

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th October 2019 at 7.00pm in the War Memorial Hall, Tutshill.

Present: Councillors: Bayliss, Bollen, Drew, Koning, Powell, Tullett and Wall
Officers: Clerk (Carol Hinton) Clerk's Assistant (David Stevens)
Mark Elson from The Forester and Review newspapers and 14 members of the public.

1. **ATTENDANCE**

- a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillors Edwards, Molyneux and O'Toole.
- b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Edwards, Molyneux and O'Toole

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) **To receive Declarations of Interest** in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members.
Interests may be declared at any time during the meeting should they become apparent.
- b) **To consider any Dispensation Requests** received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered.
None received
Asked by the Chairman Mark Elson confirmed he would be recording the meeting.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

- a) **Resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2019.
- b) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes – there were none. Plaques for Beachley road bench to be considered in November. The Chairman had received correspondence from some councillors regarding the recording of meetings covertly – these were passed to the Clerk for filing.
- c) **Resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 25th September 2019.
- d) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes – there were none.

4. **PRESENTATION BY NIGEL GIBBONS – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN 2021-2041, ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION**

Mr Gibbons explained that the District Council Allocations Plan was approved 2018 – this identifies land allocated for future building to meet legal requirements. The Local Plan which includes policies for design, climate change, local economy, town centres etc., - up to 2041 - will take up to 5 years to prepare. The headline area is for future housing provision. Requirements are based on pre-determined formulae, set by the Government, and the likelihood is 4000 homes – on top of those applications already submitted – will be required to be planned over the next 20 years which means allocations for 8000 according to Govt. guidelines. The District Council is now looking at the issues and options for the Plan, particularly for development, looking at where there is land available. Due the physical and Forest protection constraints this may include consideration of a new settlement area. The first draft of the Plan looks at what the local plan should include based on detailed feedback from outside organisations which look at more localised detail. Bigger issues such as the A48 are dealt with by other authorities. Finding larger sites for development for which the infrastructure is already in place is a universal problem.

Councillor Powell stated that Gladman have stated that the District Council cannot demonstrate a 5 year plan and that they can't see the District Council meeting its build objectives – Mr Gibbons replied that although the Allocations Plan was adopted in June 2018, they will need to keep this up to date so that a 5 year supply can be demonstrated (there are complicated criteria for demonstrating future provision) and currently 6.2 years requirement is available.

Councillor Drew asked about the lack of provision for schools, doctors, shops etc. – Mr Gibbons replied that the District Council is not in control of these and relies on the NHS for example providing accurate future requirements so that developers can be asked to contribute. For County Highways to refuse a development they must show severe problems - difficult to identify these on an individual development basis.

Councillor Bollen – Tidenham Parish is left out of any considerations for development of local services, being on the Welsh border and with Welsh GP services.

Public Comments:

- 1) Do District Council representatives visit the area and take account of air quality, gridlocked roads and quality of life for local people?
- 2) All GP provision paid for from Welsh NHS. A study was undertaken but local people did not want English GPs. No reason Welsh provision can't expand
- 3) The 8000 houses mentioned –why? Mr Gibbons explained that land needs to be identified up-front which is for more than projected requirements.
- 4) What does infrastructure critical mean? – Mr Gibbons suggested that with the extra homes planned for Lydney and Chepstow this could be considered critical with regard to the A48 and it could be suggested that further development should not be allowed. He agreed to look into provision of an environmental measuring station on the Gloucestershire side of the A48.
- 5) Has a need for further housing in the area been identified? – Mr Gibbons stated that individual settlement needs have not been assessed but there is a need for affordable housing. The best solution for this would be housing association type building but they do try to meet District requirements for this whilst taking into account local restrictions.
- 6) Traffic surveys should be carried out during busy periods – not during school holiday periods.
- 7) Prior to the Wydean development a pollution monitor 'stick' was located in Wyebank Road – Gladman do not appear to have done this type of monitoring.

5. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To receive and consider any questions from the Public, which may be answered but not debated.

There were no specific questions from the public who had come to hear Nigel Gibbons amidst concerns about the proposed development of 185 houses by Gladman. The Council was asked if there was a local plan in place. The Chairman replied that the development of a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Parish will be considered by Councillors.

6. COMMITTEES

Resolved to receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees and to consider any questions arising from them.

- 1) Planning, Development Control and Highways Committee meeting held on 25th September 2019
There were no questions to Councillor Koning, Chair of the Committee.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive and note any announcements from the Chairman of the meeting.

The Chairman reported that Councillors had attended an inspiring workshop that focused on helping improve public engagement with the Council and looking at ways to provide something for young people in the Parish. The Chairman and the Clerk had also had a very positive meeting with the Principal and Vice Principal of Wydean Academy about their involvement in the Council's Youth Engagement Project.

