

EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 9TH 2016

Venue: the house of the Chairman, Roseland House, Tewkesbury Road, at 9am

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Present: Mrs J.Hird, Mrs E.Watson(Chairman), Mr K.Watson, Mrs S.Yates & the Clerk.

Apologies: Mr M.Davies, Mrs H.Ford

The purpose of the meeting was to decide on the establishment of a PC website, now a requirement under the recent Transparency Code, where council minutes and agendas must be displayed together with the annual public liability insurance certificate, annual audit return & other material relevant to the efficient functioning of the council.

Local resident Sarah Yates had offered to use her computer knowledge to establish the website. Since there was government grant money available to cover most costs, and the deadline for application was nearing, this meeting was called. Mrs Yates presented a complete list of figures, the application form was filled in and it was decided to go ahead with the project. The total figure to be applied for was around £2000. The meeting ended at 10am.

Date.....

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY MARCH 3RD 2016 IN THE SITE OFFICE, ORCHARD PARK MOBILE HOME SITE AT 7PM

(1) Present: Mr M.Davies, Mrs H.Ford, Mrs J.Hird, Mrs E.Watson(Chair), Mr K.Watson, Liz Heckford(new Village Agent) & about 20 members of the public.

(2) Apologies: Mr P.Awford (County Cllr.)

(3) Announcements from the Chairman: Apologies for those who have to stand but one controversial matter had come to the notice of the council only about a week ago. The Village Agent was welcomed and the attendance of 2 representatives of public relations firms on behalf of a potential local developer was acknowledged.

(4) Visit of Liz Heckford, Village Agent: She detailed the kind of advice or practical help which she can assist or liaise with eg. pensions, Health & Safety, elderly care, social & personal issues & Citizens Advice referrals. The service is free & she covers 11 parishes, working mainly, but not exclusively, with the o/50's.

(5) Members of the Public: A comment that 'such an important meeting' had not been better advertised by a delivered leaflet to homes. The Chairman replied that the PC had had barely a week's notice of the present visit by those on behalf of developers, but that the 2 notice boards always carry meeting dates as does the area magazine. A PC website was planned for later this year.

Two PR firm representatives then spoke for about 9 minutes: Mr Rod Bluh, of TSA(TristanFitzgeraldAssociates) and Conor Flanagan (of Origin 3) presenting large-scale map copies of the area of Twigworth between Wallsworth and Sandhurst Lanes. Outlined was an area of farmland for an up-to-120 house development. They stressed that theirs was an initial exploratory visit –on behalf of Taylor Wimpey, building developers, to share ideas with the community at the earliest possible stage. No decision had been made by T-W about the land so any potential development application was a long way off. Indeed, it still had to be determined if this land was suitable for development. Mr Flanagan said they were well aware of the current strong opposition to a Hitchins application on Green Belt land on the other side of the A38 in Twigworth. The land T-W were considering however, was not G.B. "which was a huge incentive". Referring to the current position of the regional "JCS" (Joint Core Strategy), which is under scrutiny by a government inspector, he said that the feeling around is that the 30,000 house number may well be ordered up to nearer 33,000, and that the Sandhurst Lane ("Chestnut Tree Farm") site of 100+ dwellings could be classed as a suitable small site. The JCS Inspector's "Scrutiny Report" was expected around the middle of the year. The Chairman thanked the visitors for their visit and they left.

Points subsequently made by those present were –

- (i) These fields are in the main, very wet. Someone described Twigworth as 'virtually floating'.
- (ii) One well owner stated that his well was extremely high, currently just 13 inches below flood level.
- (iii) The chairman urged everyone to keep up the photo evidence.
- (iv) Estate-sized 'cementing & tarmacking' were the last thing the parish wanted.
- (v) The director of Nature in Art (Simon Trapnell) said that they would never allow the private Wallsworth Lane to be widened. The junction of the Lane with the A38 nowadays floods over after heavy rains.

