

TEWIN PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

In attendance: Mrs C. McFarlane (Clerk), East Herts District Councillor L. Haysey and two members of the public and two further parishioners who arrived later.

114. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from East Herts District Councillor M. McMullen.

PARISHIONERS COMMENTS

Mrs Gillian Bonwick raised concerns about parking around Lower Green and the serious damage it is doing to Lower Green as well as the safety issue with regard to pedestrians and school children. The Parish Council advised that they are aware of the problem and that the Rose and Crown car park is available to school parents. This topic was discussed further under Paragraph 120 Highways and Transportation.

Mr Jeremy Cooke came to discuss the Walnut Tree building plot with planning permission that is for sale and whether the Parish Council were aware of any concerns about the tall trees bordering the chicken field plot.

The Parish Council advised that they were aware that some residents are unhappy about the trees, but has never had cause to become involved. He also made enquiries about the history of the village boundary.

115. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS held 4th February 2013 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

116. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J.Sheridan declared an interest in the Allotment Association correspondence as he is Chairman of the Allotment Association.

Cllr N.Moore declared an interest in the planning application for 21 Bishops Road as it is his property.

117. NO MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

118. FINANCE

Accounts for Payment - In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations the schedule of payments amounting to £1962.66 from the Current Account were approved by the Parish Council.

In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations the schedule of payments amounting to £261.57 from the Pavilion Account were approved by the Council.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - East Herts Council District Plan Panel has discussed the CIL at their meeting on 21st February 2013 and a copy of the paper has been received but there is no further information at present other than a likely East Herts Council CIL rate of £110 per sq m.

Budget Report – The Parish Council will have a surplus of £2500 at the year end, instead of the predicted £1,042 deficit. This is partly due to receipt of the New Homes Bonus of £2366 and under spend of the Contingency Fund by £1000.

Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit – This will be completed on 11th March 2013 by Cllr B.Evans and D.Lloyd.

Internal Audit – This will be completed by Cllr B. Evans and Cllr D. Lloyd on 11th March 2013.

119. PLANNING

Planning Decisions

3/12/1150/FP - Garage site to rear of: 17 - 28 Grass Warren, Tewin – Amended Drawings for demolition of garages and clearance of associated land. Erection of 1no 4 bed detached house, 4no 3 bed semi-detached houses and 3no 2 bed bungalows –*TPC supportive with comments re retention of brick boundary wall, white windowframes, bins to be located to the side of the bungalows and preserving the visual character of the area by retaining as many of the trees and shrubs on the site as possible* - **EHC Approved with Conditions.**

3/12/1722/FN/TA – 49 Upper Green, Tewin – Detached four bedroom dwelling with a detached double garage (approved under 3/09/1435/FP) – *TPC No Comment – EHC Granted.*

Planning Applications received

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.

3/13/0042/FP – Warrengate Farm – Conversion of stable/store to living space and two dormer windows – TPC No Comment.

3/13/0169/FP – 21 Bishops Road, Tewin – Conversion of garage to playroom – TPC No Comment.

3/13/0170/FP – 21 Bishops Road, Tewin – First floor rear extension- TPC No Comment.

3/13/0171/FP – 21 Bishops Road, Tewin – Rear Conservatory – TPC No Comment.

3/13/0245/FP – Tewin Water House – To restore rooflight – TPC No comment.

Certificates of Lawfulness - None

Appeal Submitted

3/12/0744/FP – Tewin Bury Farmhouse – Erection of an agricultural storage barn which will also house a straw/wood chip boiler for heat generation with PV panels on the south facing roof slope (amended proposal) - *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.*

Notification of Public Enquiry re Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility at New Barnfields, Travellers Lane, Hatfield.

Seven Acres Development Update

Works on the shared ownership units has started and they are expected to be completed by July. The demolition of Seven Acres has started and will take approximately 4 weeks.

Tewin Garage Site

Cllr K. St Pier, D. Howson, D. Lloyd, J. Sheridan and the Clerk met with Peter Biggs from Taylor Wimpey on Tuesday 26th February 2013 to look at the proposed plan/ change of use which has been submitted to EHC requesting pre-planning advice.

