

Twyford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Meeting held remotely on **Thursday** 10th December 2020 at 7:30pm.

Present: Mr R Mantel (Chairman), Mr R Abeywardana, Mr M Alder, Mrs E Ashley, Mr J Bowley, Mr M Bray, Mrs B Ditcham, Mrs J Duffield, Mrs A Evans, Mrs L Jarvis, Mrs T Ramsden, Mr C Wickenden, Mr T Winchester & Mrs S Wisdom.

In attendance: 1 member of the press.

Clerk present: Mrs L Moffatt (Clerk).

1. Public Questions have been invited in advance of the meeting via email, telephone or in writing. No questions.

2. Apologies. Mr J Jarvis.

3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda None.

4. Dispensations None.

5. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 24th November 2020 Proposed

Mrs E Ashley, seconded Mrs S Wisdom to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Matters arising. None.

7 Borough Council Matters - Mr S Conway had given his apologies and reported by email. The business recovery group, of which he is a member, has been focusing on what help the borough council can give to local businesses in the new year. With possibly even tighter restrictions and Brexit adding to the problems the Borough Council need to decide what should be the priorities with the limited funding available to the council. There were no Twyford items at the previous nights Planning meeting. Mr Conway reported that an application for the Bridge Farm site may be received in the new year, even though the draft local plan has not been approved.

There were no reports from Mr L Ferris & Mr W Smith.

8. Liaison with Ruscombe Parish Council Mr P Cassidy had given his apologies and there was no report. Mrs Jarvis reported on the Ruscombe Parish Council meeting highlighting: neighbourhood plan; pond works; orchard and bee highway. Ruscombe Parish Council had expressed interest in the Green Prescription initiative and it was agreed they would be invited to a meeting being held next Monday with the horticultural therapist.

9. Reports and to receive any recommendations from committees

9.1 Planning and Amenities & Neighbourhood Plan Committees 01.12.20

Mrs B Ditcham reported highlighting items 6.1, 6.5, 8, 11, 15.1, 16.1, 16.4 & 17.1.

Mr C Wickenden reported on the meeting and reminded councillors of the Visioning Workshop being held on Monday.

9.2 Parish Lands Committee 03.12.20

Mr J Bowley reported highlighting items: 11.1, 13.1, 13.5, 14.2.4, 14.2.1 & 14.4.

9.3 Finance and General Purposes Committee 08.12.20

Mr Winchester reported highlighting items 7.5 and 10.

10. Other representatives reports

10.1 Neighbourhood Action Group – Mrs E Ashley reported:

- The Wargrave fire station has closed
- Ruscombes community orchard plans are progressing
- Sonning reported on the recent traveller encampment and rubbish left. They also have two new speeding devices and have started their neighbourhood plan.
- Hurst reported problems with speeding.

10.2 WDALC 25.11.20 – Mr R Mantel reported that the meeting was inquorate and has been rescheduled for the end of January.

10.3 Twyford Together AGM 07.12.20 – Mrs B Ditcham reported that the officers remain the same. Mr Gordon Holmes is to stay on as secretary.

11. Community Resilience program

11.1 Twyforward Arts and Crafts festival 2020 – Mr R Abeywardana reported that photos of the Christmas tree decorating and tree planting will be added to the Twyforward page.

12. Communication & liaison with other groups within the Parish - no report.

13. Clerk's report

13.1 WBC hospitality webinar 01.12.20 – noted.

The tree works highlighted in the tree risk assessment have all been completed with the exception of the Stanlake highways works. The new gates have been installed at Stanlake Meadow – there were a few teething problems and the hinges on the main gate have been replaced.

The **Twyford Covid-19 support group** are continuing to support residents locally and have 7 residents that they have continued to help since the first lockdown. They are carrying out a review of their donations and costs. Expenditure has included food donations and their mobile phone costs.

The **BIG tree planting event** held on Saturday was very successful. Over 75 trees were planted in Stanlake Meadow. Residents welcomed the opportunity to purchase and plant their own trees and there was good community spirit. Thank you to the Councillors that attended; Ro Abeywardana; Liz Ashley; Malcolm Bray; Jo Duffield; John Jarvis; Lesley Jarvis; Teresa Ramsden & Sue Wisdom. All councillors ended up planting at least one tree. Particular thanks to Malcolm Bray, Teresa Ramsden and the Assistant Clerk who were there from start to finish. Enquiries have been received from residents interested in getting involved in a future tree planting event. The Parish Lands committee will consider if that might happen - it would be a super idea given that this years event had to be scaled down. It had originally been planned to have speakers on environmental matters and demonstrations on making bird boxes and bug hotels etc.

More thanks to the Councillors who were up at 8am on a cold Sunday morning to help decorate the village **Christmas Trees**. Both are now lit up and making the village look very festive.

A request from **TRIP** has been received asking for the Parish Council to become an ally and make a Surfers against Sewage plastic free pledge. The Parish Council need to commit to (1) work to remove at least 3 single use plastic items from our day to day activities (2) commit to include the SAG stance on single use plastic in communications (3) raise awareness and support plastic free initiatives in the community. The Council made a commitment to support the initiative last year and it was proposed by Mrs B Ditcham, seconded Mrs T Ramsden that the Council formally become a Surfers against Sewage TRIP ally. Motion carried unanimously.

Reflecting on the success of the responses with the Neighbourhood Plan and the willingness of the community to get involved with the tree planting it is clear that residents are keen to engage with the Council. It was reported to the Finance committee that some of the Twyford Parish Council facebook posts are reaching audiences of up to 2500. In view of the action planning being delayed could the Council to give thought about **community engagement?** Review how the Council communicate with our residents and how we can be more approachable and gain the views of our residents? Is this something at the Council might like to develop?

It was agreed that the committees will give consideration to a Community Engagement policy and return to the next Full Council meeting with proposals.

14. Items to be discussed at the next meeting – none.

15. Correspondence (in Councillor one drive folder):

15.1 WDALC minutes and agenda 25.11.20. Noted.

15.2 RPC agenda and November minutes 26.11.20. Noted.

15.3 Borough Parish Liaison Forum – November meeting minutes and presentations
27.11.20. Noted.

16. List of authorised payments – list for December (in Councillor one drive folder)

Approval proposed Mr M Bray, seconded Mrs S Wisdom, motion carried nem con.

17. Dates of meetings:

All meetings 7:45pm by Zoom unless noted otherwise.

Neighbourhood Plan visioning meeting 7pm	14.12.20
Neighbourhood Plan Working Group 7pm	04.01.21
Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting 7pm	05.01.20
Planning and Amenities Committee	05.01.21
Ruscombe Parish Council meeting (LJ)	06.01.21
Parish Lands Committee	12.01.21
Finance & General Purposes Committee	19.01.21

18. Date of next meeting of the Council Tuesday 26th January 2021.

Meeting closed at 20:37