

## TEWIN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2014 in Tewin Memorial Hall at 7.45pm.**

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

In attendance: Mrs C.McFarlane (Clerk) and East Herts District Cllr M. McMullen and L.Haysey.

**109. NO APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received.

**110. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 and 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014, copies of which have been previously circulated to Councillors, were agreed as a true record by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman.

**111. NO DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

### **PARISHIONERS COMMENTS**

Five parishioners attended to object to the planning application for removal of an onerous condition on Club Cottage Caravan site. The addition of 4 new dwellings will result in a loss of amenity space, loss of privacy as new dwellings are very close to existing dwellings, loss of light, inadequate car parking and inadequate access for emergency services etc. The application form wrongly states that there are no overlooking properties but properties in Burnham Green Road and Bishops Road overlook the site. The application form wrongly states that the footpath is not affected when it does contravene the footpath.

### **112. PLANNING**

#### **Planning Applications Received**

**3/14/0124/FO** - Club Cottage Caravan Site, Burnham Green Road - To increase the number of residential caravans limited by condition 3/68/0594 – *TPC Object due to the lack of planning application for 4 new dwellings, loss of amenity space, invasion of privacy as new dwellings are very close to neighbouring properties, inadequate car parking and inadequate access for emergency services etc.*

**3/13/2248/FP** - 30 Lower Green, Tewin - Glass conservatory extension to existing summer house and garage – *TPC No Comment*

#### **Planning Decisions**

**3/13/1917/FP** – 49 Upper Green, Tewin – Erection of detached two storey dwelling and detached garage – *TPC No Comment – EHC Approved*

**3/13/1955/FP** - Perry Tree House, 16 Upper Green, Tewin – Demolition of car port and erection of 3 car garages with gym and storage above – *TPC No Comment – EHC Approved*

**3/13/1992/FP** – 2 East Riding, Tewin – Provision of entrance gates and posts – *TPC No Comment – EHC Approved*

**3/13/1942/FP** – Coombe House, 9 Firs Walk – Erection of two storey rear extension. New entrance, alterations to windows, application of render to first floor, along with associated demolition – *TPC No Comment – EHC Approved*

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

**3/13/2156** – 31 Bishops Road - Erection of a two storey side and rear extension. Extension to porch, and replacement of existing windows – *EHC Refused*

**3/13/2191/MA** – The Old Hay Barn, Tewin – Non material amendments – *EHC Approved*

#### **Appeal**

**3/13/1526/FP** – 4 Desborough Drive, Tewin – Two storey rear extension – *TPC No Comment – EHC Refused*

**Enforcement Issues** - Nothing to report

#### **Seven Acres Development Update**

**Boundary Wall:** - On 7<sup>th</sup> January it was noticed that the condition of the boundary wall at Sevenacres had substantially deteriorated with many more visible horizontal cracks along the entire length of the wall and substantial vertical cracks wide enough to fit fingers. The Parish Council wrote to Taylor Wimpey asking them to take immediate steps to make the wall safe and to secure the area in case the wall does fall onto the

village green. The East Herts Council Building Inspector also spoke to the Site Manager and scaffolding and sandbags have been put in place to support the wall.

On 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014 a proposal for reinforcement of the boundary wall by banking earth up on the village green against the wall was received and on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014 a meeting was held with Mr Colin Dear, Taylor Wimpey when Tewin Parish Council outlined the history of the wall and the reasons why they would not support the proposal.

**Flooding:** – Taylor Wimpey is going to put another soak away in very close to the existing one. Andrew Stevenson, Community Safety and Health Services EHC has confirmed that he is investigating the flooding of 43 Upper Green Road from the Sevenacres site. He is waiting for the developer to confirm the short / medium /long term proposals they have at the site but as yet has not heard anything. He is also investigating the blocked gulleys in Upper Green and Upper Green Road and has a quote from a contractor for survey investigations at this site.

**Trees:** - Taylor Wimpey has submitted an application for tree works to East Herts Council and Malcolm Amey was visiting the site last week. The nature of the tree works is not known at present and no further information has been received.

