Appendix A attached. She requested 5 points to be answered by the council:

1. Request that PC consider and agree

- to the basic principles included in the current draft of the Heath Management Plan. The vision objectives and initial priority projects.

- to give the go ahead to work up more detailed, costed action plans to use to apply for grant funding and to inform PC in using the precept for management of the Heath. Any grants are likely to be for new projects; and can't be used to cover ongoing routine maintenance.

2. Proposal that PC ask for a secure, outside-accessed store to be included in TVH extension to store PC land-management equipment for use by volunteers on its Nature Spaces areas, and for PC to put funds towards this.

3. Proposal that PC extend the Green Space Maintenance Contract/s (to go out to tender soon) to include the routine maintenance of the Heath to keep it accessible as a recreational space in nature. Work to be undertaken in a way that conserves the Heath's special biodiversity:

a) maintenance of public footpath (379/21/10) - seasonal clearance of overgrowing vegetation, whilst conserving the old trees and associated flora/fauna along its length.

b) maintenance of core access paths on Heath so they are accessible year round. Paths through the bracken require cutting regularly from around mid May to mid September. There is also encroaching bramble and scrub to control.

It is not feasible for this to be done by volunteers.

4. Request that TPC give permission for stakes to be cut from former coppiced hazels to use in making tree guards to protect tree seedlings and saplings on the Heath. This work to be directed by the Nature Spaces Subcommittee.

5. To agree remedial tree work - removal, from Peake's field, of rotten ash tree fallen from the Heath's public footpath boundary.

The members all agreed to the above requests and thanked the Nature Spaces Committee for undertaking the large amount of work involved in producing a very comprehensive report.

24/037:Apologise of absence: Cllr's Angus Paxton (AP) and Steve Hill (SH) were noted.

24/038:Declaration of interest: LM in item 16.i – a family member is a recipient of a payment.

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24/039: Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 15th July 2024 were approved as a fair and true record: Proposer AL, seconder SL.

24/040: Matters Arising from June meeting:

- i. Metalwork for hardcourt: SL had received a quotation for £2,800 plus paint. She will forward to CC.
- ii. Bench in new playground Barwood Estate: CC had contacted Barwood, reporting the dead trees and requesting installation of bench, she had received no response. LM reported the trees too, she was told these would be replaced by the end of the year.
- iii. S106: CC thanked John Cook for his help in getting the release of the £4,000 S106 money from OCC. She confirmed this was now in the PC's bank account.
- iv. Public Inquiry TRAC objection: CC had received a response from the Department of Transport case officer regarding the published TRAC objection: it read as follows:
*Apologies for the delay, but when I was registering the objections received. I misread one of the objections and thought it was TRAC, when later reading it was not and I have since removed on our database the link to TRAC.
Clearly there wasn't an objection made by TRAC.
I hope this clears up the matter.*
- v. Complaint from Lime Kiln residents: AL addressed the complaint and read aloud the following statement:

In the August & September 2024 Tackley Newsletter there was a piece written by Tackley Parish Council regarding the closing of the railway crossing and the rerouting of the bridleway. Part of this article briefly mentioned options of rerouting. One of those options was "access could be given via Lime Kiln Road." The Parish Council wish to add that this option is not a council idea, has not been discussed or investigated as part of the formal National Rail Enquiry and that is why Lime Kiln residents have not been communicated with on this matter. If any of the bridleway rerouting options look likely to progress, an impact review will be considered, including communicating with the village and understanding any potential impact to residents and their property.

24/041: To consider District Council matters:

TS: WODC are working with the other Oxfordshire districts to come together o look at the Labour Governments proposals for the NPPF, and changes that may come into affect. All parishes within the district will be consulted with.

GE: Read aloud her report attached in Appendix B. She also asked if a TPC representatives wished to join the LCWIP Teams meeting. LM and AL agreed to attend.

24/042: To consider County Council matters: AG updated that:

OCC are reigniting the search for health centre site for Woodstock, as the police site may go for care home development. They are looking at how to provide healthcare infrastructure – Berks Bucks & Oxon using S106 & SIL funding. Woodstock surgery are currently not taking on more patients. OCC are also looking into local bus services potentially coming back into public ownership. OCC moving from County Hall to Speedwell House, this will improve accessibility and reduce costs.

24/043: Housing Needs Assessment: CC had previously circulated the draft HNA from Community First Oxon, she confirmed that there was currently funding for the assessment and therefore the first 500 Printed survey leaflets would be free of charge. The members agreed they approved of the questions within the survey.

SL requested that additional questions asking the residents their view on the burial ground be included. CC will ask CFO if this is possible.

24/044: Village Hall refurbishment update: RHO updated that representatives from the Village Hall Committee, the Village Shop and the PC met to discuss the proposed refurbishment plans. The meeting was extremely productive, and it was agreed that RHO would remain as the PC representative to attend the Village Hall committee meetings.

A few design suggestions were made for amending the plans, Julie Farren had circulated these to the members. The PC was supportive of the design.

