

TOCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 7th March 2017

Present - Councillors Diana Kirby, Geoff Cowling, Sarah Still, Michael Knight, Martin Marmoy

Also Present - Councillor Bucknell.

Absent - Emily Maiden (Clerk)

Ordinary Minutes

Public Question Time: No questions were raised.

Reports from Wiltshire Councillor:

- Councillor Allison Bucknell explained that the road works due during Feb were unable to be done because of an “overrun” at Lacock and have been reschedule for end of April.
- A pharmacy at Lyneham is going ahead but a Doctors surgery is meeting opposition from the NHS – “there is no unmet need” according to them. Councillor Bucknell will continue to pursue this.

1/17 Apologies for absence - No apologies for absence were received.

2/17 Declarations of Interest – in accordance with Wiltshire Council’s Members Code of Conduct, as adopted July 2012.

- None raised

3/17 Minutes

- No minutes received from clerk for meeting of 10th January 2017
 - Chair to draft minutes from Jan meeting from her own notes.
- No contact has been forthcoming from Emily despite numerous efforts by the Chairperson. Finally after contacting her boss Johnathan Bourne at work he advises she is resigning as of this evening.
- Chair will work with Mr Bourne and Emily to arrange for all the paperwork and financial matters to be handed back to the council asap.
- Councillor Cowling and Councillor Kirby to see the bank this week to explain the situation and arrange for signatures and cheque books etc to be redirected and transferred to the Chairperson.
- No one has come forward to take on role of Clerk so this needs focusing on.

4/17 Clerks Report

a) Police Report

Community policing have had an open invite to the village coffee mornings which remains open to them.

b) New Crematorium by Junction 16

Councillor Knight went along to open evening and judged the application to be appropriate. No objections from the council in Tockenham.

c) Green Farm, Lyneham planning application.

240 houses are planned for this site which is considered by this Parish Council as too many for this size of community.

d) The Great British Clean Up.

This was a success with 18 people turning up to help pick up litter around Tockenham on Saturday the 4th March.

e) The “Greenway” signage

- enquired about by Councillor Marmoy has yet to be priced up so he will contact Mark Stansby of WCC for some figures (this has to be paid for by our village if we go ahead.

f) The Big Pledge

This was beset with technical problems on the web site last time. This year's theme is “*World Athletics Championships*”

g) Re-election of Parish Councillors.

- a. The council must observe a state of “Purdah” during this time. Nominations start on 15th March and the present councillors remain in post until the next meeting which must be within 2 weeks of the Election Day which is 4th May. The next council meeting is set for 9th May.
- b. Councillor Bucknell to send electoral register and hard copies of the nomination papers to the Chair for the forthcoming elections.
- c. Councillor Knight is standing down and a replacement person is required.

5/17 Local Planning Applications.

None received

6/17 Finance and Administration – To consider financial matters and to receive notification of any further matters for consideration.

2015 / 2016 Audit

- i. It seems that our clerk has not been complying correctly with the requests of Grant Thornton (our auditors) for the audit returns for 2015 / 2016 and, as a result, they have had to take extra time to chase these matters. This has resulted in an invoice from them to TPC of £375.00 + VAT.
- ii. Payment of this invoice was agreed by the council. Proposed by Councillor Cowling and seconded by Councillor Marmoy.
- iii. The audit process for 2016 / 17 starts at the end of March

Invoices

Bulldog Fencing invoice for £2,220.00 to be paid in next financial year.
Proposed by Cllr. Cowling and 2nd by Cllr. Knight.

7/17 Highway matters

a) Continued flooding on the A3102 by the War Memorial

This on-going issue to be photographed by Cllr. Cowling during a flood and then to be sent to WCC for comment and remedy

b) Surface dressing through village

This to be rescheduled for end April 2017

c) Sink Hole by telephone kiosk.

Although the Highways authority acted swiftly to get barriers around this hole straight after it was reported on New Year's Eve, no further work has taken place.
Councillor Bucknell to contact Highways to chase.

d) Letter from Cllr Whitehead of Highways was forwarded after the meeting by Cllr Bucknell. It details the Parish Steward programme of works for the year. An update meeting to be held in Chippenham on 17th May. We need to ensure that Priority Sheets are completed for any works required in the parish.

8/17 Neighbourhood Plan.

Broad Town Parish Council have finally come to an impasse with their local Community-Led Plan Group and, as a result, all but one person on the P.C. has resigned. Due to the complexities of the rules of Neighbourhood Area Plans, they cannot leave the program as they have no authoritative body who can agree to do so. Therefore, it beholds the remaining entities, Tockenham and Clyffe Pypard to leave the New-V process if they wish to continue with a

Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Kirby recommended TPC to take this route and go it alone.

It was resolved that Tockenham Parish Council should withdraw from the NEW-V process and submit an application for designation its own Neighbourhood Area.

Cllr Kirby to organise a formal application for same.

9/17 Play Area

The fence replacement and general update of the play area is going well. Councillor Marmoy is to take over from Councillor Knight in “managing” the grass cutting program.

10/17 Councillors Reports and Items for Next Meeting,

a) Tockenham “Rights Of Way” Champions

Cllr Bucknell advised that there are funds available from Area Board for groups involved in keeping the Rights Of Way open – for items such as cutting equipment etc. It was suggested that the local “Dog Walkers” be approached for their interest.

b) Standing Orders

These to be investigated to improve and tighten up our system of working.

Next meeting to be The Annual Parish Meeting on 4th April.

Meeting closed at 20.52