

Minutes of the Tanworth-in-Arden Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 20th October 2011 at 19.30 hours in Earlswood Village Hall.

Public Forum

3 members of the public and District Councillors Atkinson and Oakley were present at the meeting. County Council Perry had sent his apologies.

Mr and Mrs Hawkins gave their reasons for keeping the lay-by on the A435 by Alderhanger Lane open. Mrs Hawkins stated that ‘gentlemen of the night’ have used the area for many years. Also the lay-by is used by lorry drivers to take a break. Mrs Hawkins said that when the lay-by was closed it caused a great inconvenience. Often she has had to park in Broad Lane and walk half a mile home because of flooding in Forde Hall Lane, Tanworth Lane and Blind Lane preventing her from driving home. She also sees no merit in the narrowing of the lane which has been mentioned in the past. Whilst horse riding when the lay-by was closed, riders were forced to go on the main road to Tanworth Lane because they couldn’t get past the concrete blocks, which was very dangerous. The County Council paid to move lights to light the gap in the fencing at the end of Alderhanger Lane, which would be a waste of money if the concrete blocks are put back in place to close the lay-by.

Report from District Councillor Atkinson:

1. District Councillor Atkinson stated that the rest area at Alderhanger Lane is the responsibility of Worcestershire County Council. He confirmed that the working party was reconvening and there was to be a meeting on 25th October. Councillor Atkinson stated that he will ensure that all reports are referred to the Parish Council.
2. Councillor Atkinson has tried to get detailed information about the proposed boundary changes. As far as he is aware Warwickshire and West Midlands will be reduced from 34 to 31 constituencies and Tanworth In Arden, Earlswood and Ullenhall will come under the new constituency of Dorridge and Kenilworth. The idea is to create constituencies of around 75,000 electorates. Councillor Atkinson is still trying to secure more detailed information.
3. The Council have obtained an injunction against Summer Poultry Products Ltd, Summers Holdings Ltd and the Directors. Summers Poultry can apply to the court to change the order under Condition 6 -‘Liberty to Apply’.
4. Residents of Malthouse Lane have been in touch with Councillor Atkinson about street signage for the Orbit Housing development in the keyhole. Councillor Atkinson reported that there is still £37k unallocated from the 106 agreement put in place following the development of The Maltings in Malthouse Lane. Councillor Atkinson will see if he is able to secure funding from this fund for the signage.

Report from District Councillor Oakley:

1. The law still allows Summers Poultry to put in as many planning applications as they want, but the case is drawing to an end. The directors have all pleaded guilty and remanded to Crown Court. Stratford On Avon District Council expect to cover their costs and get damages. Summers have to demolish any unauthorised buildings by January 19th. It has been made clear to Summers Poultry Ltd that if the buildings are not removed by January 19th 2012 then SDC will remove them with the backing of the courts at the expense of Summers Poultry. Councillor Oakley also reported that DEFRA has taken away Summers’ Licence of Enterprise reducing them, in effect, to a Farm Gate Enterprise.

Councillor Oakley stated that the Summers family are parishioners and nobody wanted it to come to this, but they were warned by the Parish Council and the District Council in the past about their actions.

2. Boundary Changes - District Councillor Oakley said that 50 MPs will have to lose their jobs. Some constituencies will change in England and Wales. The District Council are reviewing the parish positions but key issues will stay in the parish. Councillor Oakley suggested keeping an eye on any reviews or moves in this area.
 3. Councillor Oakley stated that based on data obtained from surveys at the Community Forums, the State of the District Report is very favourable and the CEO is very pleased. The development of Neighbourhood Plans is seen as important and there is a need for greater collaboration with neighbouring councils.
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Minutes of the Tanworth-in-Arden Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 20th October 2011 at Earlswood Village Hall.

Present: Councillor Willmott (Chairman), Councillor Instone, Councillor O'Brien, Councillor Stanton, Councillor Bettam, Councillor Jones, Councillor Keogh and Councillor Oakley.

In Attendance: Julie White Clerk to the Council

11/12/100- Apologies for absence –

Councillor Havard, Councillor Ross, Councillor Waters and Councillor Fitzpatrick
The reasons given for absence were accepted by the Parish Council.

11/12/101- Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest – Councillor Keogh declared a personal interest in item 11/12/111 as she is a member of the Village Hall Committee.

11/12/102- To Confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – 15th September 2011
It was proposed by Councillor Jones that the minutes of the Council Meeting on 15th September were a true and accurate record, seconded by Councillor Keogh. All those present at the previous meeting voted in favour. Chairman Councillor Willmott signed the minutes.

11/12/103 - Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise dealt with –

- 11/12/95 – Councillor O'Brien confirmed that he had completed the consultation documents for the proposals for the national planning policy framework electronically, but was unable to keep a copy.
- 11/12/88 - The clerk gave members the details of the speed awareness schemes.
- 11/12/92 - The clerk confirmed that following consultation with Councillors O'Brien and Keogh the letter about the inconsistencies in the 30% rule was not sent due to there being very special circumstances granted for allowing Crossmeads to exceed the permitted 30% volume increase.