They propose to replace the office block with a 4 bed house similar to the existing show house in Carrington Grange. They plan to move it slightly nearer the southern boundary but drop the height of the roofline so that it is lower than the previous application and therefore should be better for the neighbours. The site for the bins for the office block has instead been designated as visitor parking/overrun areas. Taylor Wimpey confirmed that they are looking into the extent of the Highways verge and will scale back the front garden to reflect the Highways verge and would also consider the idea of a footpath across the Highways verge.

The Parish Council requested that the resident of 43 Upper Green Road be consulted over the boundary treatment and the flow of water across the site.

The length of time the lights were on to illuminate the Carrington Grange sign was raised and Taylor Wimpey agreed to look into it.

Overall Tewin Parish Council confirmed that they are supportive of the proposal and agreed to send a letter to East Herts Council encouraging development of the site and supporting the change of use.

Enforcement Issues

53 Orchard Road – The Parish Council noted online correspondence stating that an evergreen hedge is being organised and that another planning application should be submitted for the gates and pillars if they are moved back to 6 metres.

Land to the Rear of Upper Green – A file has been opened and the Enforcement Officer will report to the Parish Council when a site visit has been completed.

EHAPTC Meeting on 8th March 2013 – Cllr K Lawson advised she may be able to attend the meeting.

120. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

Cllr K.St Pier and the Clerk met Tom Goldsmith, Countryside Access Officer on 20th February 2013.

May Pond Green Footpath – T. Goldsmith was very supportive of the proposed new footpath across May Pond Green and recommended using graded crushed concrete or tarmac chippings/road planings. He agreed to provide a list of contractors who do these types of works.

Subsequent to the meeting a quote of £25,000 for a tarmac footpath was obtained by Cllr N.Moore, and a further two quotes of £2,250 for a crushed concrete path and £1,750 for road planings footpath were also received.

Upper Green Verge – T.Goldsmith was very happy to support the proposed footpath from 74 Upper Green Road to Godfries Close and support any request for Section 106 funds. He recommended obtaining the quotes and forwarding them to him. Subsequent to the meeting a quote for a crushed concrete footpath was received for £880 and £760 for road planings.

Hertford Road Flooding – This seems to be arising from three areas:

A blocked pipe and ditch on Tewin Hill Farm which results in water running across the field and down onto BR 4 and onto Hertford Road. Cllr A. Hill is looking into the problem.

A blocked pipe and ditch in the field on the east side of Hertford Road at Lousehole Bottom owned by Broom Hall Farm and a blocked ditch in the field on the west side of Hertford Road at Lousehole Bottom farmed by G.Tucker. T.Goldsmith suggested the Clerk contact them both.

FP 11 Hundred Year Wood - The northern end of the footpath which runs round Hundred Year Wood is extremely wet and boggy and very difficult to walk through. T.Goldsmith suggested a quote was obtained for extending the crushed concrete footpath and suggested the Parish Council apply for a P3 grant to cover the works. A quote for £2,050 has been obtained and a P3 application form submitted.

Churchfield Road – Cllr D.Howson reported a fallen road sign to be reported to Highways.

B1000/Churchfield Rd Junction – Cllr D Howson asked that the 40mph be extended from Digswell to this junction. The Parish Council agreed to raise this with the new County Councillor in May.

Lower Green Parking – The Parish Council agreed to send a letter to Tewin Cowper School asking them to help dissuade parents from parking around Lower Green and use the Rose and Crown car park instead.

Cannons Meadow Parking – The PCSO delivered leaflets with advice about inconsiderate parking.

121. UPPER GREEN AND PLAYGROUND

BT poles - On 13th February 2013 BT Openreach tried to put temporary telegraph poles along the edge of Upper Green. Neither Tewin Parish Council nor Herts County Council had been approached about the proposal or given approval and the BT Operations Manager Perry Rodell agreed to abort the installation. BT were asked to consider putting more lines in the lower end of the village as BT have recently been seen installing new ducting and cable along Upper Green Road.

Flytipping –This occurred at the junction of Dead Lane with Margery Lane and EHC have since removed it.

Upper Green Repairs – Ted Kavanagh advised the Clerk that the Cricket Club would be happy to repair Upper Green where it has been worn away whilst using the practice nets.

Upper Green Lorry Damage – The repair works to the bollard on Upper Green have been completed.

Upper Green Verge Damage – The repair works have been completed and the invoice submitted to the insurance company.

