

TRUDOXHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 6th November 2015

PRESENT: P Twigger (Chairman), C Galpin, A Steele, S Salmon, J Symes. Cllr Skidmore,
7 members of the public
CLERK: Georgina Blackshaw
APOLOGIES: A Pereira* Cllr Ham.

***PT informed TPC that Adam has tendered his resignation as work and family pressures make it difficult to give the Council adequate time. He has agreed to complete the Christmas edition of Your View and the Clerk will provide copy plus write a letter of thanks for his efforts. She will also start the process of advertising for a new member of the TPC**

Declaration of Interest:

None

7.0 The Minutes

- Having been circulated, **PT** then signed them off as a true copy

Meeting then suspended at 7.35 for:

Members of the Public Comments

Additional background information provided for Planning Application 2015/2374/VCR being discussed under 7.3

Request that the TPC obtain details from 'Field' about the position/height and appearance of the proposed mast. **Clerk will contact company.**

Meeting resumed at 7.40

7.1 Previous Subject Matters

7.1.1 Connor Construction. **PT** explained the continued frustration expressed by parishioners living near the site. **SS** said that the site was too big and it appeared that no planning permission had actually been granted from the research that John Salmon had completed on behalf of the TPC. **CG** had found 3 planning permissions in the early 1980's but these had been temporary. **JS** stated that previous responses from Enforcement Officer were vague and did not address this outstanding issue although the monitoring work on the tree situation was more effective. **Cllr Skidmore** then explained that he is closely involved with all aspects of the situation and that the Enforcement Officer could not find any reason to act on issues other than the removal of TPO trees. He understood local frustration but stated that the company employed 100 people and provided work in an area where this was desperately needed. He, with MDC colleagues, are working hard to find an alternative site that would allow the company to expand further and be based in a more appropriate site. This is ongoing and **Cllr Skidmore** advised that there is a need to find a mutually agreeable way forward to support a hardworking local business but to consider the needs of local parishioners, who already live next to the busy layby. The TPC asked for clarification of the classification of the site which **Cllr Skidmore** would provide. This will form the basis for any future action that the Cllr's feel appropriate.

7.1.2 Local Plan – **CG** attended the drop in and clarified that Trudoxhill is not mentioned but treated as part of the local countryside. Nunney was in the Plan and as part of the area around Nunney Catch is in our Parish, it may be appropriate to research this section and pass any comments to the Clerk at the next meeting for her to forward by 15th December

7.1.3 Website. Clerk had met with Mats (Moson Solutions, who manage our site) and worked through the Grant Application for financial support to upgrade the site to be compliant with the Transparency Code. The TPC agreed to support the application for £775. **The Clerk will complete and submit our bid.**

7.1.4 Christmas arrangements. **JS** explained there would be no Xmas Market as organised by The White Hart in previous years. Carol singing to be at front of pub at 6.00pm on Sunday 13th December with a contact of **SS** providing musical accompaniment. Rod Lewis has carol sheets **Clerk will collect** and get more copies/liase with Martin Hemmet to be 'Choir master'. **She will investigate source for the tree.** **JS** has a possible contact if this fails. **CM** has sent an email with a list of tasks for the Children's Party (3.30pm-5.30pm). Clerk has circulated to TPC but made a plea for colleagues to try to get other parishioners involved to support parish events. **Clerk will put a request** and information about ways to help on Your View. This is particularly relevant with **CM** on sabbatical and **AP's** resignation

7.2 Correspondence

7.2.1 All correspondence received has been read by Cllr's and **Clerk will display poster.** **PT** will collect winter salt supply.

7.3 Planning

Application No: 2015/2374/VRC To transfer the occupancy restriction from Paddock House to the unencumbered Farm house following grant of planning permission 01241/004. Mr M Wareham Trudoxhill **JS** understood it was a 'paper exercise'? This was clarified that it is a transfer of a tie that is in existence and includes the house and surrounding residential garden area. The application was **Approved**
Approved by MDC Application No 2015/1950/FUL. Conversion of existing stable to smokehouse unit – retrospective consent. Millards Hill Stables Trudoxhill Mr J Symes.

