

TANGMERE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 11 JANUARY 2007

Present: Andrew Irwin (Chairman), Roger Birkett, Andrew Grice (Village Centre Vice Chair), and Helen Punnett (Finance Chair).

Also present: Five members of the public, Jayne Sansby (LAT Chair), PCSO Sarah Watson, Community Warden District Officer Andrew Pilley and Stephen Hansford.

Apologies: Roy Anscombe, George Barlow & Anne Poulter – on holiday, Michael Clue – business commitment, Paul Sansby & Christine Baker – personal matters, County Councillor Andrew Smith – ill and Sgt Fisk.

2104. CHICHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL: UPDATE ON FUTURE FUNDING OF COMMUNITY WARDENS

The Chairman informed the meeting that 90% of the questionnaires received from residents supported the funding of the Community Wardens. The District Officer was asked if he could confirm the contributions from the other two villages. Oving has set a budget of £5,000 and the Officer is to attend a meeting of Boxgrove Parish Council on 22 January to give a presentation and for the Parish Council to agree a figure – a speculative figure of £1,500 had been mentioned. He stated that there is no danger of the scheme not operating. If Boxgrove does not contribute its full share the division of the CWs' time between the villages will be worked out to ensure Tangmere and Oving are not disadvantaged.

SH informed the meeting that the District's Executive Board had agreed funding of £100,000 for three years for the Warden scheme which has been put into the base budget and includes an amount for the expansion to a designated senior. WSCC has set aside £30,000 pa for three years for the project. This will fund six wardens plus one whose time will be split two thirds operational and one third managerial. Other agencies have confirmed in principle their contributions but will review their commitment annually. The Parish Council will also review its contribution yearly to ensure there are sufficient funds available for the project. The District Councillor, who is also Chairperson of Boxgrove Parish Council, stated that Boxgrove is different from the other parishes in that it is quite spread out to include Halnaker, Strettington and Crockerhill. She supports the CWs and that the budget will be set at the meeting of 22 January. The LAT Chair was informed that crime had dropped by 26% on average in each of three areas.

The floor was then opened to questions from residents.

One resident asked if the CWs organise sports and how effective are they in encouraging children to take part. The CWs have organised various events including football and rounders. The resident asked the CWs to consider including stoolball as it is a popular local sport and there are a number of players within the village. The request will be passed to the CWs for consideration when drawing up activities for the summer. The resident also volunteered to deliver a copy of the minutes of the meeting to each household in the village as he considered it important that residents are kept informed and to encourage the good community spirit already present. The Chairman said he would liaise with the CWs with the programme for the next six months.

Another resident asked what were the costs envisaged for the other two areas in the scheme. Chichester City Council has set aside £25,000 for three years for the Whyke area and Selsey Town Council has still to confirm its contribution. The Housing Associations will also contribute. It was noted that the £10 per household cost would vary from band to band. The resident also asked if the District Council had allowed for inflation – a rate of 2.5% had been calculated. The resident asked what did District perceive the primary role of the CW as he thought that were was

duplicating of effort of other agencies. The meeting was informed the CWs role is designed to promote community safety and community involvement. They do work with the other partner agencies – the CWs facilitate events with agencies. The Parish Council was asked what role will the PC take in the management of the CWS. The Chairman replied that its role is to help fund the scheme and that the CWs will be managed by the professionals. The District Officer stated that there is a partner steering group to oversee the CWs work and with the new funding the group will be expanded to include representatives from the Parish Councils. Consulting with locals is seen as a priority.

The Chairman thanked the Officers for the presentation.

The Officers then left the meeting.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council would confirm its contribution to the scheme when the 2007/8 budget is approved later on in the meeting.

2105. PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman asked that residents refrain from asking questions until all the reports had been given

(a) Police Community Support Officer's Report

The PCSO had reviewed all incidents since the last meeting. The amount of motorbikes on the airfield has increased but a number of Section 59 notices have been issued. There have been a number of suspicious callers reported in the area and she asked that the Police are contacted if residents see anything suspicious. There have been eight incidences of criminal damage ranging from minor break-ins to tyre slashing. There were six major incidents of anti-social behaviour mainly round Jerrard Road which have been passed onto CWs. The meeting was informed that a Belgian articulated lorry had hit the already damaged Museum bus shelter after taking a wrong turn for the Nurseries. The PCSO will contact the foreman and ask that better directions be given to drivers. There have been a couple of abandoned cars reported – one which has been towed and the other will be towed shortly. A brothel in Tangmere was raided. Three young lads have been identified as troublemakers and if any further bad behaviour occurs, they will be issued with ABCs.