#### **Riversmead Development Update**

The grass area has been taken up and construction of the new road has started. Some street lighting is being installed and Riversmead has advised that there will be no drop kerbs put in. A meeting has been held with Linda Haysey about the damage to the verges.

### **113. FINANCE**

**Accounts for Payment** - In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations the schedule of payments amounting to £7306.19 from the Current Account were approved by the Parish Council.

**Internal Audit** – This was completed on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and everything was found to be satisfactory.

**Precept** – The Chairman and two Councillors signed the precept form which is to be submitted to East Herts Council.

#### **Budget Review**

Income and expenditure is in line with the budget however several exceptional items distort the figures. Income is inflated by the receipt of £955.26 from EHC in respect of the Council Tax Support Scheme, £6000 donation from Taylor Wimpey Homes, £1000 P3 grant, £2944 New Homes Bonus, and £932 donation from Friends of Tewin.

Expenditure is inflated by the £3776 cost of installing disabled car park spaces at Upper Green which was funded by the £6000 donation from Taylor Wimpey, the £1000 cost of remedial works to FP11 funded by the P3 grant, the £628 cost of architect's drawings for the storage extension at the Pavilion which was funded by the Pavilion reserves, the £932 cost of the permanent xmas tree which was matched by a donation from the Friends of Tewin

### **114. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION MATTERS**

**Highways Section 106 Funded Footpath – First Phase (From Godfries Close up to Upper Green)** – Final plans are now being drawn up by Highways and they will carry out a public consultation with the Parish Council and local residents shortly.

**Highways Section 106 Funded Footpath - Second Phase (New kerbing and a footpath along the northern edge of Lower Green)** – This proposal has been forwarded to the Senior Engineer Martin Sears and he has agreed to look into it.

**Blocked Gully & Ditches** – Blocked gulleys in Orchard Road, Upper Green Road and Hertford Road have been reported several times but have still not been cleared. The Parish Council noted the suggestion to use a Freedom of Information request for the vulnerable gully list. The Parish Council also agreed to write to the Highways representatives from the recent HLM meeting to ask them for more information.

**Footway Outside 10 School Lane** – The footway outside 10 School Lane has sunk and the combination of steep slopes and a sideways camber make it a safety hazard especially for less fit pedestrians walking back from the bus stop and the shop. This has been reported to Highways who replied on 4<sup>th</sup> December that they

did not consider any action to be required. On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013 it was reported to County Councillor Ken Crofton. East Herts Council Planning Department has referred it to Herts Highways for inspection.

**Godfries Close Access Road** – The potholes have been reported to Riversmead to see if they would consider carrying out remedial works.

**Potholes** – The Clerk was asked to report potholes in Tewin Hill and Margery Lane.

#### **115. PAVILION AND UPPER GREEN**

**Pavilion Storage Solution** – Keith and Bryan met with Ted Tyler to discuss the option of a shed and a quote was received. It was agreed to undertake further research into an internal cupboard.

**Path Light Switch** – As everything was working at present the Parish Council agreed to leave this for the time being.

**Upper Green** – The Parish Council agreed to give permission to Toby Kirkham and Ben Tyler for the use of Upper Green for exercise classes on Wednesday and Friday mornings and to make them aware that all activities undertaken by themselves or the participants in the classes on Upper Green are "at your own risk" and to be aware that holes in the ground can arise from rabbits overnight and an inspection of the area being used would be advisable so as to check there are no hazards.

**Playground Inspection** – Nothing to report.

#### **116. LOWER GREEN**

**Christmas Carols on the Green** – The PAT test was completed satisfactorily and there were no problems with the Xmas tree.

**Hole on Lower Green** – A small hole opened up on the south side of Lower Green due to a broken drain underneath. It has been cordoned off safely as the Parish Council are waiting for the broken drain to be exposed again so that it can be reported to Highways for repair.

#### **117. RISK ASSESSMENT**

**Tree Works** – These have not been completed yet and the contractor has been advised that there is a deadline of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014 for completion of the works.

#### **118. GRASS CUTTING**

Four contractors were invited to tender and only two have supplied a quote. The Parish Council agreed to ask Frank Cooper & Son for a price breakdown.

