

TEWIN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 3rd March 2008 in Tewin Memorial Hall at 7.45pm

PRESENT: Cllrs K.Lawson (Chairman), K.St Pier, B. Evans, A.Hill, D. Howson, D.Lloyd and S.Stott.

In attendance: Mrs C.McFarlane (Clerk), East Herts District Councillor M.McMullen and one member of the public.

111. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from East Herts Cllr L.Haysey.

PARISHIONERS' COMMENTS

Mr Simon Newton attended the meeting to express his interest in becoming a Parish Councillor.

112. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS held 28th January 2008 and 4th February 2008 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

113. NO MATTERS ARISING

114. FINANCE

Accounts for Payment - In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations the schedule of payments amounting to £1126.85 was approved by the Council.

Budget Report – Income was lower than budgeted because both EHC and HCC sent the grass cutting payments direct to the contractor. Interest income was boosted by £139 interest earned on the grant money. Donations came from Friends of Tewin towards electricity meter cupboard

Repair and maintenance expenditure was £1188 lower than budgeted partly because the Council agreed to replace two benches on Lower Green next year and little expenditure was made on the Pavilion in anticipation of its refurbishment.

At the financial year-end on 31st March the Parish Council expects to have surplus funds of approx £5000.

Clerk's Pension/Gratuity – Following the decision made at the previous meeting, research into Stakeholder Pension Funds showed that the Clerk's earnings are too low to qualify. The Parish Council therefore agreed to put aside £1200 of surplus funds at the year end in the accounts for a gratuity and agreed to add a further 3/80th of the Clerk's annual salary to the reserve on an ongoing annual basis.

Clerk's Contract of Employment - Cllr B.Evans has been through the contract with the Clerk and the Parish Council agreed to circulate the revised contract to every Councillor with an example of the 'additional hours' clause.

115.PLANNING

Planning Applications Received

3/08/0242/FP/SD – 44 Firs Walk, Tewin – Two storey front & rear extension – TPC No Obj but would like to encourage increased planting in the front of the house.

Planning Decisions Received from EHC

3/07/2521/FP/JS – 42 Lower Green, Tewin – Change of use from agricultural to residential curtilage gardens – TPC Objected as the plot of land is outside the village boundary, represents an erosion of the green belt, a weakening of the village boundary, creates a precedent, adversely affect the character and appearance of the village and the local landscape. EHC Refused

3/07/2581 & 2519/FP/JS – 9 Lower Green – Single Storey Side/Rear Extension – TPC No Obj – EHC Granted.

3/08/0020/FP/CT – 12 Cannons Meadow, Tewin – Open Porch/Canopy on Full Width of Front of House – TPC No Obj – EHC Granted.

3/07/2621/FP/HS – 9 Bishops Road, Tewin - First Floor Side Extension – TPC No Obj – EHC Granted.

Enforcement Issues – Following complaints EHC Enforcement Department visited Muspatts Farm and Dawley Woods and advised Tewin Parish Council that there are no enforcement issues.

Housing Capacity Assessment and Edge of Settlement Survey – Cllr K St Pier and Cllr S.Stott agreed to respond on behalf of the Council on the basis that the Council wish to maintain the Conservation Area and that most of the sites shown in Tewin are not viable.

East Herts Local Plan – The Parish Council has received the new map which was missing from the website.

116. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

Flashing Speed Signs – The Clerk was advised by Dambach the supplier for these signs that they have done a lot of work for Hertfordshire County Council and that they would liaise with them to ensure everything was acceptable.

They quoted £2000 for a standard 30mph 450 roundel with a 50watt solar panel plus approx £500 for installation. The 50watt solar panel would be sufficient for 400 vehicles a day and it would have to face south for maximum effectiveness and not be shaded.

Extended maintenance for 5years is £565 and is renewable after 5yrs. The sign has a life expectancy of 15years.

The Council agreed to arrange a site visit with Dambach.

Meeting with Highways -This was postponed by Highways and the Clerk is waiting for them to rearrange a meeting in order to discuss flooding at Churchfield Rd, the possibility of a path from Godfries up to the garage and the possible installation of a flashing speed sign.

117. PARISH PLAN

The Parish Council agreed that Cllr K St Pier and Cllr S.Stott should meet the Parish Plan Steering Group on 10th March in order to outline the Parish Council's view on the way forward prior to the volunteers' meeting on March 17th.

118. YOUTH CLUB

Cllr Bryan Evans met with Rev Coralie McCluskey, who helps run two youth clubs, one in Welwyn for 14yrs+ and one in Datchworth for 11 to 13year olds. She is very happy for the Parish Council to advertise these Youth Clubs in Tewin through the Tewin Parish News and will provide contact numbers for the leaders and a programme of events.

