

# TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 held at Tackley Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors Liz Marshall (LM) Chair), Andrew Lines (AL) (Vice Chair), Sue Lygo (SL), Angus Paxton (AP), Richard Holland-Oakes (RHO), Steve Hill (SH).

Cherie Carruthers (CC) (Clerk to the Council)

Councillor Andy Graham (AG) (OCC), Genny Early (GE) (WODC), Tim Sumner (TS) (WODC).

9 Members of the public

**24/066:Public Participation: Alan Clegg:** Advised the council of a blockage in stream running along the southern side of the school's land, it is filled with rubber footballs and tree branches, which need clearing. When it is a clear the wall needs slightly lowering, perhaps by one brick or so.

**Action: AL** to ask school to dredge their section of the stream, once cleared we can look at lowering the wall.

**24/067:Apologise of absence:** Cllr John Gibbins were noted.

**24/068:Declaration of interest:** LM in items 10 & 13.i – a family member is the project leader on one of the S106 options and a member is a recipient of a payment.

**24/069:** Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024 were approved as a fair and true record: Proposer AL, seconder SL.

**24/070:Matters Arising from June meeting:**

- i. Bench in new playground Barwood Estate: Outstanding – Cora have advised they are happy for TPC to install a bench; they are waiting to hear from Barwood. CC to chase re trees.
- ii. Sandbags Shelter: Martin Harris will look at the request and submit a quote for building a shelter.
- iii. Burial Ground: Next meeting scheduled for end of November.

**24/071:To consider District Council matters:**

**GE:** advised the following:

- Nature Recovery Strategy consultation is open via WODC website, important for local feedback.
- Westhive feedback regarding the crowd funding system gave the consensus that the platform could be improved. WODC are asking for more feedback.

**TS:** updated the following:

- Further proposed plans for BWSF have been released, TS will be taking a robust view on how it has any impact on heritage or environmental.
- Unlocking community energy at sale, potential for communities to join and buy energy together, get in touch with WODC re community energy scheme, deadline 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 – TS to send link through.
- WODC website – views are being asked to shape the council's budget, respond online.
- Access to funding for Nature Towns and Cities – bring green infrastructure into towns and parishes, information on the website.

**24/072:To consider County Council matters:** AG updated:

- Bus prices are to increase to increase to £3 per trip from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2025, OCC are looking to see if there is any type of scheme with the bus company to subsidise the difference.
- Plans to move from county hall to speedwell house are in hand, county hall future use unknown.

**24/073: Housing Needs Assessment:** It was agreed that TPC need to offer a digital format. It was approved that the HNA would be dual – both paper and digital.

**Action:** AL to contact CFO to discuss how this can be done.

**24/074: Biodiversity Policy:** LM circulated the draft Biodiversity Policy and action plan (Appendix 1).

**LM proposed** the PC adopt the policy, **SL seconded:** All in favour – agreed and adopted.

AP – suggested getting an external consultant to do the external biodiversity audit.

AL – asked what the audit would include, the framework is given, get a quote for an external audit in the future.

**Action:** CC to obtain prices for external audit – RS suggested looking at Wild Oxfordshire website

*LM handed over the Chair to AL, she has declared an interest in the next item.*

**24/075:Section 106 consultation:** AL advised that there is a Public Art S106 fund of £9,295.54, which will be used for the displaying of the Mosaic, he went onto to note that:

The PC do not decide what the money is spent on, the village does this via feedback. In Nov 2023, feedback from that consultation's preference was the Skittle Alley, and Pump Tack in second place.

The PC must decide as to next steps, this will involve further consultation to ensure any spend is what the residents want.

Concerns regarding the pump track were raised by residents in attendance along with an email received from Judy Robson, querying design, size and ongoing maintenance. The visuals of the project were limited so the residents are unable to make an informed decision.

Rob Marshall advised that the track would fit in the bottom corner of the field, past the hardcourt and would not affect the football pitch or possibility of a cricket field.

SH advised that there are two pots of money, so it is possible to support the pump track and Village Hall refurb.

Rob Marshall noted the pump track is a catch 22, need funding to get specific designs and plans so that there is more information for people to decide on a basis of facts, he cannot raise funding from grants without confirmation the project is going ahead.

Judy Robson asked how much is required to get these plans done, approx. £1k, she noted that you cannot vote on something you cannot see.

AL confirmed the PC will come up with a way of ensuring that a procedure will be followed and process will be very clear and narrowed down. If there is a higher number opting for one option, the PC will follow that.

**24/076:Tackley Festival:** SH updated that this is being arranged by a core group of people, they have not yet met.

**24/077: Parish amenities:**

- i. **Safety Railings** – quotation received for replacement costing £4,671.74 plus VAT.

**Proposed acceptance of the quote: RHO, Seconded by SH – vote all in favour.**

The curb at the bottom of the pathway needs to be dropped– email AG and Fixmystreet.

**Action CC.**

- ii. **Grass / Hedge Cutting contract renewal:** CC to circulate with a closing date of 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025.

The members voted to cut the grass on The Green and the cuttings must be taken away when cut.

All in favour with: AP & LM abstaining.

- iii. **Verge hard surface at the heath:** permission from highways not required, works to start.

- iv. **New Parish Council notice board** –The PC thanked Jim Pitts for many years of maintenance of the board by the VH car park entrance. It was agreed to obtain process for 8 x A4's and catchable – cork back not hard back. Budget for this in 2025-26.

**Action: CC**

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**24/078: 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: AL, seconded: AH: **APPROVED**

Gross Amount (£)	VAT Value (£)	Payee	Details	Power
1,052.56		Clerks Pay	Oct 2024 - £867.53 + backpay £185.03	LGA 1972 S111
50.00		B Marshall	Oct bin emptying	LGA 1972 S112
906.00	151.00	Green Scythe	Oct Green Spaces maintenance	Open Spaces Act
40.00		Tackley Village Hall	Room hire Sept & Oct	LGA 1972 S112

**24/079: To consider other matters:**

- **Moles at the Allotments:** Jim Pitts advised the allotment needs professional body to get the moles under control, AL agrees it is problematic, but it will mean the members going against the Nolan Principles if traps etc are laid, AL agreed to find someone to look and advise next steps.
- **£100 Warm Spaces Grant:** grant request was received after the publication of the agenda. It will be added to dec’s agenda. In the meantime, RHO asked for the information to be sent to him personally, as his company will be happy to match fund the £100 and pay immediately for their half.
- **BWSF:** consultation in Witney – 25<sup>th</sup> Nov @ 6:30pm, purpose of the meeting is to allow putting into writing that £50k not enough for a grant pot to facilitate the disruption to hundreds of town’s and villages. Register an interest to attend – SH will go.
- **OALC Training:** contact regarding specific training for all councillors. **Action CC.**
- **Woodstock surgery meeting:** 21<sup>st</sup> Nov LM & SL to attend.

**Next meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Signed as a true record of the Tackley Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

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Date.....