

TICKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th July 2018 at 6.30 p.m.
In the Committee Room at the Village Hall

ACTION/BY

PRESENT: Cllr Bruce Ralfs in the chair, Cllrs John Banks, Ranjit Chuhan, David Franks, Ann Loader and Pam Trenchard.
Cllr Nigel Ashton (North Somerset Council) and four members of the public.
In attendance: Vena Prater (Clerk)

75/18 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mike Perrott.

76/18 **MINUTES** of the meeting held on 14th June 2018, copies of which had been circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record

77/18 **COMMUNITY FIBRE PARTNERSHIP**

Mr Clive Renson had been invited to address the Council. He referred to the very slow broadband speed in the village and had been in contact with Openreach about the possibility of a jointly funded fibre broadband scheme. Openreach would pay for the costs within their threshold and the remaining costs would need to be met by the community to enable a 'fibre-to-the-premises' network. For example, if 138 premises as identified by Openreach were to join the scheme the cost per premise would be £894. There was no explanation as to why the whole village was not included. Mr Renson hoped the Parish Council would feel able to co-ordinate the interest on behalf of the village.

Cllr Nigel Ashton said that he understood that some premises would fall within the plans of other companies to upgrade the area by the end of 2019, at no cost to residents. Cllr Ashton would be meeting with Gigaclear (one of the potential providers) in the near future and would be attending the next meeting of the Connecting Devon and Somerset Board: he hoped to find out future plans and a possible timetable. He advised taking no action until further information was available. Council agreed that residents were entitled to know what was proposed by the various companies so that they could make informed decisions: Cllr Ashton and Mr Renson would investigate the possibility of representatives from Gigaclear and Openreach meeting with the Council. In the meantime the Council would await reports from Cllr Ashton on his meetings with Gigaclear and the Connecting Devon and Somerset Board and the matter would be placed on the agenda for further discussion.

78/18 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(i) **VACANCIES**

The Clerk reported that there had been no requests for an election and the Council was free to fill vacancies by co-option. One resident had expressed interest and was present at this meeting.

(ii) **BUS SERVICES**

The Clerk reported that thirteen students from the Tickenham area would be attending Nailsea School from September 2018. Cllr Ashton noted that the bus passes provided by North Somerset Council (NSC) were not used because the bus arrived in Nailsea too early: he would pursue the issue with the service bus provider. He also noted the suggestion that the money spent on the bus passes might be used to provide independent transport if changes to the service bus timetable were not possible.

(iii) SPEEDWATCH: Cllr Trenchard reported that the Speed Enforcement Unit hoped to hold a session with volunteers on 7th August. One more person had volunteered but the speed gun was still awaited.

(iv) TELEPHONE BOXES: Cllr Loader hoped to use the telephone boxes for advertising for the Flower Show. This would help to assess the potential for future use.

(v) GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION: The Clerk reported that she had registered the Council with the Information Commissioner's Office and confirmed that, in view of the Emergency Plan records, it was necessary for Cllr Banks to register separately.

JB

79/18

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

(a) HIGHWAYS:

(i) Stone Edge Batch Junction and Road Surface: The Clerk had circulated details of plans for safety improvements at Stone Edge Batch. These included works to the road surface and gully which had previously been deferred pending a road closure. The scheme included new road surfaces and signage and it was hoped that the proposals, together with the new speed limits on Tickenham Hill, would reduce the number of accidents at the junction. Work was planned to begin on 29th August 2018.

(ii) Signage, Church Lane: The Clerk had reported the incorrect weight restriction/weak bridge signage at Church Lane to NSC.

(iii) Overgrown Verges: The Clerk would contact NSC regarding overgrowth at Church Lane and Washing Pound Lane. Clerk/20.07.18

(iv) Incidents: No incidents were reported.

(v) Speed Limits: It was noted that the new speed limit signs were being erected.

(vi) Pavements: The Clerk had asked Ian Trenchard to trim the overgrowth at the wide verge and the narrow pavement from there towards the School. Noted.

The Chairman again drew attention to the overhanging trees on Tickenham Hill: the clerk would contact NSC again, as recommended by Cllr Ashton. Clerk/20.07.18

(b) FOOTPATHS

(i) Signage: Councillors confirmed that the 'dog poo' signs had been displayed.

