

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 3RD 2015 ~66~
IN THE ORCHARD PARK SITE OFFICE AT 7.30pm

- 1- Present:** Mr M.Davies, Mrs H.Ford, Mrs J.Hird, Mrs E.Watson(Chairman), Mr K Watson, Mr P.Awford(County Councillor) and 9 members of the public.
- 2- Apologies:** Mr M.Williams(Borough Councillor)
- 3- Members of the Public:** Questions over the non-appearance of the dog-bin bought by the council. Cllr. Awford questioned the “35 metre walk” excuse for not collecting from a spot within Orchard Park. He would speak with the Ubico contract Deployment Manager.
- 4- Minutes of the Last Meeting:** These had been previously circulated & were passed as correct.
- 5- Matters Arising from the Minutes:** Cllrs. confirmed that they would like the present *new venue* for their meetings to be permanent. *Clunking manhole cover* - Not easy to spot & needed to be positive-ly identified as gas/electric/drainage etc. *Possible site for bus bay opposite Orchard Park* – The open area outside “The Old Post Office” might be suitable. Cllr. Awford said Highways would have no objection. Stagecoach would have to be approached. There was clearly a safety reason for a bus bay.
- 6- County Councillor’s Report:** He spoke about the Government initiative over devolution of several areas of policy to centres of local government. Every Borough Council would have to agree for this to occur. Discussions were only at a very early stage. The present status of discussion & analysis of the JCS(Joint Core Strategy) was given. The new Leisure Centre for Tewkesbury was in build and anybody could suggest a name for it. “1471” (Date of the Battle of Tewkesbury” had been suggested. This could be a ‘front runner’ since it was a very pertinent local date and Gloucester Leisure Centre had started a trend with GL1”. The need to find 140 more Traveller sites by 2017 was mentioned.
- 7- Roads & Pavements:** Cllr. Awford was thanked for his decision to use some of his ‘dedicated Highways allocation’ to ring about the recent A38 gutter scouring by a large vehicle. A marked improvement but not perfect. He would follow through with Highways to see if further attention could be given. The need for both ‘jetting’ and weed-spraying was mentioned by cllrs., as was the loss of pavement due to grass out- growth at the base of hedges, but this was the owners’ responsibility. A member of the public said that due to this she was obliged to drive the short distance to the Garden Centre because the path was too narrow to avoid stepping into the road. The Chairman promised to write to the owners concerned. Potholes within the layby appeared to have been marked for patching. The ‘Slow Down’ sign by the church was being obscured by foliage; the clerk would inform Highways, and also about the recent damage to the flimsy bollards opposite the Skoda garage.
- 8- Planning:** *Copse clearance* next to car breakers: The clerk said that the Forestry Commission had not responded to the details & photos he had sent some months ago, and unofficially he had heard that most likely nothing illegal had occurred. *Court Farm gravel deliveries:* The Enforcement Officer had visited the site & the owner& the materials were for maintenance of the extensive driveways at the back of the property. High ornamental *metal gates* at ‘The Cottage’. These had been inspected & were deemed to be just at the limit of permissible height. *Failure of Planning Dept.* to inform Clerk about the 3 bungalow application at the back of Twigworth Court. A planning officer had sent an apology. The PC’s submission (making no fundamental objections) had been accepted despite being thus overdue. The Chairman would be attending the forthcoming meeting of the NDP(Neighbourhood Planning Group) the next day, and might convene a meeting for local people to produce a statement as to which Twigworth sites might be considered suitable for future development, particularly housing.
- 9- Finance:** Chqs.signed (000436) £360 (Clerk’s ½ yr.sal.); (437) £90 (PAYE on the above)
(438) £112 (St.Matthew’s PCC: vestry hire for 2014/15 PC meetings)
- 10- Correspondence:** Support requested by Borough PC’s by campaigning group for the reinstatement of a full A & E service at Cheltenham General Hospital. Agreed.
- 11- Any Other Business:** Long-time local resident, Peter Stubbs, had recently donated a *defibrillator* to be housed within Down Hatherley Manor. The parish council wished to express its thanks for this. *Slow tap water flows...* This was a not infrequent occurrence and it was becoming clear that this and sewerage efficiency would have to be investigated soon. It was suggested that Severn-Trent should be a consultee for any local planning applications. The Clerk said that the county councillor had already agreed to approach S-T with local concerns. Occasional cloudy contamination of D.Hath. Brook, usually after rain. The Environmental Agency had been informed by a brookside resident.

NB..., ...NEXT MEETING... Date altered: to be November 19th (not Nov. 5th)

The meeting ended at 9.12.pm

Signed..... Date....