11/12/104- Matters raised in the Public Forum - The Chairman agreed to discuss the matter raised concerning the rest area on the A435 under this heading, rather than later on in the meeting (11/12/108). Councillor Oakley declared his support for Mr and Mrs Hawkins' reasoning for requesting that the rest area remains open. The matter was discussed at length with Councillor Willmott stating that he feels that too many lay-bys are closing, making it hard to stop for a rest if you are on the road. PCSO Martin had reported to the clerk that with the nights drawing in there is an increase in undesirable activity. The clerk handed members a copy of a report from the working party when it was active before so that members could see their findings on the type of activity which was present previously. It was felt that the best course of action is to keep the vegetation clear and for regular police patrols to monitor the situation but leaving the lay-by open. Councillor Oakley also felt that the action group should include people such as Mr & Mrs Hawkins. Councillor Willmott proposed that the Parish Council write to the action group stating that we support keeping the lay-by open, but would like the undergrowth cut right back and regular police patrols. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Instone. 6 votes in favour. Councillor Bettam abstained as he didn't feel that we had been presented with all the facts of the argument. Councillor O'Brien also abstained.

11/12/105 - To Note Items of Correspondence Received - The following items were highlighted:

- 6.65 – Waste Core Strategy Consultation information.
- 6.68 – Leaflet from the CPRE on how to respond to planning applications. The Clerk was asked to try and obtain more copies.
- 6.229 – Elizabeth Price, WCC. Clerk confirmed that she is meeting with Elizabeth Price next week.
- 6.241 – Williamson and Soden – Localism bill debate on November 1st. Members were asked if they wished to attend.
- 6.17 - Aylesbury House update. Councillor Instone requested a copy be put in his envelope on the next agenda run.
- 6.124 – Claybank Farm. The clerk to find out the planning decision for Councillor Keogh.

The correspondence list was noted.

11/12/106 - Finance

- i) To adopt the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting on 1st September 2011
Councillor Willmott proposed that we adopt the minutes from 1st September 2011. Seconded by Councillor Stanton. All in favour.
- ii) Chairman's report: We were visited by Judith Lindley Chairman, Friends of Henley Library (Henley Community Library)
- iii) Items for payment: Councillor Stanton proposed that all items were taken en bloc. Councillor Oakley seconded. All in favour.

11/12/107 - Planning

- i) To adopt the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting on 1st September 2011
Councillor O'Brien proposed that we adopt the minutes from 1st September 2011, seconded by Councillor Oakley. All in favour.
- ii) Report of the Chairman:
Councillor O'Brien reported that he had attended yesterday's Planning Committee (West) Meeting concerning The Limes in Penn Lane. The Committee had voted unanimously to support the recommendation to refuse the application. Councillor O'Brien expressed his frustration that he had spent 5 hours at the meeting to speak for 2½ minutes. This matter had only been sent to committee due to Councillor Atkinson's support of the application which would have taken the property to 148% increase of its original size.
- iii) To consider the following Planning Applications:
 - 11/00450/FUL Amendment – Leaholm, Valley Road. Councillor O'Brien to consult with the neighbours. To be discussed at the next meeting of the Planning Committee.
 - 11/02290/FUL Moat House, Salter Street. **Comment** – Do SDC's wildlife experts feel that a pond at the depth of 1 – 2' is conducive to creating a viable wildlife pond?
 - 11/02132/FUL Ullenhall Lane Cottage, Ullenhall Lane. As the hard copy of the plans had not arrived in time for the meeting and there was no volume calculation on the website, the clerk is to ask for a time extension so that the volume can be verified.

11/02233/LDE Woodlands Farm, Cut Throat Lane. **Objection.** The Parish Council feels that it is unproven that the caravan has been occupied for in excess of 10 years.

11/12/108– To Discuss the Rest Area on the A435 by Alderhanger Lane.

This matter was discussed earlier under item 11/12/104.

11/12/109 - To Discuss the Sale of Land in Malthouse Lane

Members had been previously given a Heads of Terms from SDC. Concern was expressed over the fact that it states that the transferee has to comply with future covenants. The Clerk to contact Susan Steele to ask that this is removed from the Heads of Terms. Councillor Willmott proposed that when that matter is cleared up then our solicitor is asked to look over the contract. All in favour. Councillor Oakley quoted that he understood that SDC had promised that if the land in Malthouse Lane was transferred then the land by the bungalows on The Common and the strip of land in Bellfield would also be transferred to the Parish Council. The clerk will query this with Susan Steele.

11/12/110 – To Consider Tim Watts’ Offer to Pay for Professional Tree Surgery to the Tree on the Village Green

Councillor Stanton had viewed the tree and showed some photographs of cracks in the trunk. The damage has possibly caused by children climbing the tree. It was suggested that a tree guard of approx 10’ diameter could be erected around the tree to protect it. The residents were commended for bringing the matter to our attention and the Parish Council will now decide the best course of action to preserve our tree. It was agreed that the clerk would obtain a report from a tree specialist. All in favour.

11/12/111 – Update on New Parish Office

Councillor Willmott reported that the Parish Council had not heard back from the Trustees about the museum extension. Councillor Keogh reported that the lease agreement has still not been signed by the Parish Council. Councillor Oakley mentioned that the PCSOs don’t have a base to work from now that Henley Police Station has closed. He asked if the Parish Council should consider providing a base for him when the new office is built, possibly in conjunction with other parish councils. This to be added to a future agenda.

11/12/112 – Work Around the Parish

- Bonfires around the lakes
- Broken manhole outside 51 Malthouse Lane.

11/12/113 - Items for Future Agenda

- Providing a base for the PCSO

11/12/114 – To Note date, place and time of next Meeting:

Thursday 17th November, Tanworth Village Hall

The meeting closed at 21.58 hrs

Signed _____ Chairman of meeting _____ Date