

TEWIN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 4th November 2013 in Tewin Memorial Hall at 7.45pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs K. St Pier (Chairman), A. Hill (Vice Chairman), D. Howson, K. Lawson, D. Lloyd, N. Moore and J. Sheridan.

In attendance: Mrs C.McFarlane (Clerk) and two members of the public.

80. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr B. Evans, East Herts District Cllr M. McMullen and East Herts District Councillor L. Haysey.

81. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held 7th October 2013, copies of which have been previously circulated to Councillors, were amended and agreed to incorporate the following in italics under Item 70 Planning :

“Tewin Grove/B1000 - A map has been received of this new site 40/022 which appeared on the Strategic Land Availability Assessment (“SLAA”) Round 3 Interim list of sites.”

The minutes were agreed as a true record by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman.

82. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr J. Sheridan declared an interest but no disclosable pecuniary interest in Item 88 concerning Tewin Allotment Association as he is Chairman of the Allotment Association.

PARISHIONERS COMMENTS

Mr & Mrs Harris attended to answer any queries about their planning application submitted to East Herts Council.

83. PLANNING

Planning Applications Received

3/13/1836/FP at 5, Sevenacres, Tewin - Single storey rear extension – *TPC No Comment*

3/13/1792/FP at Gallaway, Tewin Close - Replacement two storey side extension, alterations to front porch with new bay window and door opening to rear - *TPC No Comment.*

3/13/1740/FP - The Old Hay Barn, Back Lane, Tewin - Construction of extension to form return 'wing' in line with existing living room – *TPC No Comment*

3/13/1716/FP - 3 Purcell Close, Tewin - Two storey side extension, single storey rear extensions and front open porch extension - *TPC No Comment*

Planning Decisions

3/13/1609/PC – Land to the Rear of Sevenacres – Change of use from agriculture to C1 Bed and Breakfast
Mr T. Goldsmith, Countryside Access Officer has advised that the latest plan is the revised version following his suggestions and whilst it is not ideal having vehicles crossing the path but with the gates, surface, traffic calming, signs and viability splays it's as safe as it can be – *TPC is sympathetic to the concerns expressed by a number of parishioners and would support anything East Herts Council can do to oppose this application – EHC Refused due to lack of evidence of historical agricultural use.*

3/13/1526/FP - 4, Desborough Drive, Tewin - Two storey rear extension – *TPC No Comment – EHC Refused due to cumulative effect of this proposal and previous extensions.*

3/13/1616/LB – 104 Orchard Road, Tewin - Removal and reinstatement of existing roof to annexe extension and change to obscured glass for proposed bathroom window approved under Listed Building Consent 3/13/1018/LB – *TPC No Comment- EHC Granted*

Appeal Decisions

3/12/0744/FP Tewin Bury Farm, Tewin –Erection of Agricultural storage barn to house a straw/wood chip boiler for heat generation - *TPC No comment - EHC Refused as not satisfied that the use of the site is primarily for agricultural use and therefore it is inappropriate development in the Green Belt by reason of its size scale and site and visually dominant and detrimental - Appeal Dismissed.*

3/12/0592/FP Tewin Bury Farm, Tewin - Retention of existing hard standing for agricultural storage - *TPC No comment - EHC Refused - Appeal Dismissed*

3/13/0170/FP – 21 Bishops Road, Tewin – First floor rear extension- *TPC No Comment – EHC Refused - Appeal Dismissed*

3/13/0194/FP – 32 Cannons Meadow, Tewin – Conversion and extension of detached garage to form ancillary residential annexe – *TPC No objection in principle but have concern over distance from main house and likelihood of it becoming a separate occupation even as an annex. TPC also have concerns over parking and note the boundary issue from a parishioner which might affect the Certificate of Declaration A. - EHC Refused - Appeal Allowed*

Certificates of Lawfulness

3/13/1835/CL - Oak Heights, Tewin Water - Single storey outbuilding to rear of existing dwelling house.

Enforcement Issues - Nothing to report

Seven Acres Development Update

The Parish Council wrote to Mr B. Beyzade, Land and Planning Director and Mr P. Bigg, Senior Design and Planning Executive Taylor Wimpey about their plans for the dead fir trees, the boundary wall and the flooding of the garden at 43 Upper Green Road during the heavy rainfall.

The site manager advised that engineers are working on installing a soak away imminently to solve the flooding issues. The garden of 43 Upper Green has been sand bagged and a water pump installed.

With regard to the dead fir trees, soil samples were collected two weeks ago and the results are awaited. Taylor Wimpey are currently pricing up new foundations, steel struts and buttresses to make the boundary wall safe

Riversmead Development – Riversmead has distributed a newsletter to households in Grass Warren advising that they are undertaking trial holes, tree and soil sampling on 5th and 6th November 2013. The development is due to start after Christmas and the developer is aware that installing the road through the grass area of Grass Warren as a first step is the preferred option. There will be a permanent site office on the development and the Contract Manager will attend the site twice a week. He proposes to do a newsletter on a monthly basis.