80/18

LOCAL PLAN 2036

Cllr Nigel Ashton stressed that NSC had always protected the green belt: any relaxation of the rules would make it difficult to enforce that protection elsewhere. However, arguments around green belt, village plans and areas of outstanding natural beauty could be used to oppose the huge number of dwellings being imposed on the local authority by the Government. Additionally there was the fact that large parcels of land were being bought by developers who obtained planning permission and then deferred building for several years: this point was being raised a parliamentary level. Cllr Ashton referred to the proposed development at The Vale, from which Bristol would benefit in terms of additional dwellings, with NSC meeting the costs of infrastructure, education and other amenities. Developers were now building in smaller numbers and therefore avoided having to provide facilities: as developments grew piecemeal the question of local facilities arose – again falling to the local authority.

With regard to green belt release, Cllr Ashton said that some villages would welcome the opportunity of small development – for down-sizing, 'affordable' homes, village store etc. So the question was not that NSC needed the Parish Council to release green belt land, but rather would Tickenham like to see development on land that is now restricted by the green belt.

Cllr Franks believed there were opportunities for development on some sites in the village which would not affect the green belt amenity to any great extent or impact on the aesthetic of the area.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.48 p.m. to allow a member of the public to speak and reconvened at 8.49 p.m.

Thanks were recorded to Cllr Ashton for clarifying the position regarding possible release of green belt land: the Parish Council would consider the matter further at its next meeting.

Former Tickenham Garden Centre: Referring to the proposed development at this site, Cllr Banks mentioned the Parish Council's request for a footpath to link the development to the centre of the village and queried why this had not been supported by NSC; he felt that part of the consideration of the application should have been whether there was a link to the village. Cllr Ashton said that the Council could only judge the application before it on sound planning reasons and could not impose such a condition. Section 106 money had already been allocated and could not be diverted at this stage for a footpath. He suggested that the Parish Council might discuss possibilities with the landowner.

81/18

PLANNING MATTERS

(a) NEW APPLICATIONS:

18/P/3391/FUH: The Tree House, Tickenham Hill: Two storey side extension with balcony to front: No objections were raised. It was noted that a notice of works to a listed building had appeared in the press although this was not a listed property. The Clerk was asked to draw attention to the height of the boundary wall to Tickenham Hill. Clerk/20.07.18

18/P/3573/FUH: 235 Clevedon Road: Single storey rear extensions: No objections were raised. Clerk/20.07.18

(b) UP-DATES: The Clerk circulated a spreadsheet showing the status of planning applications, parish council comments and special conditions imposed. She had been informed by a NSC officer that planning decisions were available on the website and could be searched within a date range. However, councillors agreed that the spreadsheet was a useful record and the Clerk was asked to continue to maintain the spreadsheet, to be circulated as appropriate. Clerk/20.07.18

82/18

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Clerk/20.07.18

(a) Payments: The following were approved for payment:

Clerk's salary June	£227.78
HMRC June	£57.00
Clerk's expenses June (Incl. ICO GDPR registration)	£53.10
North Somerset Council (dog bin)	£14.40
Somerset Playing Fields Association (subscription)	£15.00
David Franks (Perspex WW1 blocks)	£192.95
Jim Sykes (internal audit)	£50.00
Ian Trenchard (car park front hedge)	£40.00

83/18

VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Cllr Trenchard reported that new curtains were in place and a small freezer had been installed in the kitchen. Nailsea Patio Supplies had kindly donated the soil for the two large pots, with plants kindly provided by the Trenchards. When work was carried out to refurbish the toilets, an outside tap would be provided.

84/18

VILLAGE FIELD REPORT

Cllrs John Banks and Ranjit Chuhan had attended the recent meeting of the Committee which focused mainly on arrangements for the Field Day on 22nd July.

The toddlers' swing would be installed during August. The Clerk had provided 'tick signs' which would be attached to the field and play area gates. It was noted that the ash tree in the middle of the field had some dead branches which required removal. This led to discussion about where responsibility for the maintenance of the field lay – with the Parish Council or with the Field Committee. Cllr Banks believed that responsibility lay firmly with the Field Committee. The general feeling was that the Council was happy to continue to assist by arranging for grass cutting, strimming, hedge cutting etc. and keep the Field Committee informed.

