

TWYFORD ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 10th May 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Twyford Parish Hall.

1) Apologies for absence

Apologies from the following Twyford residents were received and noted: Graham Hill, Helen Scaiff and Jane Belgic.

2) To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2016

website <http://twyfordhants.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Draft-Minutes-Parish-Assembly-2016.pdf>

It was noted that the draft minutes of the last meeting had been published on the Parish Council page of the Twyford Parish website for the past year and referred to on the published agenda. No requests for any changes had been received and none were made at the meeting.

Acceptance of the draft minutes was proposed by Councillor Forder-Stent, seconded by Jo Frances and carried unanimously.

Action for next meeting – Clerk to place a hard copy of the draft minutes on display prior to the meeting.

3) Chair's Report *Waine Lawton*

A hard copy of the Report of the Chairman available to each attendee was referred to and the Chair proceeded to articulate the contents of the annexed report.

4) District Councillor and County Councillor reports *Sue Cook, Richard Izard & Rob Humby*

Councillor Humby

Newly re-elected Hampshire County Councillor Rob Humby referred to an imminent meeting of the Hampshire County Council (HCC) to re-elect its Leader and then appoint Councillors to various oversight posts. Rob Humby hopes to be appointed to oversee Highways again; and to continue to also work with the Winchester City Councillors and Parish Councillors to address the local concerns about flooding and wider issue of fly tipping and waste disposal.

Cllr. Humby warned of forthcoming revenue pressures. The County Council will cease to receive Revenue Support Grant from Central Government in 2020, so savings of £20million will be needed unless funds are collected locally. Key spending areas remain schools and adult social care, which will impact the funding available for highways. Cllr Humby referred to the need for highways spending for key infrastructure initiatives and short timespans for projects, resulting in five or six major motorway related road works within the next five years, to aid local economic growth.

Cllr. Humby stated that HCC is very successful at diverting waste from landfill (96% is diverted) but that the county also generates an exceptionally large amount of waste. Twenty-four sites exist for community waste disposal and access to these has been extended

to include commercial waste. This initiative is intended to reduce fly tipping of such waste, which is the predominant type of fly tipping. HCC is also taking enforcement action against fly tippers. So far charges are made for some domestic waste disposal involving rubble and as part of the search for economies or to fund services consideration has been given to a charge per visit, of £1. This was widely accepted in a public consultation but is currently prohibited by central government.

Cllr Humby concluded by referring to highways repairs and an asset management approach. HCC seek to be cost-effective, ad hoc repairs will occur when appropriate or 'whole road' works will be undertaken to preserve the quality of the road and prevent the formation of potholes.

In response to a question as to whether charging for visits to tips would increase fly tipping, Cllr Humby said during the quarter following the introduction of charging for some types of waste that fly-tipping had decreased. A nominal £1 charge was not expected to cause fly-tipping which tends to be by criminals who take money to remove waste from households but then fail to dispose of it correctly.

A short written report is included in the Annexed reports.

Councillor Izard

Councillor Izard's written report was circulated to all attendees and is annexed to the minutes. In addition, Councillor Izard reported the following:

Winchester City Councillor has recently been re-elected the Colden Common Parish Council Chairman.

Twyford Parish like Colden Common suffers from heavy traffic flows, and associated speeding and parking problems. New development in Colden Common and the Eastleigh proposals to be reported upon later in the meeting will exacerbate the problem; the potential Bishopstoke by-pass from Allbrook will not eliminate the problem.

Winchester City Council (WCC) has recruited new staff into its Planning Enforcement Department, but enforcement is a slow process.

Affordable Housing is being built, 70 in the new development at the former Sandyfields nursery site, but more is needed.

Cllr Izard is a member of WCC's Regeneration Group, which is looking at an area larger than the former Silver Hill proposals. WCC has been active by purchasing the Bus Station to incorporate it in the redevelopment and this will involve the re-routing of bus routes.

The leisure Centre will move to Bar End and a decision about the use of the existing site remains to be taken.

WCC has adopted its Local Plan Part 2. Twyford falls outside however, being within the South Downs National Park. WCC has, however, been handling planning applications on behalf of the South Downs National Park Authority and has applied for a three-year contract to continue to do so.

In response to questions Cllr Izard said the WCC's Planning Department's resources have been increased and team working introduced to make processing of planning applications more efficient. More decisions will also be delegated to Officers.

Report by Councillor Cook

Councillor Cook referred to entering her third year as a Winchester City Councillor (in addition to Twyford Parish Councillor). She is a member of the WCC Personnel Committee and Planning Sub-Committee; and besides Parish Council meetings attends meetings on the

Twyford Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Cook referred to herself as passionate about the dramatic adverse effect of the Eastleigh Borough Council development plan.

Cllr Cook urged residents to contact her directly about their concerns, she receives up to 35 daily about a range of issues.

Cllr Cook concluded by mentioning Twyford Waterworks for which she is a Trustee. She said the recent Open Day, which marked a return to steam, was attended by more than 700 people, which had unfortunately brought car parking problems which impacted users of Hazeley Road.