8. POLICING IN THE PARISH

Resolved to note report for August downloaded by the Clerk.

9. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

Resolved to receive and note the Parish Clerk's Report.

10. FINANCE

- a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for September 2019
- b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for September 2019

11. DAVID STEVENS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

Resolved to approve enrolment of David Stevens, Clerk's Assistant, into the Local Government Pension Scheme from 17th October 2019

12. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

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- a) **Resolved not to approve** quotation from Greenfields Garden Services for clearance of corner of car park site and behind the concrete structure prior to re-surfacing of £2220.00 plus VAT – total cost £2664.00
- b) **Resolved to approve** quotation from AM Services for clearance of corner of car park site and behind the concrete structure prior to re-surfacing of £1080 (no VAT)
- c) **Resolved to approve** quotation from Dean Park Contractors to excavate, prepare and re-surface the 21sq m area in the corner of the car park site of £2058.00 plus VAT – total cost £2469.60

13. NEWSLETTER

Resolved draft newsletter to be circulated to Councillors once received by the Clerk who will perform a final proof read of it.

14. TIDENHAM PARISH YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Resolved to note Youth Engagement Group progress report.

15. FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN 2021 – 2041

Resolved Clerk to prepare comments to be sent to the District Council on the Local Plan 2021 – 2041, Issues and options Consultation as follows:

- 1) The period allowed for consultation is not in line with good practice which is evidenced by the public response so far. Criterion 2 of the Government Code of Practice on Consultation states that '*Consultations should normally last for at least twelve weeks with consideration given to longer timescales where feasible and sensible*'. The timescale allowed does not give sufficient time for adequate research in order to formulate a considered response. The fact that this is put forward as an initial consultation does not take away the danger that if FoDDC accepts this document, it may be difficult to get critical comments about the figures and methodology addressed in the next version.
- 2) Tidenham Parish currently has three major developments in progress, totalling 246 new dwellings. When taking into account those using the schools from the Chepstow (Monmouthshire) area there is no capacity at present even to accommodate the likely extra numbers from the current developments. Further development in the area must not be allowed.
- 3) GP services come under the Welsh NHS and as such are not taken into account by Gloucestershire NHS. The GP surgeries are reaching their capacity. Tidenham Parish has been ignored in the recent restructuring of the NHS services in Gloucestershire. The recent bus timetable changes, the location of the proposed new hospital in Cinderford and the huge amount of development in Lydney will make access and options for care even more difficult for Tidenham residents.
- 4) The infrastructure in the area is critical and traffic issues on the A48 currently severe. The current local developments in Tutshill and Chepstow and proposed developments in Lydney will add to the severity of both congestion and pollution. Most traffic from these developments will be accessing the A48, much of it passing through the Parish through Chepstow. Further development in the Parish must not be allowed.
- 5) There is little employment and few facilities in the Parish. Services such as libraries have been reduced and access to services further afield rely on poor public transport provision and the use of vehicles on an already congested and polluted A48.

16. WYE VALLEY GREENWAY PROJECT

Resolved to send letter of support to the Wye Valley Greenway Project

17. SCHOOLS IN THE TIDENHAM PARISH AREA

Resolved to note information from County Councillor Patrick Molyneux regarding school places in the Parish with regard to the new developments and to respond querying the number of new dwellings mentioned, which should read 246. Also to ask for GP information. Clerk also to write to Glos CC Education Department regarding numbers used.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

To receive and consider any other correspondence as detailed in the Clerk's Report

The Clerk informed Councillors she had responded to a Freedom of Information Request regarding historic minutes prepared by Jayne Smailes.

Invitation to Parish and Town Council Liaison Meeting 24th October 2019 – Graham Drew to attend
Invitation to attend District Council Stagecoach briefing 18th November – Graham Drew and Anita Bayliss to attend
(subject to work commitments).

19. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Resolved to receive and note any matters which councillors wish to raise and where appropriate add to the agenda for the following meeting or meetings of committees:

Councillor Wall – expressed concern that the hedge obscuring the speed limit and flashing speed sign on the approach to Tutshill School has still not been cut back. Also there is a burnt out car on the Coleford Road near The Chase – it has 'Police Aware' notices on it.

Councillor Powell – recommended Councillors prepare thoroughly for the Planning and Highways Committee on 23rd October when then Outline Planning for the proposed Gladman development of 185 houses will be considered.

20. FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved to note the dates of future council and committee meetings:

Wednesday 23rd October 2019 - Planning, Development Control and Highways Committee

Wednesday 13th November 2019 – Amenities Committee meeting

Wednesday 20th November 2019 - Full Council Meeting

The meeting closed at 20.57hrs