

TEWIN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th December 2009 in Tewin Memorial Hall at 7.45pm

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

In attendance: Mrs C.McFarlane (Clerk), East Herts District Councillors M.McMullen and L.Haysey and 8 parishioners.

86. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr K.Lawson and B.Evans.

PARISHIONERS' COMMENTS

Mrs L.Farr asked what status the response form on the newsletter had. Cllr K St Pier explained that it was purely a comments form. Mrs L.Farr was of the view that if it had been a vote there would have been a far greater response.

Mr C Pool asked what sort of responses the Parish Council got. Cllr K St Pier explained that the Council received 34 comments for the project and 21 against.

Mr C Pool asked what the main objections were. Cllr K St Pier explained that the main objections were due to the perceived competition with the Memorial Hall and objections to paying increased Council Tax.

Mr C Pool asked whether the Parish Council wished to compete with the Memorial Hall. Cllr K St Pier explained that the Memorial Hall and the Pavilion cater for different markets and that the Parish Council do not intend to compete with the Memorial Hall and would continue to support the Memorial Hall.

Mr E Kavanagh was pleased to see the development of Upper Green and thought it would be very beneficial to the youth in the village and encourage sport. The Pavilion would meet the needs of a different market to that of the Memorial Hall. He hoped that the tradition of the Memorial Hall would continue and that both entities could survive in the village.

Mr C Pool enquired whether if this project does not go ahead something will still need to be done. Cllr K St Pier stated that the current facilities needed improving and the Council is duty bound to create disabled facilities and £37,000 was insufficient to achieve everything.

Mr B Haughton asked that the Council ensure that a proper refurbishment is done so that the life of the Pavilion is prolonged.

Another parishioner asked whether the Council had budgeted for adequate maintenance in the future in order to maintain the life of the refurbishment and whether they planned to create a sinking fund. Cllr K St Pier explained that the current maintenance budget would be carried forward, the intention was to have the Pavilion regularly cleaned to maintain its standard, and other options would be considered as the project progressed.

87. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING held 2nd November 2009 were amended, agreed and signed by the Vice Chairman.

88. NO MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

89. FINANCE

Accounts for Payment - In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations the schedule of payments amounting to £5,843.11 was approved by the Council.

90. PLANNING

Planning Applications received

3/09/1729/FP – Bansang, Queen Hoo Lane – Construction of two storey extension, conservatory with balconies above including new slate roof, amendment to scheme approved under ref 3/09/1181/FP to include an increase in height of vestibule and pitched roof – TPC No Objection

3/09/1671/FP – Halcyon, Margery Lane, Tewin – Renewal of 3/04/2214/FN – Replacement dwelling – TPC No objection

Cllr A Hill declared in interest in the next item as he is a neighbour.

3/09/1839/FP – 74 Upper Green Road, Tewin - Amendments to proposed new dwelling approved under planning permission re 3/08/1848 – TPC No Objection

Planning Responses from EHC

3/09/1435/FP – 49 Upper Green, Tewin – Detached four bedroomed dwelling with a detached double garage – TPC Obj – EHC Granted

3/09/1088/FP – 39 Orchard Road, Tewin – Demolition and rebuild of detached workshop/garage – TPC No Obj – EHC Refused

3/09/1407/FP - Tewinbury Farm, Hertford Road, Tewin – Retention of existing marquee, gazebo, and umbrellas and use of existing car park in association with the marquee – TPC No Obj – Application Withdrawn. Enforcement Notice issued.

Certificates of Lawfulness – None to report

Enforcement Issues

2 Upper Green, Tewin – Building not in line with planning permission.

Bansang, Queen Hoo Lane – Building not in line with planning permission

91. HIGHWAYS

Flooding in School Lane – Remedial work has been completed.

Resurfacing Lower Green, Upper Green, Upper Green Road and Orchard Road. – Highways advised that these roads have been put forward for inclusion in the Integrated Works of Forward Works Programmes in future years. In the short term Highways will monitor the condition of these roads and any dangerous defect such as potholes in the road will be repaired as soon as identified or notified to Hertfordshire Highways by the public.

Ditch Clearing Outside 33,35,37 Upper Green Road – Highways have ditch clearing programmed for the next 2010/2011 financial year. The Council agreed to ascertain exactly what was programmed. The Council was advised to ring Highways when the ditches are blocked and flooding is occurring.

Extra cuts on rural footpath outside 33-37 Upper Green Road – Highways advised that there are no proposals to increase the maintenance cut at this location.

Memorial Hall/Scout Hut Sign – Highways confirmed that this sign is programmed to be installed by April 2010.

Narrow wooden steps on Verge Outside 8 School Lane – Highways advised that these steps are not a Highways structure and thus will be unable to undertake any repairs to these sub standard steps.

92. PAVILION REFURBISHMENT

Open Morning - These attracted 20-30 parishioners over the two days and a variety of comments were received.

Newsletter - This yielded 34 comments for the project and 21 against. The main objections were the competition it would create for the Memorial Hall, why newsletters were received late and why not do a smaller refurbishment as few people use the Pavilion and thus Council Tax would not go up.

Cricket & Tennis Clubs - Meetings have been held with these clubs and both of them accepted the need for an annual charge if the refurbishment went ahead.

Lease - The Council asked the Clerk to ascertain from the Land Agent at Herts County Council whether the Pavilion can be hired out in accordance with the lease.

Decision to Proceed - The Council agreed unanimously to proceed with the Pavilion refurbishment project.

Architects – The drawings for the existing building have been completed. Three quotes for the necessary drawings have been obtained and the Council agreed to accept the quote from David Morgan for the proposed drawings ready for submission to East Herts Council for planning permission.

