

TEWIN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 2nd December 2024 at Tewin Memorial Hall at 7.45pm.

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

In attendance: C. McFarlane (Clerk).

81. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Cllr N.Moore, East Herts Councillor Bob Deering and Herts County Cllr K Crofton.

82. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held 4th November 2024, copies of which have been previously circulated to Councillors, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

83. NO PARISHIONERS COMMENTS

84. NO DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

85. PLANNING

Planning Applications

3/24/2125/HH & 3/24/2126/LBC – Theresa’s Cottage, Marden Hill - Roof conversion incorporating 3 new conservation rooflight windows to north elevation and a replacement rooflight window to south elevation – *TPC No Comment*

3/24/2086/PNHH – 29 Bishops Road, Tewin - Single storey rear extension: Depth 8.0 metres, Maximum height 3.8 metres, Eaves height 2.6 metres.

3/24/2100/PNHH – 12 Firs Walk, Tewin - Demolition of existing outbuildings and rear extension. Erection of a single storey extension. Depth 8m, height 4 m and eaves 3.91m.

3/24/1933/CLPO – 49 Orchard Road, Tewin - Proposed side extensions and double storey rear extension and out building.

3/24/2179/PNHH – The Gables, 22 Firs Walk, Tewin - Single storey rear and side extensions: Depth 8.00 metres, Maximum height 3.37 metres, Eaves height 2.29 metres.

3/24/2087/CLEO – 29 Bishops Road, Tewin - Existing outbuilding.

Planning Decisions

3/24/1715/HH - 5 Desborough Drive, Tewin - Demolition of front entrance steps and canopy roof. Proposed new front entrance steps with metal railing and flat canopy roof. Alteration to first floor front window, insert rear rooflight window, replacement doors and alter ground floor windows into doors – *TPC No Comment – EHC Granted*

3/24/1906/CLPO - 29 Bishops Road, Tewin - New outbuilding – *Application Withdrawn*

Appeals

3/24/0018/OUT - Land At Orchard Road, Tewin – Appeal Ref: 3342715 - In Progress – Not Yet Decided

Outline planning application for the erection of a detached dwelling. Creation of vehicle entrance/crossover. All matters reserved except access, layout and scale – *TPC Object – EHC Refused - TPC Comments submitted*

3/24/0377/HH – 29 Bishops Road, Tewin - Erection of rear ground floor extension and first floor extension over existing ground floor area. Front extension to form double garage. Demolition of detached garage to form integral garage.

Alterations to roof and installation of two rear dormer windows - *TPC No Comment – EHC Refused – Appeal Dismissed*

Enforcement Issues

E/23/0218/ENF - Tewin Bury Farm Hotel, Hertford Road, Tewin – Lake huts - A planning application is being prepared for change of use of the land and siting of four Shepherd hut buildings for the diversification of the hotel business.

86. FINANCE

Accounts for Payment - In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations the schedule of payments approved by the Parish Council amounted £18,290.11 comprising: Affinity Water £41.78, Rob Cooper Trees £6,180, C McFarlane Salt £16.76, Kirkham Contracting Potholes £168, SLCC Membership £150, HMRC PAYE £916.41, Kirkham Contracting Sovereign Grass £2845.61, Kirkham Contracting TPC Grass £1707.66, Kirkham Contracting HCC Grass £1703.69, HMWT Membership £100, C McFarlane Bench Spike £53.94, C.McFarlane Light £18.98, T&J Fire Alarm £106.90, C McFarlane £946.61, NEST £98.33, Kirkham Contracting Bench spike £42.00. Kirkham Contracting EHC Grass £ 207.07, PWLB Loan Repayment £2916.77.

HMWT – The membership cost increased from £40 to £100 as the rates had remained unchanged for over a decade and were increased due to the rising costs of their vital efforts to protect local wildlife and natural habitats.

Internal Audit – This will take place on 4th December 2024.

Precept – The Parish Council reviewed the precept options for the Financial Year Ending 31.3.26 and in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Council, they unanimously agreed to increase the precept by 14.5% from £38,000 to £43,500 to accommodate inflation rises and ongoing annual parish tree works.

Subscriptions - The Parish Council agreed to continue with the existing subscriptions: CPRE, Open Spaces Society, Herts & Middx Wildlife Trust, Parish Online, CDA for Herts and Society for Local Council Clerks.