(b) Local Action Team Report

The draft minutes of the LAT's meeting of 18 October 2006 had been circulated to members (see Minute Book for copy). The meeting was informed that LAT attendees had not received the draft minutes. As LAT and the Parish Council do cover some common ground, the Chairperson was concerned that there might be a duplication of effort and requested that a Parish Council representative attend meetings to give the Council's views on issues. The constitution states that LAT is open to all without prejudice. LAT is involved through the Jr CWs making a commitment campaign for Tangmere – getting children involved in designing speed limit signs through the village. The Youth Club is important but lacks a leader - the second weeknight needs to be reinstated. The Chairperson asked what responsibility does the Parish Council have towards the Youth Club. The Chairman has spoken to the County Councillor who is putting pressure on WSCC to provide funding and leadership. It was suggested that a Youth Club representative attend LAT and PC meetings. The Council AGREED that a joint letter from the Parish Council and LAT be sent to WSCC asking for more support for the Youth Club and stating that Tangmere is a young village with 28% under 16 years old. Both the CWs and PCSO are on duty on Monday evenings to visit the youth clubs in Tangmere and

Oving. The meeting noted that the furniture in the Youth Hall is not up to safety standards and that grants are being sought to help fund replacements.

(c) County and District Councillors' Report

County Councillor's Report

There was no report due to the Councillor's absence.

District Councillor's Report

A decision on the boundary fence in Nicolson Close has been made. The Councillor is to have a meeting with the Chairman to discuss the allotments and its conservation project.

(d) Residents Questions

Residents raised the following issues:

A resident, who attends the LAT meetings, stated that it was difficult to progress the implementation of speed limits in the village due to the negativity of District Officers. The flashing warning signs by the school are not working correctly. The Highways Agency had been contacted five months ago and had agreed to fix them however the lights still do not coordinate. The issue of speed limits had been raised at the County Local Committee, as there may be funds available for the project, for CLC to review it and report back. The Clerk is to request a copy of the CLC's meetings' minutes. The meeting noted that the Parish Council is committed to a 20mph zone.

Another resident informed the meeting that horses from the horse field by the allotments escape on a regular basis due to the lack of proper stock fencing around the fields and that the new structure was an eyesore. The shelter is subject to planning permission but the Parish Council can ensure that a secure fence is erected as part of the lease agreement. The resident also highlighted the issue of grass verges in the village being used as car parks. It was suggested that the issue and also the money spent on verge maintenance is included in the Chairman's newsletter report.

Another resident reported that an electric power unit is being tethered to the Churchwood Road sign. The Police have been notified but have said that if it is not obstructing the pavement it is not illegal. The PSCO will look into the matter. The same power unit had been reported two years ago tethered to a lamppost further down Churchwood Drive.

The Allotment Steward informed the meeting that lorry drivers accessing the grain stores have left the gate to the airfield open on a number of occasions. The PCSO has spoken to the foreman but contacted him again. Due to the lack of progress from the preferred contractor for the repairs to the allotment garage, the awarding of the contract will be reviewed. The meeting noted that the allotment plants had been ordered and that help is required in the planting of the hawthorn – the item will come before the Environment Committee.

One resident asked if there had been any progress in tracking the culprits for the barn fire. The PSCO will look into the matter. The resident reported that there had been an increase in heavy traffic through the village as a result of Covers letting the grain stores for storage. The Chairman asked the PSCO if the invoice for the damage to the Centre's fire door had been passed to the parents of the youth responsible. The parents have said that they may have a problem paying the amount in one go and instalments had been suggested. The Parish Council has not received any monies. The PSCO will chase up payment.

A resident stated that lots of people do not move their bins after they have been emptied. The Chairman had highlighted the issue in his last Newsletter report but will write another reminder.