Plume of Feathers Post Repair – The Parish Council agreed to accept the quote of £45 to replace the fallen post.

Disabled Parking Bays – A quote of £3560 was obtained for providing an area of Envirofelt macadam within the car park for disabled parking. Further quotes are awaited.

Upper Green Sapling Planting – Cllr J Sheridan advised that further planting will take place on 16th and

17th March 2013.

Playground Inspection – There was nothing to report on the weekly inspections.

Floodlighting of Tennis Courts – The Parish Council agreed to advise the Tennis Club to consult with the neighbours, provide an electrician's report verifying that the existing power supply is sufficient, advise where the lights can be seen in use at another club and agree that Tewin Tennis Club would be responsible for any subsequent increase in business rates.

122. PAVILION

Fire Appliance Inspection – This was completed by T&J Fire Ltd and was satisfactory.

Heater – The spare heater has been installed. The cage will be ordered in due course.

Graffiti – The details have been reported to the police and remedial quotes are awaited.

Pavilion Keys – The Tewin Pavilion CIC has had a request for six more keys from the Tennis Club and the Parish Council agreed to ask their insurers if that were possible.

123. LOWER GREEN

Permanent Christmas Tree on Lower Green – The Parish Council to undertake some further research into this proposal regarding type, height, cost, maintenance and location.

124. ALLOTMENTS

The Land Rental agreement is due for renewal in April 2014 and the landowner has agreed in principle to renewing the agreement for a further 5 years on the same terms subject to some minor amendments from his solicitor.

125. CORRESPONDENCE

Rural Parish Conference is on Friday 15th September 2013 at Tewin Memorial Hall.

Broadband Upgrade – The Parish Council agreed to support Datchworth Parish Council's efforts in upgrading broadband in Tewin Wood.

Donation – A donation towards a bench has been received from Mrs J Lawson.

Parking Around Lower Green – A complaint has been received about visibility being impaired by an Affinity van parked on Lower Green nr Back Lane. Cllr Hill agreed to investigate.

Floodlighting – A complaint from Mr Beale about the proposed floodlighting has been received.

Allotment Association Accounts – These have been received and circulated.

EHC Localism & Standards "Toolkit" Course on 7th March 2013 from 6pm until 8.30pm at Ware Priory.

Lower Green Parking – A complaint has been received from Mrs G.Bonwick about the parking and damage to Lower Green as well as pedestrian safety.

126. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Tewin Charities Trustees – Nothing to report

Transport – A response from the bus company has been received about the unreliability of the 388 bus advising that the various delays and cancellations were due to circumstances beyond their control.

Tewin Website – Nothing to report

Tewin Memorial Hall – Nothing to report

Policing – Cllr D.Lloyd attended a meeting on 26th February 2013 and raised the issue of nuisance cars in the Upper Green car park. The police agreed to include Upper Green on their "drive by" in the evening.

Parish Paths – Nothing to report.

127. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm followed by the Parish Council meeting on Monday 8th April 2013 at Tewin Memorial Hall.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 10.27pm.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS February 2013

Fault line: 0300 123 40 47

Affinity Water 0845-7823333 (fault/leak reporting)

Ref:	PROBLEM.	DATE RAISED	COMMENTS
1	Patching Works from Upper Green to 31 Orchard Road	2009	Due to be done on 20 th March 2013
2	Reinstatement of Kerbing along northern edge of Lower Green	2013	Highway Locality Budget
3	Bridge Reflectors in Churchfield Road (nr B1000) – White lining & chevrons to be repainted & reflective discs/paint on bridge	2012	Reported on highway fault website
4	Line Markings – Missing on School Lane	2012	Reported on highway fault website
5	Potholes – Outside Rose & Crown	2012	Reported on highway fault website
6	Upper Green Road – Ditch outside 33 – 39 blocked	2012	Reported on highway fault website
7	Hertford Road – Standing water near the shop as gullies blocked	2013	Reported on highway fault website
8	Hertford Road – Lousehole Bottom culvert under the road is not working and gully blocked	2013	Reported on highway fault website
9	Upper Green/Upper Green Road – Gullies blocked	2013	Reported on highway fault website
10	Orchard Road – Outside 108 gully blocked	2013	Reported on highway fault website