Public Works Loan Board - The Council agreed unanimously to make an application to the Public Works Loan Board in due course when the necessary planning permission had been received.

Bank Account - The Council agreed unanimously to open a bank account in the name of Tewin Sports & Community Pavilion in order to enable Parishioners to make donations towards the project. The Council agreed that parishioner who had shown an interest in making a donation could be written to once the bank account was opened.

93. PRECEPT

The Council reviewed the precept options and in view of their decision to proceed with the Pavilion Refurbishment unanimously agreed to Option C and increase the precept to £24,800 for the next financial year commencing 1.4.2010.

94. RISK ASSESSMENT

Works Completed – The Pavilion barge board and one bench on Upper Green are expected to be completed shortly.

Refurbishment of the Telephone Box – The box is in the process of being repainted.

T&J Fire Pavilion Inspection – This has been completed and one fire extinguisher replaced.

Electricity Meter – Mill Green Electrical looked at the meter and has provided a quote of £132 for installing a new one. Cllr A.Hill agreed to look into this.

Millennium Orchard – The wood is managed by Herts & Middx Wildlife Trust. The sign is currently being refurbished by Michael Clark and the long grass will be cut in due course.

Notice Board – Cllr K St Pier will put the old Upper Green car park notice board up in the bus shelter opposite the Rose & Crown.

Metal Cowl nr Harwood Close – Cllr A.Hill has removed this.

Cricket Nets – Cllr Hill has taken these down and asked that the Council consider requesting permission from East Herts Council for leaving them up permanently at the next meeting.

Clearing the Verge along Upper Green Road from Godfries Close to opposite the garage – The Council agreed to get a quote for clearing this as several dead trees have fallen out of it in recent windy weather.

Margery Lane Runoffs – Cllr A. Hill reported that he has cleared the runoffs in Margery Lane.

Commemorative Tree for Don Southgate on Lower Green – Both Highways and Herts County Council had no objection to the proposal so the Council agreed to the planting of a flowering cherry tree.

95. UPPER GREEN & LOWER GREEN

Playground Weekly Inspections – Nothing to report

Playground Gates – SMP have completed a site visit to look at the gates and written advising the Parish Council that all guarantees and warranties of 12 months have expired and SMP cannot be responsible for any ongoing maintenance of remedial works associated with vandalism.

The Council agreed that Cllr Hill and K St Pier would look at completing remedial works in the New Year.

Football Nets – Both Datchworth Veterans and Stevenage Town Youth Football Clubs have kindly agreed to make £30 donation towards new nets. The Clerk will order new nets.

Erosion of Southern Point of Lower Green – Cllr D Howson asked if the Council would put this on the next agenda.

96. CHRISTMAS TREE & CAROLS ON LOWER GREEN ON 21st DECEMBER

The Christmas tree has been put up and a donation of £200 received from Friends of Tewin towards the cost.

The PAT test has been completed satisfactorily by Mr D.Compton, Mill Green Electrical.

The band has been booked and a donation of £50 been arranged.

Cllr D.Howson has agreed to complete the daily tree inspection ensuring it is stable, secure and that the lights are intact & working.

97. CORRESPONDENCE

Health & Safety in Tewin – A parishioner reported that he has raised concerns about the safety of the paper boy walking along delivering the papers along Upper Green Road and Orchard Road with Tewin Stores.

Back Lane/Veolia Water – The Council has requested a survey and a quote for re-siting the boundary stopcocks. A lengthy form has been received and will be sent back in due course.

Hertfordshire Highways – They have moved from offices in Hertford to Stevenage

98. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Tewin Charities Trustees – Nothing to report.

Transport – Nothing to report

Tewin Society – A query about notification of the closure of the Tewin Society to parishioners that have standing orders for subscriptions has been passed to the Tewin Society.

Tewin Website – Cllr L.Haysey asked that the time of the Parish Council meeting be put on the website.

Locality Policing – There have been several burglaries in the area and Cllr D Lloyd will liaise with the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator.

Pavilion Representative – Nothing to report

Parish Paths Partnership – Estimates for next year and a report on last year have been sent off.

99. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is the on Monday 1st February 2010 in the Memorial Hall at 7.45pm.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.55pm.

APPENDIX 1 – HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION MATTERS November 09

Fault line: 01438 737321

District Team: 01992 526900

Assistant District Manager: Eralp Yucelt

Area Engineer: Vicki Leggett

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

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

Ref:	WORK IDENTIFIED AS NEEDING TO BE DONE AND REPORTED TO THE PARISH ENGINEER.	ACTION
1	Flooding – School Lane	Work completed Nov 2009
2	Bridge Reflectors in Churchfield Road – White lining & chevrons to be repainted & reflective discs/paint on bridge	H/W Noted
3	Kerbing – Two loose kerb stones on drive opposite Tewin Stores	H/W noted
4	Line Markings – Most done some missed such as School Lane	
5	Flooding - outside 12/14 Hertford Road.	
6	Signs – i) Village Hall/Scout Hut Sign	Due before April 2010.
7	Resurfacing - Upper Green Rd, Upper Green and Orchard Road	TO go IWP
8	Outside 14 Upper Green Road – broken metal cowl on sewer vent pipe located on verge	Done
9	Footpath – Extra cuts for unofficial footpath outside 33-37 Upper Green Road	Permission not granted
10	Steps - Narrow wooden steps on verge outside 8 School Lane need repairing/replacing as dangerous	Not H/W responsibility

Ditch Clearing – The Council was advised to ring Highways and ask for an emergency clearing of the ditches when the ditches are blocked and flooding is occurring.