#### **119. RIGHTS OF WAY**

**FP30** - A meeting was held on Thursday 16th January 2014 to discuss the official diversion of FP30.

The landowner proposes to divert the definitive footpath which is on a steep slope, full of rabbit holes, overhanging trees and overgrown hollybushes and as a result is unwalkable, unpleasant and has no view.

The proposed footpath is currently 2.2m and provides a walkable footpath and a view across the valley. The Woodhall Estate has agreed to divert the existing footpath on the other side of the road which is advantageous to walkers as it would be more direct route, there would be a straight crossing over the road, less footpath to maintain and it could all be done under one diversion order. The Woodhall Estate advised that they would keep the existing path as a permissive path so that there were no dead end paths.

**FP30a** - This is a dead end footpath which is a currently blocked so the landowner will put a stile in place.

**Common Land CL149** - The landowner was reminded that FP30 crosses over common land "CL149" but that this would not present a problem for the diversion order. A copy of the map detailing the extent of the common land has been sent to the landowner's representative.

**Back Lane - From the road up to 3 Back Lane** – Tom Goldsmith has arranged a meeting with Ted Kavanagh to discuss repairs to Back Lane both in the interim and once all work is finished.

**Back Lane - From 3 Back Lane up to first bend** – The Parish Council agreed to apply for the P3 grant to fund these works once a quote from Kirkham Contracting for the remedial works has been received.

## 120. CORRESPONDENCE

**CDA for Herts Village Halls & Community Buildings Conference** – This was attended by Cllr D. Lloyd.

**EHAPTC Planning Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013** – This was attended by Cllr K St Pier and Cllr K Lawson.

**District Plan Public consultation** – The draft of the new East Herts District Plan is going out to public consultation on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014 for 12 weeks. All comments should be received by 5pm on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2014.

A newsletter and a fact sheet will be delivered to every household from East Herts Council. The Parish Council agreed to investigate whether talks would be available and a village meeting will be arranged in due course.

## 121. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

**Transport** – The Passenger Transport Unit will be completing an inspection of the road between Harwood Close and Godfries Close to ascertain whether it is safe to extend the “Hail and Ride” system along that stretch for the 388 bus.

**CBS Minibus Audit in East Herts** – An audit of minibuses that are not being used during certain times of the day is being undertaken in order that a scheme may be devised for them to be used for other purposes such as hospital visits etc.

**Website** – The annual report from the Website Committee will be issued at the Friends of Tewin meeting.

**Policing** – A complaint has been received about youths rattling doors at the Pavilion. The PCSO has agreed to divert the evening patrol through Tewin.

Drive Safe is a new initiative on speed monitoring in villages. Residents are trained in using smiley face speed awareness equipment. The Parish Council agreed to advertise for volunteers in the Tewin Magazine.

**Memorial Hall** – A complaint has been received about the proposed removal of overgrown scrub along the boundary between the Scout hut and the footpath. Cllr K St Pier agreed to look into it.

## 122. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7.45pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 at Tewin Memorial Hall.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 10.15pm

## HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS January 2014

**Fault line: 0300 123 40 47**

**Affinity Water 0845-7823333 (fault/leak reporting)**

Ref:	PROBLEM.	DATE RAISED	COMMENTS
1	<b>Reinstatement of Kerbing along northern edge of Lower Green</b>	2013	Highways/Secti on 106
2	<b>Bridge Reflectors</b> in Churchfield Road (nr B1000) – White lining & chevrons to be repainted & reflective discs/paint on bridge	2012	Reported on highway fault website
3	<b>Line Markings</b> – Missing on School Lane	2012	Reported on Highway fault website
4	<b>Hertford Road</b> – Standing water near the shop as gullies blocked	2013	Reported on Highway fault website
5	<b>Hertford Road</b> – Lousehole Bottom gulley blocked	2013	Reported on Highway fault website
6	<b>Upper Green/Upper Green Road/Orchard Road</b> – Gullies blocked	2013	Reported on Highway fault website
7	<b>Signs - Hollybushes-</b> Directional Tewin sign missing - <b>Hertford Road</b> - 30mph Repeater missing - <b>Lower Green</b> – Directions on finger post missing	2013	Reported on Highway fault website

