

TANGMERE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 12 MARCH 2009

Present: Andrew Irwin (Chairman), Roy Anscombe, George Barlow (Environment Chair), Roger Birkett (VC Chair), Andrew Grice (Finance Chair), John Perry and Brian Wood.

Also present: Four members of the public, County Councillor Andrew Smith, District Councillor Chris Punnett, CWs Sue Long and Dawn White, PCSO Richard Moorey, three School Councillors and Deputy Headteacher, and CAP Chair Jayne Sansby.
Moya Monachan (Clerk)

Apologies were received and accepted from Christine Baker, David Poulter and Helen Punnett

2264. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations were made.

2265. PUBLIC SESSION

Due to the late arrival of the Community Wardens, PSCO and CAP Chair, the Council agreed to move forward the County and District Councillors' reports. The CAP Chair joined the meeting.

(a) County and District Councillors' Report

County Councillor Report

The County Councillor gave the following verbal report:

- **School lights:** the Highways Agency had apologised for the delay in fixing the lights on Meadow Way following a resident's letter in the local paper. The County Councillor is still awaiting confirmation of a repair date.
- WSCC has been put on notice by the Government for its safeguarding of children. An action plan was put together to address the weaknesses of the service which is already addressing the issues.
- **LDF:** the cost of upgrading the A27 has risen from £137 to £200 million. WSCC is still awaiting a response to its request for a breakdown of the project costs. With concerns over the capacity issue of Apuldram Treatment Works and no progress on A27 improvements pressure may increase for development in Tangmere and Easthampnett.

The CWs joined the meeting.

District Councillor's Report

The District Councillor gave the following verbal report:

- **LDF:** CDC was to consider a draft Core Strategy in April but this has been cancelled. A workshop on the possibility of preparing the Core Strategy is now planned at the end of the month.
- **New Medical Centre:** a mature row of beech hedging on the southern boundary of the site was felled last week without notice to CDC. These trees formed a substantial barrier which screened the new building from adjoining residents. A tree planting scheme is being prepared but it will take some years for the trees to mature.

- **Churchwood Drive Open Space:** he had spoken to the Site Manager regarding the fencing on the open space. The fences are still in situ as a contractor has to create a path through the field. The Site Manager will press the matter.
- **Blenheim Park:** two properties have been sold and two more are under offer.
- **Walnut Cottage planning application:** a tree preservation order on an ash tree on the site is unlikely in itself to prevent development.

(b) Community Wardens' Report

The CWs gave a brief overview of recent incidents and an update on the Jr Wardens' activities. The meeting noted that a major clean-up is planned for Sunderland Close, Canberra Place and Middleton Garden in conjunction with the Registered Social Landlord. The CWs asked that pressure be put on WSCC to secure access onto the Airfield and to erect signs stating that it was illegal to drive vehicles on it. The youth responsible for the graffiti on the skate park is to participate in a clean-up in a different area. There will be an Army Day run in conjunction with the Police for 13-17 year olds to include map reading and assault courses.

(c) Police Community Support Officer

The PCSO gave the following verbal report:

- The meeting was informed that some older youths had been reported on the Control Tower. They had to be removed from the tower but kept on returning. The tower was searched thoroughly but nothing was found. Extra patrols will be made of the area.
- There had been some vandalism of doors around Spitfire Court.
- Three youths involved with the damage to the plants on the bank in Spitfire Court have had letters sent to their parents and will be asked to help with the seeding of new plants.

(d) Community Action Programme Report

The CAP Chair gave the following verbal report:

- Tangmere, Oving and Boxgrove all wish to continue to be involved with the CAP and Boxgrove is to be included more. A committee of four members has been set up and will have its first meeting at the end of the month. The next CAP meeting will take place on Wednesday, 22 April at Tangmere. The Programme will be advertised more.
- **Spitfire Court:** has met with a WSCC Officer regarding the upgrading of the path and has had a positive response. The Officer would like to come along to the next Parish Council meeting. The metal fence will be installed on 20 April. Still awaiting trees promised by HydeMartlet. The leader of the Beaver's is to ask for plant donations from their parents for the Beavers to plant and the Youth Club is also to help with the planting.

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and the following issues were raised:

Assurances were sought from the County Councillor that WSCC's head of Children's and Young Person's Department was in contact with his staff on the ground.

Access to the airfield: the broken barrier needs repaired or replaced to prevent access to the airfield by unauthorised vehicles.

LDF: CDC has been asked to recognise the priorities contained within the Parish Action Plan. The postponement of the LDF will continue to allow development in and around Tangmere with no master plan. As the Parish Action Plan can no longer be linked to the LDF the Parish Council should be given the opportunity to discuss it with CDC.

The floor was opened to members of the public and the following issues were discussed:

(e) Residents Questions

The following issues were raised:

Mobile library service: a member of the public queried the possibility of the service being cut and gave details of what a valuable service it was for her elderly mother. The County Councillor confirmed that all services are being reviewed for cost savings but no decision will be made until the summer. The meeting noted that S106 monies are available for library services.

LDF: Arun District Council has prepared a Core Strategy which is out for consultation. Concern was raised over what CDC will do as it will affect nearby villages in the Arun District. The District Councillor stated that the main problem is that the government has imposed a number of houses to be built in the area but due to the lack of infrastructure the development cannot take place.

Anti-social behaviour: lots of cans have been retrieved from the ditch on the west side of the recreation field as a result of open-air drinking and cars have been on the recreation field. The problem of dog fouling remains. The Dog Patrol orders are to be discussed further on the agenda.

The chestnut fencing between Garland Square and the A27 has been repaired and broken again. The meeting noted that the fence is too flimsy for its purpose.

