

**MINUTES OF TARPORLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE CRAVEN ROOM, TARPORLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2016**

Parish Councillors

Chairman - Ken Parker

Elaine Chapman Gill Clough Julie Hall John Millington Jeremy Mills

Gordon Pearson Richard Statham Peter Tavernor Andrew Wallace

Clerk - Ann Wright.

Projects Coordinator – Abigail Webb

Public – 10

Press - 1

Apologies

Cllr Nigel Taylor – work commitment

Declaration of Interests

Councillors declared their usual interests which include dispensations granted to Councillors Chapman, Millington, Pearson and Tavernor in relation to the Brook Road sports field.

Public Participation

Over Grown High Street Hedge

A resident stated he had reported two over grown hedges to the Parish Council in July only one of which had been cut back and that the other by Coronation Terrace was now almost touching the lamp post and seriously encroaching on the pavement. It was confirmed that the Parish Council had written to the hedge owner asking the hedge be cut back, as this had not been done the issue had been forwarded to CW&C who have the authority to cut hedges and charge the owner. It was agreed the clerk would raise with CW&C again.

Daffodil Field

A resident of The Close asked for clarification of who owned and is responsible for the maintenance of the boundary hedge and trees and that in the twenty years he had lived there no work had been done on these trees some of the branches of which were now touching a property on The Close. It was agreed the Clerk would investigate this matter including contacting the land registry.

Tarporley Allotments

James Blackford, Chairman of the Allotments Committee, reported that at a meeting of the Allotment Holders attended by the majority of allotment holders they had agreed unanimously to contact the site owner stating that if he was willing to extend the leases until September 2017 they were confident an agreement could be reached involving the loss of some allotment space in return for the gifting of the remaining allotments and bowling green to allow development to move forward. However, they would not support the loss of 37% of the allotments as currently suggested.

It was noted that the allotments are listed as an asset of community value and they were currently investigating the possibility of triggering a compulsory purchase order for the site and were in conversation with the relevant officers at CW&C.

It was noted that if the both sites were in disuse for a period of two years or more it would be extremely difficult to bring them back into use.

A resident and allotment holder stated he was appalled by the advice given to the developer by the CW&C planning officer which showed a total disregard for the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) by indicating on balance the application was likely to be approved. He also stated that the NP charged the Parish Council with having discussions with developers. He asked for clarification of the legal basis of the primary school access through the former RBL site.

Tarporley Bowling Green

Mike Guest, Chairman of the Bowling Green reported that the Bowlers had met the previous week had agreed they would support an application which

- 1) included vehicle access to the bowling green
- 2) gifted the Bowling Green and Allotments
- 3) allotment holders were in agreement with

Mr. Blackford stated he was disappointed that the Chairman of the Parish Council at the last meeting had said the council would not take part in further discussions with the developer.

Other Planning Matters

A resident of Clotton informed the Council of a planning application for a clay lined slurry pit in Clotton which he believed would have a detrimental impact not only on noise, smell and flies in the area but also on the traffic on the A51, he asked the Council or individual councillors to consider commenting on the application numbered 16/03713/FUL.

Planning

ii) Draft RBL site Proposals

Councillors considered the draft proposals for the site which included 14 dwellings, car parking and retention of part of the allotments and the whole of the Bowling Green. It was noted that the current proposal is similar to that discussed with the developer at a meeting attended by the Parish Council representative.

The Chairman allowed Mr Press to comment that the current allotment site was not only a protected green space in the NP but also had a protected view towards Wales which can be enjoyed by all and that the view would be lost to all if the proposed development takes place.

16/159 Resolved - That the Council undertake the following three actions: -

- 1) That the Clerk arrange a meeting with the planning officer dealing with the case and Nial Casselden to discuss CW&C stance on this application particularly in light of the NP policies, and ask what the community benefit or very exceptional circumstances are that would allow for the loss of part of the protected green space.
- 2) That a letter be sent to the planning officer strongly expressing the council's disappointment at the disregard of NP policies as stated above.
- 3) To invite the site owner to discuss the draft proposals and possible amendments and invite the representatives of the allotments, bowling green and primary school.

iii) Council noted the position statement for Tarporley Allotments dated 26th October page 254 of the minutes.

i) Planning Register and Applications

Councillors noted the planning register as circulated and noted that Tarporley War Memorial in St Helen's churchyard had been awarded listed building status and was therefore now grade II listed.