5) Questions from Electors

No further questions were asked of any of the Councillors.

6) Report on crime and disorder during the last year specific to the Twyford area

Stuart Gilmour, Police Sergeant 2183, Greater Winchester NPT, Meon Valley Police Station Bishops Waltham

Sergeant Gilmour informed the meeting of a series of recent break-ins in Colden Common (12 burglaries in the past few weeks). Twyford had previously experienced an opportunist theft from a car last summer and a recent burglary for which suspects were arrested.

Sergeant Gilmour reported that besides Twyford Parish, the Bishops Waltham Police Station covers the area to Denmead and to West Meon. Emergency response may come from Winchester although the allocated resources normally cover Fareham and Gosport, hence visibility of police patrols at night is low. Public vigilance and reporting of suspicion is therefore important.

Sgt. Gilmour has 5 Police Constables and 8 Police Community Support Officers. Besides dealing with thefts and burglaries his officers are involved in countering cybercrime, domestic violence and child sexual exploitation. Enforcement of minor road traffic infringements occurs but is affected by other higher priorities.

Sgt. Gilmour concluded by stressing that the level of crime in Twyford, despite occasional incidents, is low but that if any resident considers activity to be suspicious it should be promptly reported, normally by calling 101. The Parish Council also have his contact details and can forward information about suspicious activity directly to him.

7) Twyford Neighbourhood Plan *Chris Corcoran*

Parish Councillor Chris Corcoran reported that preparation of the Twyford Neighbourhood Plan has been in progress for three years and it is now 'taking shape'. In September 2016 a major consultation exercise occurred the results of which were collated by Action Hampshire. The various responses were all reviewed and a revised draft will be published for consultation in September 2017. The revised draft is currently undergoing a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (as required by applicable EU law). The SEA, which is being paid for by the South Downs National Park Authority is to assess the social and environmental impact of the proposed plan.

Cllr Corcoran reminded attendees of the meeting that the Plan refers to what may change and what those changes should be; for example, if Staceys on the High Street were to cease its current business activity, the land should be used for housing. It also refers to what will change and if so how, for example Twyford must identify where at least 20 dwellings can be built over the next 20 years. Two preferred sites have been identified, one near Northfields presents fewer problems but offers fewer opportunities. The second site near the Surgery has the problem of resolving how its impact on flooding risks will be overcome, but offers

the benefit of bring more parking spaces for visitors to the centre of the village as well as the surgery. The parish Council is currently liaising with Hampshire County Council to ascertain how the risks of flooding can be overcome.

8) Eastleigh Local Plan: ACTION AGAINST DESTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT - EASTLEIGH

John Lauwerys

Mr Lauwerys spoke with the visual aids reproduced in the Annex. He showed meeting attendees the location of Twyford on Map 1, the motorway, railway and main roads; and then the location of the developments proposed by Eastleigh Borough Council and a proposed relief road to by-pass Bishopstoke. Mr Lauwerys said that Eastleigh Borough Council must identify locations for 6300 dwellings. The need for dwellings is accepted, but Action Against Destructive Development - Eastleigh considers the proposed two sites for 6200 to be the wrong ones. The two sites on the northern boundary of Eastleigh will severely affect the Winchester City Council southern area but its residents do not elect Eastleigh Councillors who will take the decision. 6200 houses are equivalent to three times the size of Colden Common and hence would equate to the size of Petersfield. One house is normally responsible for 5 transport movements daily. Whilst some of those will be southwards and others will use the proposed new by-pass many will inevitably travel through Twyford or use the Morestead Road.

Map 2 was used to show two sites of ancient woodland, Crowde Hill Copse and Upper Barn copse. The Woodland Trust recommends that no roads should be within 200meters so as to avoid any effect on the woodland, The by-pass is to pass through a gap of only 120 meters between the two ancient woodlands. The developments bordering the woods will also impact them.

Mr Lauwerys said that whilst Twyford residents cannot vote for Eastleigh Councillors they can make representations to a Planning inspector when the plan approved by the Borough Council goes to a wider public consultation. So far Action Against Destructive Development – Eastleigh has raised £35,000 and spent £18,000; but to make an effective challenge at least £100,000 is required. Eastleigh Borough Council will vote on the draft plan on 20th July 2017; the plan could come into being in 2018/19.

Map 3 shows the by-pass. It is estimated to cost £50million, of which developers may pay £25million. Eastleigh B.C. are considering funding it and recovering its costs from developers over time. The road is currently proposed to leave the existing railway bridge at Allbrook at the same level. Larger traffic is, however, to be accommodated by straightening access from the east and by lowering the road. A new road will be built on the western side to avoid Allbrook Hill and connect with the M3 junction. A problem is flooding if the road is lowered. If the bridge is raised Network Rail can seek a 30% share in the value of land that is enhanced, which would represent a very significant sum.