Airfield: the buses are using the airfield to turn and the Museum uses it as additional parking which is causing the already large pot holes to increase in size.

Bus shelters: the meeting was informed that the bus shelter opposite Nettleton Avenue has been damaged. A request for a bus shelter at the top bus stop on Meadow Way was made. The Parish Council had investigated installing a bus shelter at that location but due to the cycle lane and the bank being owned by WSCC it was not feasible.

The School Councillors were welcomed to the meeting and the Deputy Headteacher introduced the three pupils and expressed the School's interest in the Pride in Tangmere initiative.

The PCSO and CWs left the meeting.

It was agreed to move Flooding agenda item into the Public Session to allow residents to ask questions.

TO DISCUSS THE FLOODING OF CERTAIN AREAS OF THE VILLAGE

The Parish Council Chairman had written an article in the local newsletter regarding recent flooded areas in the village. A flooding plan had been requested from WSCC. An engineer was unable to attend the meeting but had sent an email given details of seven reported flooding incidences (for copy see Minute Book). The Parish Council requested details of the maintenance schedule. The County Councillor stated that the drains are normally cleared once a year.

Malcolm Road: an individual reported, on behalf of her elderly mother, the flooding occurring outside her house and her neighbours every time it rains which causes them to become housebound. The individual was recommended to contact the Highways Agency detailing the disability and the health and safety issues raised by this matter.

Garland Square: the area opposite the green floods every time it rains but the drains have been cleared regularly.

The Parish Council AGREED to conduct a site visit of the village's drains with the engineer.

The School Councillors, Deputy Headteacher, three members of the public, County Councillor and CAP Chair left the meeting.

2266. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8 JANUARY 2009.

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 January 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.

2267. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

2268. URGENT MATTERS ARISING

There were no urgent matters.

2269. TO DISCUSS THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE ALLOTMENTS AND THE MUSEUM.

The Parish Council discussed the recent installation of a boundary fence by the Museum which had resulted in soil being dumped on part of the Memorial Woodland destroying some saplings.

The Parish Council AGREED that the PC Chair should draft a letter to ask the Museum to address the issues. The letter is to be circulated to members for review before sending.

Cllr Anscombe left the meeting.

2270. TO CONFIRM MEMBERSHIP OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Members discussed the legislation regarding the membership of committees which had been previously circulated.

The Parish Council RESOLVED that members should consider whether they wish to remain a member of the Environment Committee and that the new membership is to be agreed at the annual meeting of the Parish Council in May.

2271. ADOPTION OF A COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE AND GRANT APPLICATION FORM

The Parish Council RESOLVED to adopt the drafted complaints procedure and grant application form with immediate effect (for copies see Minute Book).

2272. TO REVIEW THE CRITERIA FOR QUALITY STATUS

The Clerk had drafted a summary of the requirements to obtain Quality Status which had been circulated to members. Members were asked to review the list and identify items which would be suitable for submission under the discretionary section of Test 4. The Parish Council AGREED that the VC Chair should be appointed press officer to raise the profile of the Parish Council in the local press.

2273. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that the following correspondence had been received:

- (a) CDC: Minutes of the Standard Committee of 16 December - noted.
- (b) CDC: Annual Report 2007/2008; summary document - to be circulated to members.
- (c) The Standards Board for England: Town and Parish Standard Issue 4 - passed to the Environment Chair.
- (d) Southern Water/Atkins: response to queries arising from the last Council meeting - noted and to be passed to resident who initially raised the issue.
- (e) Action in Rural Sussex Newsletter - noted.
- (f) Royal West Sussex: Newsletter and letter to Stakeholders - passed to PC Chair.
- (g) Sport England: Rural grant funding scheme - to be brought before the Environment Committee for discussion.
- (h) Resident's letter regarding maintenance of the Memorial Woodland and request for the bank in Haleybridge Walk to be cleaned up - to be brought before the next Environment Committee for response.

2274. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the Environment Committee meetings held on 20 January and 3 March 2009.

The meeting noted that a higher ratio of the Parish Council's and the Control Development Board's responses to the last ten planning applications have concurred.

Allotments: the rents will increase by 25%. The Allotment Steward was thanked for his work.

Parish Action Plan: an update was given by Cllr Wood. Members were asked to consider what aspect of the Pride in Tangmere and Tangmere goes Local initiatives they would like to become involved in and introduce any other residents who would like to volunteer.

2275. VILLAGE CENTRE COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the Village Centre Committee held on 10 February 2009.

The dispute over the Portsmouth Water meter readings has been resolved in the Village Centre's favour.

Asbestos: black-asbestos cement tiles have been identified on the roof. The District Officer has confirmed that this type of asbestos is very low-risk but anyone working near the tiles should be advised of its presence.

Paragraph 397.1 Letting Fees 2009/2010: the Parish Council AGREED that the letting fees should remain unchanged for 2009/2010. Members discussed the Village Centre's finances.

Curtain track and curtains: the meeting was informed that the preferred supplier had reconfirmed the quote and this would be passed onto the Tangmere Players to progress the order.

Parking: WSCC had written regarding a complaint it had received from a resident about cars parking on the grass verge on Malcolm Road. The meeting noted that the drop locks on the overflow car park have been left down for the previous four weeks but that it is up to users to park in it. The Auction and the Camera Club are to be sent a copy of the letter.

2276. FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 24 February 2009.

Paragraph 501.2 Soakaway quotes: one quote had been received; two more are to be sought.

Memorial Woodland: the SITA section of the project has been completed and the expenses incurred refunded.

The meeting noted that the Centre had received a large gas bill which was being queried and an alternative supplier was being sought. The cost of replacing one set of the car park lights had been quoted at £650 - a cheaper quote is required.

2277. ANY OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

There were no other matters for information.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, 14 May 2009