119. WAR MEMORIAL RESTORATION

The Clerk contacted the Church Warden and agreed to meet once he returned from holiday.

120. ALLOTMENTS/PLAYGROUND

Increasing Area of Allotments – The landowner has agreed to make a further 4 plots available to the Parish Council when required. The additional plots would be on the same terms of Agreement as the rest of the site and at a pro rata cost. He asked for confirmation of public liability insurance (which is provided by the Allotment Association) and for the Parish Council/Allotment Association to monitor the standard to which allotment holders maintain their plots to ensure no plots are neglected and existing plots are cultivated for optimum production. The Parish Council agreed to undertake this on the annual risk management survey.

Playground Weekly Inspections – No incidents to report.

121. UPPER GREEN & PAVILION

Replacement Tokens – The Clerk will continue to try and contact Brian Briggs.

Summer Installation of Football Posts – On behalf of the Parish Council Cllr Keith St Pier, Adrian Hill and David Howson agreed, following liaison with the Tewin Cricket Club, to an acceptable position for the football posts for the summer and Cllr A.Hill agreed to move them in due course. Datchworth Football Club has agreed to remove the white lines and advised the Council they have no more matches due to be played at

Upper Green for this season. The Clerk will inspect the showers at the Sports Pavilion and will respond to the cricket club's letter accordingly.

Playground Nets – Cllr A.Hill agreed to replace these by the 1st April in accordance with the planning condition for the playground.

Classic Car Show on Upper Green – The Parish Council agreed to allow David Gregg from the Friends of Tewin hold a Classic Car show on Upper Green on Sunday 31st August 2008. This will coincide with the Scarecrow competition in the village that weekend. The Clerk will confirm insurance arrangements.

Upper Green Posts – All broken posts have been replaced.

122. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received:

Vacancy - EHC did not receive any requests from electors for an election and therefore the Parish Council can co-opt someone as soon as practicable.

Polling District & Polling Review- The Parish Council agreed they had no objections.

Local Development Framework Rural Awareness Meetings – Cllr K St Pier agreed he may go on Wednesday 12th March 2008 at 7.30pm at Watton at Stone.

External Auditor – The Audit Commission has appointed BDO Stoy Hayward LLP as auditor to Tewin Parish Council.

Oliver Heald Surgery Date – Saturday 26th April at Tewin Memorial Hall from 9.30am until 10.30am.

Mr Hollingsworth – With regard to his complaints of damaged posts at Upper Green and issues concerning the football pitch the Clerk reported that the posts have been repaired and the football pitch issues were discussed above.

Abstraction Borehole – The Parish Council is happy with the information provided

123. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Tewin Charities Trustees – Nothing to report.

Tewin Memorial Hall – Nothing to Report.

Parish Paths Partnership – Nothing to Report

Transport – Bus usage figures have been requested from HCC but not received yet.

Tewin Society – The AGM is on the 10th March

Tewin Website – Nothing to Report.

Locality Policing – Nothing to report

Pavilion Refurbishment – Nothing to report.

Tewin Stores – The opening was a success and a manager has been appointed.

124. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is the Annual Parish meeting on Monday 7th April 2008 at 7.30pm followed by the Parish Council meeting at 7.45pm at the Memorial Hall.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 10.50pm.

APPENDIX 1 – HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS February 08

Fault line: 01438 737321

District Team: 01992 526900

Assistant District Manager: Raj Goutham

Assistant Engineer: Ian Bishop

Three Valleys Water 0845-7823333 (fault/leak reporting)

Ref:	WORK IDENTIFIED AS NEEDING TO BE DONE AND REPORTED TO THE PARISH ENGINEER.	ACTION
1	Flooding at junction of Margery Lane with Churchfield Rd. Removal of kerb on Churchfield Rd and landowner to arrange a ditch in adjacent field similar to White Horse Lane and alongside top end of Margery Lane.	Need to contact land owner re cut ins
2	Grass Warren – Broken birdsmouth fence – reported to EHC H/W own but not a priority as not dangerous	
3	Bridge Reflectors in Churchfield Road – White lining & chevrons to be repainted & reflective discs/paint on bridge	H/W Noted
4	Kerbing – Two loose kerb stones on drive opposite Tewin Stores	H/W noted
5	Line Markings – Most done some missed such as School Lane	
6	Flooding - outside 12/14 Hertford Road.	
7	Plume of Feathers – Ownership of road around the green	H/W investigating

Please be aware that Highways have a very limited budget and have to prioritise all work.