- (vi) Several persons mentioned their regular grief over domestic sewerage. Some had called out S-Trent multiple times for blockage / backflow clearance.
- (vii) Parish-wise, the system is “already inadequate” and major investment is required. A rumour is gathering that S-T are planning comprehensive work & the Clerk & the Chairman would prepare a letter to S-T asking questions.
- (viii) The ‘horrendous traffic implications’ of any large estate of houses should be opposed by all on traffic grounds alone.
- (ix) The NDP is now in draft formation & will be soon out for public consultation.
- (x) It was suggested that a community meeting might be arranged in which everyone could air views.

(6) Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Previously circulated, they were signed as correct.

(7) Matters Arising: After years of hoping & campaigning, a Highways hand crew had now done a comprehensive job clearing the weed-encroached pavement between the layby and the Garden Centre. Now, maybe more elderly local people will feel confident to walk these paths. County Councillor Phil Awford was to be thanked for his endeavour in at last getting this work on to the Highways’ work programme.

(8) (9) Reports, Borough and County Councillors: Not Available.

(10) Roads & Pavements: Cllr. Mrs Ford commented on the ever-worsening state of the layby, which is now difficult to traverse either by car or foot. The clerk said that in these straightened times, with “killer potholes” everywhere, repairing the layby would be off the page on any repair list at present. Were the drain jetter lorries up to the job? The recent “cleansing” lorries looked & sounded inadequate and there was plenty of residual mud to be seen. Speed cameras? Are they much employed through Twigworth? (...A: They have been used on a number of occasions along the years, by police and the public). This should be discussed with Cllr. Awford, hopefully at the next PC meeting. Instances of 50mph speeders through the centre of Twigworth are as common as ever.

(11) Planning: There were no new applications to discuss. Noted: Permission given for the transfer of caravan sales business on to the former Breakers site.

(12) Finance: (i) Annual donations - Requests for donations had been received from...

*** SARA (Severn Area Rescue Association) : new boat appeal

*** The Gloucestershire Chest Fund : new non-invasive ventilator

*** 1st Innsworth Scouts: 2016 centenary of Cub Scouts. Fund to attend massive London camp and Jamboree

Andrew Tucker, 1st Inns. Scoutmaster had been invited to speak tonight and gave full details.

Councillors decided to donate £75 to each of the above, and £100 to Twigworth PCC for churchyard maintenance. It was agreed to allow £50 to Mrs Ford/Orchard Park Homes for arranging for meetings to be held on the site, as no regular charge was being made to the council.

(ii) Clerk’s salary – The Clerk said that PC work had increased quite a lot over the last 2 years. There are now matters (especially eMails), to attend to virtually every day, and much more travelling to the parish, so £900 divided by 52 ie. £16 a week average, does not seem a lot.

It was decided to raise to £1100 a year gross. (This figure subject to 20% PAYE tax.)

The following cheques were signed –

000445 - (D.Bayley)	£440.00	Clerk’s net ½ year salary
446 – spoilt		
447 - (D.Bayley)	£119.89	Clerk’s annual expenses (itemised)
448 - (HMRC)	£110.00	(PAYE on Clerk’s sal.)
449 - (Twig.PCC)	£100.00	(annual donation)
450 - (1 st Inns. Scouts)	£ 75.00	(donation)
451 - (S.A.R.A.)	£ 75.00	(donation)
452 – (Glos.Chest Fund)	£ 75.00	(donation)

(13) Any Other Business: Noted: a “traffic arch” counting tube Sandhurst Lane.

Noisy manhole on A38... It seems that it is only noisy when heavy vehicles pass over, not cars. Someone must take a photo so that the markings can identify which utility’s property it is so that they can be asked to investigate. Scary dogs at gates of Green Trees... A letter had gone to the owner. Situation to be watched. Further letter if warranted. Strewn litter... Not thought a problem at present, so no need for a community “Litterpickers” event.

The meeting ended at 8.50pm

NEXT MEETING: May 5th (AGM)

Signed Date...