The general feeling was that the Council was happy to continue to be responsible for general maintenance, i.e. grass cutting, strimming, hedge cutting etc. The Clerk would arrange work to the ash tree after consultation with the Field Committee. Clerk/20.07.18

85/18 **CAR PARK** Clerk/20.07.18

It was noted that litter was accumulating between and behind the Flower Show and Drama Group storage sheds in the car park and that the surface gravel was probably due for raking back so that it was evenly spread.

After discussion it was AGREED

- that a contractor be asked to clear the litter;
- that a price be obtained for enclosing the areas by the sheds: Cllr Trenchard and the Clerk to meet the contractor on site to agree an option;
- that Capstan be asked to quote for raking back and levelling the car park surface;
- that the drama group be informed of the proposals.

86/18 **VILLAGE MARKET** Clerk/20.07.18

The Clerk had been contacted by the new organiser of the village market asking for ideas to improve the market and whether it would be possible to hold occasional car boot sales on the village field. Councillors noted that at present no vehicles were allowed on the field and believed there would be difficulties with such use, e.g. damage to the field and responsibility for re-instatement and the possibility of dangerous litter (including broken glass). This again raised the issue of responsibility for management of the Field.

It was AGREED

- that the Clerk be asked to pass the concerns to the Field Committee and seek its views on whether the field should be used for this purpose.

It was suggested that the market organisers might consider alternating between the normal market style and a table top sale.

The Clerk would circulate the current terms of use of the field for further consideration at the next meeting.

87/18 **WW1 ARMISTICE COMMEMORATION**

Cllr Loader was contacting the British Legion regarding the poppy petals. The crocheted poppies being prepared by the Women's Institute (WI) would be framed to be used as part of the display. A proposal for a cascade of poppies had been welcomed by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Cllr David Franks and the Clerk had been invited to attend a meeting of the Church Worship Committee to discuss the order of service. Alan Burnell (church treasurer and member of the Tickenham Drama Group) had asked to read and the Clerk suggested that a member of the WI should be invited: these details would be finalised nearer the time. Cllr David Franks referred to a grave stone in the churchyard which recorded the death and burial in France of a WW1 soldier, George Waite. He hoped it might be possible to stabilise the stone and protect it from deterioration. Cllr Franks would investigate the possibilities.

DF

88/18 **GARDENS OPEN DAY**

The Clerk reported that there had been five expressions of interest from residents, three of whom were able to attend the meeting on 10th September. The Avon Local Councils Association had advised that the usual way of proceeding would be for the Council to give a grant to the organising group; if not, goods and services would need to be ordered and paid for by the Council and freely given away in order to reclaim VAT in the usual way. These and other details would be considered at the meeting in September.

89/18 **TOUR OF BRITAIN, 4TH SEPTEMBER 2018**

The Clerk had contacted the School and it was hoped that the children would be able to watch - although it was the first day back at school after the summer break. As the Council would not be meeting before the 4th September it was AGREED

- that if the necessary arrangements could be made for the children to safely watch the cyclists pass through the village, the Clerk be authorised to purchase 100 waving flags at a cost of approximately £30.

Clerk/20.08.18

9/018 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Tickenham School newsletters.

Bristol Airport – development proposals consultation

NSC: Recycling event for small electrical goods: It was felt that the Council should not take part in this event as small electrical goods in working order were sold at the jumble sale to help raise funds for the village flower show.

91/18 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Clerk had contacted NSC regarding the availability or otherwise of 'Earthlights': the programme was currently being up-dated, following which it was hoped to arrange further training.

It was noted that some key parts of Ordnance Survey maps were to be made freely available to help small business use the data more easily.

92/18 **CO-OPTIONS**

It was unanimously AGREED

- that Rachael Maby be invited to serve as a councillor.

Clerk/20.07.18

93/18 **DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS 2018**

Thursdays at 6.30 p.m. as follows: 9th August – if required for planning or other urgent matters; 13th September; 11th October, 8th November, 13th December.