Mr Lauwerys concluded by referring to the area of Allington Lane being far preferable for development. It would does not have ancient woodland and the same beauty, it has good access to the M27, it has access to the Eastleigh to Fareham railway and could accommodate a new station. It is an area formerly earmarked in a 1999 Hampshire County Council plan.

9) Update on Local Community Projects

Short 'headline' updates were requested and speakers were informed that written reports received will be published on the Parish Council website. The following are the key matters referred to orally.

1) Roger Walker - Graze Festival

The 3rd Graze Festival on 27 August is approaching. Besides aiming to be a great event it seeks to raise money for local organisations. The 2016 Festival resulted in grants to Abbeyfield, Twyford Guides, Methodist Church, Colden Common Hedgehogs, Twyford St Mary School PTA, Ballard Close Management Committee, Twyford Social Club. A range of local businesses have sponsored the festival this year.

2) Sonia Watson - Twyford Parish Hall Management Committee

Sonia speaking as the Secretary of the Management Committee thanked the Parish Council for its contribution towards the exterior renovations of the Parish Hall, one third coming from the Council and the other two thirds from the Parish Hall reserves. The improved hall has seen bookings and income rise.

Thanks were extended to Andy Roberts who has been carving the trunk of the former beech tree at the front of the hall.

The passing on of John Sullivan was noted and his contribution to the village was acknowledged.

3) Terry Forder-Stent - Twyford Waterworks Trust

Significant restoration works largely funded by lottery funds were described resulting in the ability to operate the steam engines. The work of volunteers was noted and the special contribution of St Mary's School in producing an award-winning animation.

4) Helen Scaiff - Twyford Community Project

Jeff Potter spoke instead. The Cecil Hut has been gone for 10 years. The Doctors' Surgery recently offered use of the hut on a short term lease but due to the elapse of time it was considered too expensive to restore it for the period of potential use. Use of the Social Club facilities was considered and a grant to it of £15,000 but the nature of the Social Club's constitution, enabling its members to retain all proceeds if it ceased to operate was considered an impediment. In the absence of any constitutional change therefore the Project continues to seek alternative premises, possibly associated with development at site 26 if that is selected for development under the Twyford Neighbourhood Plan.

The next fund raising event is an Annual Duck Race on the Itchen Navigation from Compton Lock on 25th June. Duck tickets cost £1.00.

5) Chris Hill- Womens' Institute

Please see the written report received.

In addition, Chris Hill drew attention to meetings on the second Monday of each month at 7.15pm. A Village Show is scheduled for September 30th and will involve prizes for the best entrants in a range of classes, free Teas will be served and an exhibition will be held in the Gilbert Room. The next Coffee Morning is on 27th May between 10.00am and noon.

6) Mike Sharpe - Twyford Social Club

Mike thanked the Parish Council for a grant towards interior refurbishments, involving the kitchen, entertainment area and new meeting room. Revenue turnover has increased 44% and membership 15%. 38% of membership is from within the village of Twyford and 78% has an SO21 postcode. Live music has recently made a return following soundproofing enhancements.

7) Jane Roots - Guiding [in Twyford]

In the absence of Jane Roots (District Commissioner) Jane Bronk informed the meeting that numbers of attendees of both Guides and Brownies has increased significantly. In addition, following the emergence of volunteers to run a Rainbow group, one may open shortly.

8) Claudia Beard - Twyford Playgroup

Claudia Beard drew attention to a major fundraising effort. A Circus of acrobats and the like using a Big Top is to be held at hunter park on 18th June.

9) Lucy Roberts - One Acorn

Please see the written report. Lucy Roberts referred to the outdoors nature of proposed activities to be run by the newly established charity and that following a recent meeting seeking support and volunteers many had come forward, but she is still seeking more.

10) Chris Pope - Twyford St Mary the Virgin Church

Chris Pope referred to the long term maintenance needs of the Church. It had been recommended to set aside £16,000 annually but been unable to do so. It now faces a quinquennial inspection and concerns exist that costs of any required works could be substantial and difficult to finance. A new charity, The Friends of St Mary's has been established, Trustees and Friends are now sought. For more information please speak to Chris or one of the Church Wardens.

Please also note the availability written reports from:

11) *Colin Francis - Good Neighbours & Village Agent roles*

12) *Lucy Hutchin- Twyford St Mary's School*

10) Closing Questions & Answers depending on time available before 9.30pm

Noting that the time was not yet 9.30 p.m. the Chairman asked whether there were any questions or matters to be raised.

Councillor Cook referred to complaints about smells from the Feed Mill and that she had been in discussions with the operators, Humphreys Holdings. An Open Day is to be arranged to enable visitors to see what the Mill does and how its activities are controlled in endeavours to reduce the adverse impact on Twyford residents.

The meeting closed at 9.30p.m.

Reports: Chair's Report, HCC Councillor Rob Humby, WCC Councillor R. Izard, AADD-Eastleigh, Twyford W.I. , Twyford Waterworks, Twyford Social Club (text and images), One Acorn, Twyford Good Neighbours, Twyford St Mary's C of E Primary School.