Riversmead have received many requests for drop down kerbs and are reviewing the cost implications

SLAA – The Parish Council agreed to put a list of the proposed sites in the Strategic Land Availability Assessment (“SLAA”) Round 3 Interim in the Tewin Magazine.

84. FINANCE

Accounts for Payment - In accordance with the Council’s Financial Regulations the schedule of payments amounting to £1192.81 from the Current Account were approved by the Parish Council.

Estimate to the Year End - In accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Council the Parish Council reviewed and agreed the Estimate for the Financial Year Ending 31.3.2014.

85. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

Blocked Gully & Ditches – Kirkham Contracting has removed the spoil and reinstated the verge along Upper Green Road.

A letter has been set to Mr K. Crofton and Mr R. Goutham but no reply has been received. A letter about gullies has been sent to Vince Gilbert, Head of Hertfordshire Highways on 25th October 2013.

Cllrs K. St Pier and A. Hill met Mr R. Goutham on 25th October 2013 and were advised that the new regime of cleaning the gullies is once every eighteen months, with emergency flood response where required, monitoring these sites to inform future cyclic maintenance requirements so as to minimise the flood risk. Under the gully cleansing programme, roads within Tewin were visited in August/September and all gullies accessible were cleaned. There were three roads which could not be cleansed and required specialist traffic management (TM), these being Tewin Hill, Upper Green and into Upper Green Road and Lower Green. The gully cleansing crew will be re-visiting these locations once the TM has been arranged. Mr R. Goutham has also requested that the gullies and culvert on Hertford Road (Lousehole Bottom) are cleansed and emptied although timing can change in view of unforeseen circumstances.

Traditional Style Finger Post – The Parish Council agreed to find out the life expectancy of an oak post versus a metal post.

Highways Section 106 Funded Footpaths – First Phase (New footpath from Godfries Close up to Upper Green) - Highway has advised that the Parish Council's footpath proposal has been signed off and is scheduled for delivery in 2014/2015. The Parish Council will be consulted again and agreed to arrange a meeting with Mr B. Allan, Herts Highways to ascertain details of the plans and whether any trees need to be removed.

Highways Section 106 Funded Footpath - Second Phase (New kerbing and a footpath along the northern edge of Lower Green) - Highways advised that this proposal is currently being considered and the Parish Council will be advised in due course as to whether it has been approved.

Herts Highways Liaison Meeting for the East Herts divisions, on Wednesday 27th November at 7pm, in the East Herts District Chamber, Wallfields. Cllr K. Lawson and K. St Pier agreed to attend if they are available.

86. PAVILION AND UPPER GREEN

Pavilion Quotes – Letters have been sent to four contractors asking for quotes. None have been received as yet but meetings are being arranged.

Playground Inspection – Nothing to report.

Tree Planting – Cllr J. Sheridan advised that of the trees planted at Upper Green only 10% have died and replacement trees have been planted.

87. LOWER GREEN

Christmas tree – A donation of £932 has been received from Friends of Tewin for the purchase and planting of the Christmas tree from Majestic Trees. The tree has been planted. Cllr A. Hill agreed to install an underground duct from the electricity cupboard on Lower Green to the Christmas tree.

Carols on The Green - These will take place on 18th December 2013 from 6pm until 8pm.

Union Jack – A two yard Union Jack flag has been purchased at a total cost of £80.50 plus vat. The Parish Council agreed to investigate covering the metal snap hook which rattles against the pole when the flag is raised.

Storm Damage:

Church Green: A large cherry tree outside the church gates fell down and Kirkham Contracting has cleared it and will send the Parish Council the invoice.

Lower Green: The tree that fell across the road is on land owned by Herts County Council but not leased to Tewin Parish Council. Mr J. Hunt, HCC Rural Estates Manager agreed to Kirkham Contracting removing the tree and will reimburse him.

Other trees and branches that fell have been reported to the various landowners and all have been dealt with

88. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr J. Sheridan declared an interest but no disclosable pecuniary interest this item as he is the Chairman of the Allotment Association. He did not participate in the vote.

Land Rental Agreement – A revised Land Rental agreement was circulated. Cllr K. St Pier proposed to remove Clause 2.10 “No keeping of livestock other than existing chickens about the keeping of chickens on the site”. Cllr A. Hill seconded the proposal and the Parish Council agreed unanimously.