16/160 Resolved - That the Council submit the following observations:

16/04986/FUL, first floor rear extension, 32 Eaton Road, Tarporley, CW6 0DG. No objection subject to neighbours' comments and that the proposed extension does not adversely impact neighbouring properties.

16/04969/FUL, change-of-use from C3 residential space (1st floor only) back to previous A3 food and drink use as an extension to existing restaurant at ground floor level below, 69 High Street, Tarporley, CW6 0DP. No objection subject to suitable noise mitigation and management schemes and subject to neighbours' comments.

Minutes

16/161 Resolved - That the Chairman signs the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 10th October as a true and proper record.

Minutes of Working Groups and Other Meetings

16/162 Resolved – That council note the minutes of working groups as circulated, page 253 of the Minutes.

Community Infrastructure & Development

Council considered the response from Jones Homes and agreed that the Clerk should thank them for the response and confirm that the Council still looks forward to meeting with them to discuss the development and seek clarification on the ownership of the open space including the boundary hedge and trees.

Parking Restriction Proposals Update

It was noted that the open morning on the 5th November had been very well attended, the council had received 111 written responses to the consultation which are still being compiled, of which 90 were completed on the day.

It was agreed to hold an informal meeting in last January to consider the responses in detail.

CW&C Highways Schemes Request

The Council agreed to submit the following 3 highways schemes for consideration for works in the summer of 2017: -

- 1) Birch Heath Road by Red Hill Farm (CW6 9UR) road has deteriorated needs edging and resurfacing has been previously patched.
- 2) Brook Road including Bowmere Road junction where vehicles are having to pull into on-coming traffic in some instances to avoid pot holes and the turning into Rue De Bohars
- 3) Eaton Road from High Street junction and past the High School.

CW&C Planning Protocol

The Council agreed they were happy with the proposed protocol with the addition of a clause that Parish Councils are notified of amendments to planning applications.

CW&C Draft SPD on Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Drilling

The Council agreed to submit the following comments on the SPD: -

Given the sensitivity of the issues surrounding oil and gas exploration, production and distribution Tarporley Parish Council believes that all applications regardless of size should require the submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Tarporley Parish Council also believes that transport issues and logistics should be given greater prominence or priority as part of the SPD as these are crucial issues when considering all planning applications of this nature.

It was agreed that the Clerk should clarify if licences had been issued across the Tarporley area.

Christmas Lights

Council agreed the payment of the Christmas Decorators for the new Christmas Lights £2880.00 (inc vat), noting the lights are on a three year rental and maintenance agreement.

The Clerk reported she had contacted CW&C to request the amount raised through the Special Expense, CW&C had responded that the 2016/17 Special Expense charged to residents was based on the average cost of the installation of Christmas lights in prior years and the understanding that Weaver Vale Housing Trust's charge in 2016/17 will be the same as in 2015/16. It has also been stated that the Special Expense scheme was not a mechanism to create an increased budget to fund new costs and that any costs associated for new lights should be covered by the Parish Council. The Clerk has responded asking for clarification of the money raised again explaining the lights installation has changed and that it was important money raised in Tarporley should be spent on Tarporley Christmas lights as such any unspent money should go towards the new lights. It had now been confirmed that £5,605 had been raised by the special expense as such there was no excess funding to go towards the new lights.

It was noted that the Parish Council needs to review the process of using a special expense to fund the lights installation and that CW&C are currently consulting on the whole Special Expenses system.

It was noted that Marshalls are required for the lights switch on and that information would be circulated to Councillors about the arrangements for the evening.

Council Risk Assessment

Council agreed the risk assessment and check list as circulated with minor amendments. Councillor Tavernor was thanked for his hard work on the document.

Accounts

16/163 Resolved - That the Council approve the accounts and payments as listed on page 28 of the Cash Book with exception of the Groundworks invoice which will be reviewed by Councillor Millington before payment and noting the reimbursement to A. Wright was £107.86 to include postage.

16/164 Resolved - That the Council approve the following payments: -

Handy Man service for October £105.00

D.D. Forestry £360 for 3x 13foot Christmas trees (cheque).

SP Landscaping £675.60 (inc vat) for grounds maintenance inc. cemetery.

Council noted that Robinson's Brewery had notified the Council that the rental charge for the permissive footpath will increase from £24 per year plus vat to £30 plus vat.