RHO agreed to take the Nature Spaces Committee request of equipment storage at the village hall to the committee.

24/045: Section 106 consultation date: It was agreed to set a date once the Village Hall committee had obtained costs for the refurbishment, so the residents had all the information at the consultation.

24/046: Burial ground: SL and CC had met with Mr and Mrs Peake and Rev Harriett Orridge, to discuss options for extending the current burial site or finding a suitable alternative location. CC advised that purchasing suitable land would be beyond the PC's budget, even accounting on a 10 year basis, searches and suitability criteria would also need to be met, which cost in the region of £10,000.

Mr & Mrs Peake asked their land agent to advise the church who owned the land adjacent to the natural burial ground within the parish, which he had done. He also advised that the triangle section of land owned by the PC on Whitehill did not look suitable for burial ground land, as it was mainly rubble. Rev Harriet Orridge confirmed this was not big enough to accommodate a hearse and family vehicles during the internment service.

It was agreed that a further meeting would be arranged when Rev Harriet had had time to gather actual number of burials over the last 5-10 years.

24/047: Tackley Festival: SH had circulated a report, this item was deferred to SH apologises.

24/048: Botley West Solar Farm: The PC noted the 4th round of consultation documents. They had no further comments.

24/049: Parish amenities:

- i. **Safety Railings:** CC advised that the PC now had the S106 funds and asked RHO if he could obtain an up to date quotation for the replacement railings.
- ii. **Biodiversity Policy:** CC asked if GE and the Nature Spaces Committee could help draft a policy, GE agreed to send information to CC
- iii. **Tree Works:** LM had circulated quotations for tree works it was agreed the following works be undertaken **Proposer:** AL **Seconded:** SL – All agreed: CC to ask for a bulk order discount.
Reduce Ash tree in Jubilee Gardens as discussed. Cost for works £450 + VAT
Large & Small Willows on Playing field, pollard and sever Ivy as per spec. Cost for works :£700 + VAT
Oak tree on Village green – as per spec. Cost for works : £300 + VAT
Oak on the corner of Rousham Road, as per spec. Cost for works £600 + VAT
Fallen tree on public footpath at The Heath – No charge.
For the 2 trees nearest Harborne Road ; £475 + VAT
For the other pair of trees in proximity but nearest Nethercote Road : £475 + VAT

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iv. Allotments: Jan Read updated and asked the council the following:

- PC would contact whoever is responsible for ground maintenance in Roman Place. The wild border that is between the housing and the allotments is now very overgrown. The overhang from what were beech bushes is now impeding a pathway along that side of the allotments. This was agreed.
- The PC checked with the National Allotment Society and it confirmed that it is not responsible for getting rid of slugs, snails, flea beetles, aphids, deer and badger and therefore moles.
- A date for the allotment inspection was requested. AL to confirm with JR.
- The PC noted a vote of thanks to Jim Pitts for mowing and maintaining the mower on the allotments for many years, it was agreed that the PC would cover the cost of a new blade. JR to obtain costs.

The members thanks JR for her time and representation of the council on the allotments.

v. Hedgehog Signs: It was agreed CC would purchase 3 hedgehog signs for the entrances to the village.

vi. Battery in the defib Village Hall: The battery requires replacing, CC had circulated a quotation for £232.95. It was agreed to proceed with the replacement.

vii. Footpaths: SL updated that she had reported the problems highlighted in the footpaths report on fixmystreet, she noted that there was a Public Rights of Way reporting website too. The blocked paths were appearing to be cleared following her reporting.

viii. Sandbags and shelter: CC advised that WODC would deliver more sand and hessian bags once the PC could provide shelter for it. It was agreed she would contact 2 local maintenance people and obtain quotes.

24/050: To consider matters of finance and policies:

- i. Ratification of Payments – invoices to be emailed beforehand: It was approved that the following payments were ratified and the impact the payment would have on the budget and reserves. Proposed: RHO, seconded: SH: **APPROVED**

Gross Amount (£)	VAT Value (£)	Payee	Details	Power
1681.32		Clerks Pay	July & August Salary	LGA 1972 S111
75.00		A Marshall	July & half August bin emptying	LGA 1972 S112
25.00		B Marshall	Half Aug bin emptying	LGA 1972 S112
1812.00	302.00	Greenscythe	July & August Green spaces maintenance	Open Spaces Act
225.60	37.60	Playsafety Ltd	Annual Play Area Inspection	Open Spaces Act
84.00	14.00	Playground Facilities	Operational Play Ground inspection	Open Spaces Act
58.78		R Strachan	Nature Spaces Reimbursement	Open Spaces Act

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24/051: To consider other matters:

- i. Remembrance Sunday: LM advised that she was unable to organise the event this year, due to it falling on the same weekend as the Scouts Fireworks event. The members would decide if an event would be held this year at the village hall or not at the Oct meeting.

Next meeting: 21st October 2024 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 9:14pm.

Signed as a true record of the Tackley Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 16th September 2024.

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Date.....