7.4 Accounts for Payment

7.4.1 Grass Cutting - £100

7.4.2 Election expenses – bill from MDC for administration of TPC elections in May - £154.13

7.4.3 Clerk's Wages – 15 hrs £103.20 + expenses (printing ink) of £27.49

7.5 Items to Report:

7.5.1 Highways. **SS** reported that she and the Clerk had met with Charlie Higgins on 28/10/15 (Assistant Highways Service Manager MDC) to drive around the parish to look at issues. He was shown Iron Mills Bridge and agreed it was a dangerous site that needed better signing and some additional temporary work until the main repairs are completed to the bridge. Marston Moat Farm – large pot hole. Will follow up and get drain cleared and then ask for it then to be kept clear by owner of the drive. The area near The Rectory by Cheese Hill visited and Highways have agreed to dredge the pond on the farm land at the side at their expense to allow surface water to drain. Major work will be undertaken to raise the road level early in 2016. Some discussion about road slowing markings/sign through Trudoxhill but best left to meeting with police. Charlie would action points discussed and copy us in to his emails He left a copy of the Levels of Highway Services that all counties have to work with and reinforced the very limited budget they have to work with. He did offer to revisit us on a regular basis to review the parish and was thanked for his time and support. Meeting 06/11/15 with PC John Gould and PCSO Mike Storey. **SS** and the Clerk visited the 2 main areas of concern. At Iron Mills, the PC took several pictures of faded/ ineffective signs/reflectors knocked sideways and agreed that it needed larger and more effective signage. While photographing other faded signs he noted that the SID device at the end of West End Lane had been vandalised. **Clerk will report this.** After driving up the main road to discuss the village speeding/width problems, he stated that this is common in most parishes and PC Gould encouraged us to start a Speedwatch scheme. This was agreed at the TPC and volunteers would be sought via Your View and the eNewsletter. His advice would be to request Priority signs at the narrowest part as the suggestion of a 20mph limit would in most likelihood not be granted. He would communicate all the information gathered and email Highways to point out his findings in the hope that they will act on his advice. He will copy us in. The PCSO also stated that they are aware and checking Marston Church carpark where groups of youths have been reported meeting nightly.

7.5.2 Grass cutting. Nev Dean has withdrawn from the Contact and **JS** is in the process of obtaining new quotes. The decision will be taken at the next TPC. **Clerk will write to thank Nev**

7.5.3 Footpaths. **CG** has received an email from several parishioners about a stile which had been dog friendly now being blocked. He has checked with the Rights of Way Officer for Mendip who clarified that there is no requirement for stile/footpaths to be dog friendly and that dog fouling by irresponsible owners makes life difficult for land owners and the majority of dog walkers who do pick up. **JS** has some Dog Fouling signs he will pass to **CG** to erect and **Clerk asked to write** to landowner to explain we are supporting him in this. **The Clerk will put a notice** in Your View/eNewsletter asking for dog owners to support one another and other parishioners by ensuring they clear up after their dogs. If this is successful, we hope there may be a possibility of the dog access being reinstated. **CG** will email details to those involved

7.6 Other Business referred to the Clerk

7.6.1 Brambles at entrance to village off A361. Request that they can be cleared as the daffodils in spring are masked by all the undergrowth. **PT** will check and see if anyone with suitable equipment would do this

7.6.2 Flooded area, Pyle farm –ditch had been cleared as requested. Thanks expressed

Agenda items to the Clerk by Wenesday 25th November please.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

The December meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 3rd in Trudoxhill Village Hall

*For the attention of: Mr P Twigger, Mr C Galpin, Mr A Pereira, Mrs S Salmon,
Rev. A Steele, Mr J Symes,*

Cllr Skidmore, Cllr Ham