Cllr K. St Pier proposed that the subsidy split for the Allotment Association land rental be changed from 56%/44% to 60%/40%. Cllr D. Howson seconded the proposal and the Parish Council agreed unanimously. The Parish Council will pay £252pa and the Allotment Association will pay £378 pa towards the total rent of £630 pa.

89. RISK ASSESSMENT

The following works have been completed or actioned:

Tennis Club Bench – This has been cordoned and Tewin Tennis Club is in the process of replacing it.

Tree Works – These are in the process of being completed.

90. CORRESPONDENCE

Overcrowding on 388 bus – A complaint has been received about overcrowding on the school bus. Cllr K. Lawson has written to the Passenger Transport Unit and is awaiting a response.

White Van Parking – The PCSO has been advised and will be looking into the issue of dangerous parking in Cannons Meadow at the T junction over the weekends and weekday evenings.

Tewin Toddler Group Donation Request For New Toys – The Parish Council agreed they do not usually make these types of donations and were informed that Friends of Tewin had agreed to make a donation.

Charitable Trusts Talk – Cllr D. Howson agreed to attend the talk on 11th November at 7pm at Wallfields East Herts Council.

CDA for Herts Village Halls & Community Buildings Conference – Cllr D. Lloyd agreed to attend the conference on 4th December 2013 at Woolmer Green Village Hall from 9.30am until 3.30pm.

Use of Upper Green Track – Local residents complained about the continued use of the track by heavy traffic and also for village events such as Classic Cars and Apple Day. As far as the Parish Council is aware, the landowner is operating within his rights, but it did agree to ask the organisers of the events to ensure that local residents were kept informed.

Stopping of Prescription Service at Tewin Stores - Bridge Cottage Surgery has been advised by the Herts Pharmacy & Medicines Team that the prescriptions service at Tewin Stores must cease immediately as the collection of medicines from an unregulated site from unregulated personnel is not acceptable practice nor in accordance with relevant regulations and legislation. They are looking for other solutions but there is no time frame and we await future developments. Repeat prescriptions can be obtained by ringing Bridge Cottage Surgery who will outline the various options available. Home delivery will be agreed on a case by case basis and patients must get agreement from Bridge Cottage Surgery.

Christmas tree – A parishioner wrote to complain that the appearance of the Norway spruce is not in keeping with the character and appearance of Lower Green and the views, character and ambiance of Lower Green has been degraded with its placement. The Parish Council agreed to thank him for his comments and advise him that a consultation was completed and the balance of opinion was in favour of the proposal.

Seat on Green adjacent to Back Lane – A parishioner has proposed that a seat be placed where the tree fell on the Green adjacent to Back Lane and the Parish Council agreed to discuss it further at the next meeting.

Green Belt Review Part 1 by EHC has been completed. Any queries can be directed to Nigel Cox, EHAPTC.

Broadband Speed Enquiry – The Parish Council agreed to publicise registering an interest in Superfast Broadband with the Connecting Counties website in the next Tewin Magazine.

FP13 Diversion Order has been granted and is now official. A notice has been put in the notice board outside the shop.

Herts County Council Consultation on “Setting Local Speed Limits” – Cllr D. Howson advised that this consultation was not relevant to the Parish Council’s interest in finding a way to extend the 40mph section of the B1000 towards Hertford past the Tewin turning.

91. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Tewin Website – A meeting is being held next Thursday.

PPP- Back Lane at the Rose & Crown end is very muddy and the Parish Council agreed to report it to Mr T. Goldsmith, Countryside Access Officer.

Jubilee Stone – It is likely that this will be put next to the Millennium sign.

92. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7.45pm on Monday 2nd December 2013 at Tewin Memorial Hall. As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 10.37pm

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS October 2013

Fault line: 0300 123 40 47

Affinity Water 0845-7823333 (fault/leak reporting)

Ref:	PROBLEM.	DATE RAISED	COMMENTS
1	Reinstatement of Kerbing along northern edge of Lower Green	2013	Highways/Section 106
2	Bridge Reflectors in Churchfield Road (nr B1000) – White lining & chevrons to be repainted & reflective discs/paint on bridge	2012	Reported on highway fault website
3	Line Markings – Missing on School Lane	2012	Reported on Highway fault website
4	Upper Green Road – Ditch outside 33 – 39 blocked	2012	Cleared
5	Hertford Road – Standing water near the shop as gullies blocked	2013	Reported on Highway fault website
6	Hertford Road – Lousehole Bottom culvert under the road is not working and gulley blocked	2013	Reported on Highway fault website
7	Upper Green/Upper Green Road/Orchard Road – Gullies blocked	2013	Reported on Highway fault website
8	Signs - Hollybushes- Directional Tewin sign missing - Hertford Road - 30mph Repeater missing - Lower Green – Directions on finger post missing	2013	Reported on Highway fault website