Reserves - At FYE 31.3.2025 reserves are predicted to equate to 65% (FYE 31.3.2024: 83%) of total annual expenditure which is a significant drop on last year due to the substantial tree works costs which were over budget by £3,150. The increase in the precept is intended to protect the reserve level. Also noted that as the annual expenditure increases, any specific reserve amount will decrease as a percentage

87. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Godfries Close FP Patching Works – These have been scheduled for Jan 2025.

Churchfield Road Bridge Works – The resurfacing and white lining on Churchfield Road has been completed.

B1000 - The sinking repair works on the B1000 nr the junction with Churchfield Road was reported again. Herts Highways advised that it does not currently meet their criteria for repair.

Holly Bushes – Following several accidents reported at this junction a fault report was submitted to Highways for the white lining to be repainted. This has now been put on the list for future works as these type of works are not deemed urgent. The hedge around the Give Way signs has been trimmed. Highways advised the second sign could not be moved across the road onto an existing signpost. Cllr Bob Deering raised these issues with Cllr Ken Crofton, Herts Highways. The Parish Council agreed to purchase a Give Way sign for circa £50 and attach it to the existing post.

Boundary Signs – Friends of Tewin have confirmed they are happy with the locations and design of the signs and wish to proceed to the next stage.

Grass Warren Pothole – Sovereign have advised that they need to close the road to do this.

Tewin Hill Fence Barrier – Reference number: 401004432718 and Highways advised that it has already been reported. The Parish Council agreed to raise this with Ken Crofton.

Dead Tree Godfries Close – Reported to Herts Highways. Reference: 401004454243

Dead Trees Harwood Close - Reported to Herts Highways. Reference: 401004454255 Highways advised no works necessary.

Queen Hoo Potholes – The Clerk will report these.

88. PAVILION & UPPER GREEN

Weekly Playground Inspections - Nothing to report.

ROSPA Inspection – This has highlighted a few minor issues with:

Overhanging Branches to be raised 2m from the ground – These have been reduced.

Bearings on Swings – Cllr K St Pier has oiled these.

Matting Trip Hazard – The Clerk to obtain a quote.

Gate – Swinging speed to be monitored and ground worn at entrance to be repaired.

Multi Play Unit – Steel wire protruding which has been removed.

Upper Green Car Park Potholes – Cllr K St Pier and the Clerk met with J McGuckin to discuss the shallow potholes appearing in the main car park. His advice was to either tarmac the entire car park, tarmac the turning area in the middle and put gravel over the top or keep a supply of plantings and when the potholes appear fill the holes and drive over them to compact them. J McGuckin kindly repaired the potholes that were there. The Parish Council agreed to monitor the car park surface.

Upper Green Car Park Issues – A parishioner reported that there are some nuisance cars in the car park during the day. The Parish Council has asked for times and car details to aid the police. The police continue to do drive bys of the car park at various different times of the day and night.

Solar Lights in Car Park – A parishioner has suggested that solar lights be put in the car park to deter nuisance behaviour but this was not taken forward.

Fire Alarm Service – This was completed on 12th November 2024 and everything was satisfactory.

Bench by Pond – An earth anchor has been installed by Kirkham Contracting on the bench by the pond on Upper Green.

Pavilion Emergency Light - A replacement emergency light has been fitted by Cllr K St Pier.

89. LOWER GREEN

Tewin Allotments - The landowners have advised that they do not want toilets on the allotments.

Hedge Trimming on FP41 - The Parish Council agreed to write to the Bowls Club advising them that it would no longer be cut by the Parish Council and it needs to be maintained, so that it does not impede the footpath, by the Bowls club.

Tewin Stores – The Tewin Stores Committee advised that the issue of uneven paving in front of the shop is in hand.

Water Meter - An actual water meter reading was submitted to Affinity Water who have produced a revised bill. The annual bill is currently £60.

90. TREE WORKS

Rob Cooper completed the works on Upper Green on week commencing 18th November.

The tree works on Tewin Hill were completed on week commencing 26th November. Oak 6 was reduced to the ground instead of a monolith as it was in a worse condition than initially thought.

91. CORRESPONDENCE

Rotary Club Santa Event – The Parish Council noted that this would take place in the village from 7pm on 13th December.

Rose & Crown Xmas Market – The Parish Council noted that this would take place on 21st December in the Rose & Crown car park.

92. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Transport – CDA for Herts are looking into alternative funding sources for the Saturday bus.

Allotments – The Treasurer will be standing down in February and a new Treasurer has been found.

93. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be at 7.45pm on Monday 3rd February 2025 at Tewin Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.