Chapel Graveyard Funding Request

16/165 Resolved - That the Council give a grant of £750 to the Chapel towards maintenance of the grave yard.

Twitter

Council noted the new twitter account @TarporleyPC which is managed by the projects coordinator and has 110 followers at present.

It was agreed the Council should formulate a policy for managing the Twitter account.

Welcome Postcard

Council agreed to produce a welcome postcard with the Council contact details for circulation to new residents and be made available in public places including the library, doctor's surgeries and estate agents.

16/166 Resolved - That the Council move into Part 2 and ask all members of the press and public to leave the meeting.

PART 2

Gritting Contract

It was agreed that Mr R Johnson be awarded the Gritting contract for the 2016-2017 winter and that it should be highlighted that gritting should stop if the ice has melted after gritting has started. It was also agreed that gritting would not take place unless temperatures dropped to -3 or -4 degrees.

Review of Lengths Man's Contract

The Clerk, Projects Coordinator and Councillor Hall will meet with the length's man in December to discuss the delivery of the contract.

Clerk's Salary

The Clerk left the room during the following discussions.

16/167 Resolved - That the Clerk be paid back paid from September 2016 SCP 27 (12.44per hour).

Meeting closed 9.30pm.

Next Parish Council Meeting

Monday 12th December 2016, 7pm, Tarporley Community Centre Craven Room.

Signed

Dated

Tarporley Parish Council

Minutes of Working Groups and Other Meetings

November 2016

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OS&R Working Group meeting 26/10/16	1

Tarporley Parish Council
Outdoor Sports and Recreational Working Group
Wednesday 26th October
The Crown Hotel, 8pm

In Attendance

Cllr John Millington
Tony Yeates – Tarporley Community Centre
Abigail Webb (Project Coordinator)

Apologies

Cllr Andrew Wallace (Chair)
Cllr Nigel Taylor
John Clark
Paul Adamson

Actions from meeting

- TY to send photographs of Bunbury play equipment.
- TY to instruct John Goryl to provide CAD drawing of both the picnic area and the car park (TCC to cover cost of this?).
- TY to source quotes for picnic benches.
- AW to source quotes for play equipment (train).
- JM to speak to Niall Castleton (Planning Dept – CWAC) regarding planning permission for picnic benches and play equipment and goal posts.
- Meeting with Tarporley Parish Council and Bunbury Playground Association.
- JM to contact United Utilities re: drainage for playing field and car park.
- JM to contact TCS re: guidance on drainage of the car park.

Position statement for Tarporley Allotments 26th October 2016

Present Situation.

- Tarporley Allotment Holders has 30 current members. 3 members resigned at the end of September 20016 due to changing family circumstances.
- There is a waiting list of 27.
- Each tenant was served a notice to quit to take effect from 7th April 2017.

Table to show Allotment Sizes and Members 31st October 2016

*Note areas are approximate and refer to sizes of plots

	Area in sq m.	% Total Area	No of Plots	Vacant	Plots Vacant since Oct 2015. Landlord's Decision	Plots Vacated October 2016
Total Site	6168	100	39	9	6	3
Main Field	3711	62	24	3	1	2
Along access track	2557	38	15	6	5	1

Overview

- In Tarporley's Neighbourhood Plan, the allotments are a protected Green Space. The developer (EDT) has stated that he has failed to find an equivalent or better site to relocate the allotments.
- The allotments were given Community Asset Status by CWAC on 29th June 2015.
- Since September 2015 the allotments have been privately owned by Enlighten Developments Tarporley.
- The site occupied by the allotments is approximately 1.2 hectares.
- When established in the 1974 there were 20 plots. The traditional size of a plot is 250 sq. metres.
- Over the years some of the plots have been sub-divided to meet the increasing demand and the changing life-style. The average size of the plots is now 150 sq. metres.

Conclusion

These are the only allotments in Tarporley. There is still a strong demand as witnessed by our active membership and waiting list. Since their establishment all the plots have been let and there has always been a waiting list. This changed when the Royal British Legion sold the land to EDT and from October 2015 the landlord refused to let 6 plots.

Tarporley has seen a rapid recent expansion in new houses with small gardens. Therefore, demand for allotment plots is likely to increase as it has nationally.

The allotments are of community benefit and form an integral part of Tarporley.

Tarporley Parish Council

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