One resident involved with the Youth Club has been informed by WSCC that finance is not the problem in filling the youth leader vacancy. The resident also informed the meeting that another resident had wrote to WSCC regarding the flooding by the entrance to the Village Centre car park but has had no reply. The item is to go to before Environment Committee.

Another resident asked if there had been any update from the Highways Agency following the meeting to discuss access onto the A27. The item is to be added to the Environment Committee's agenda.

A resident asked if the Parish Council had any plans to replace the trees removed last spring from the recreational ground. The Council has invited Mr Phil Littlejohns to be the village's tree warden and will ask him for some recommendations.

2106. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2006

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2006 were approved and signed as a correct record.

2107. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

2108. URGENT MATTERS ARISING

There were no urgent matters.

2109. LDF: EXAMINATION IN PUBLIC SUMMARY

Due to concerns raised by the Inspector arising from previous sessions, an additional session will be held on 18 January which the Chairman will attend. It was noted that unless the issues were resolved the Inspector would have difficulty in declaring the Core Strategy sound.

2110. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Application TG/06/05454/FUL Land to the rear of Haleybridge Walk

Members were informed that a notice of the application had been received from the applicant. Councillors noted that within the leasehold agreement it states that the lessee can maintain a shelter with the agreement of the owner. The Council discussed the application. The Council AGREED not to object to the application.

Planning Application TG/06/05606/TPA 2 Middleton Gardens

The village's tree warden had inspected the tree in question and had reported that it could be treated without felling. The Council were informed that the Canadian Airforce had planted the tree. After discussion the Council AGREED to object to the application.

2111. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that the following correspondence had been received:

- (a) CDC: Annual Parishes Meeting on Thursday, 25 January at 7pm - buffet at 6pm – two representatives to attend.
- (b) CDC: Conservation Area Character Appraisals Exhibition at the Village Centre on 31 January from 9.30am – noon - noted.
- (c) SALC: Launch of 'Become a councillor. Make a difference' DVD at the Village Centre on Tuesday, 30 January at 6.45 – 9.15pm. A number of Boxgrove Parish Councillors are to attend.
- (d) WSCC: Minerals & Waste meeting on 29 January from 7 –9.30pm at Chichester Assembly Rooms – to be passed on to Roy Anscombe.
- (e) CDC: Council Tax Setting 2007/8 – tax base set for Tangmere is 945.66.
- (f) WSCC: Denominational School Transport Consultation – to be brought to Environment Committee for discussion.
- (g) Lavant Valley Partnership: next meeting on 23 January. This meeting clashes with the next Environment Committee meeting.
- (h) An email had been received from a District Officer asking for a meeting to discuss the proposed movement of four streetlights in Malcolm Road – the Officer is to be invited to Environment Committee on 23 January.

2112. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the Environment Committee held on 21 November 2006.

2113. VILLAGE CENTRE COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the Village Centre Committee held on 12 December 2006.

The Committee Vice Chair reported that there has been a delay in the payment to the contractor of the path repairs by District Council as the Council has asked the contractor for a more detailed estimate.

At the last Village Centre Management Committee meeting, the Committee had agreed to issue the Sunday football team with a final written warning that if it's behaviour did not improve or if payments were not brought up to date the use of the Centre's facilities would be withdrawn immediately. The Team's behaviour did not improve and no further payments were received. The Team has been notified that it is no longer permitted to use the Centre's facilities. Two bolts will be secured to each of the outside doors to prevent access if the keys are not returned as requested.

2114. FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 13 December 2006.

Item 275 Draft Budget for 2007/8: The Council considered the recommendations for the 2007/8 Budget (see Minute Book for a copy of the draft revenue estimates, statement on capital, earmarked reserves and budget notes.). The Committee Chair explained the major changes in expenditure. £10,000 has been set aside for the funding of the Community Wardens. The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the recommendations.

At its previous meeting, the Finance Committee had agreed to finance a new mower at a cost of £400.00. A quote of £530 plus VAT has been received. The Council AGREED to approve the additional cost of the mower.

2115. ANY OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

There were no other matters for information.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, 8 March 2006