

# Draft Minutes of a Meeting of Teffont Parish Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 in the Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs Aspden, Blamey, Cordle, Deane, Wood and Worth

**In attendance:** Cllr Wayman, Parish Clerk, 5 members of the public

**Apologies:** Cllr Fisher

There were no questions from any members of the public present.

Cllr Wayman reported:

**Budget.** Wiltshire Council (WC) have approved a budget increase of 6% which includes a 3% social care levy. The Council have had a cut from the Government grant of 25 million. However, £655,000 has been awarded as a rural grant and this has gone into the Highways budget.

The Parish Stewards have not been in the villages as they have been driving the gritting lorries and then filling pot holes.

**Recycling.** There is increased funding to remove fly tipping items.

From 1<sup>st</sup> April recycling centres in Wiltshire can ask for ID from visitors to check they are residents of Wiltshire.

**Southern Area Planning Committee meeting.** Cllr Wayman expressed her disappointment at Teffont Parish Council's (TPC) lack of support at the meeting and did not back up her "call in" of the application 17/06709/FUL, Corrindale, Teffont. Cllr Wood apologised he could not attend. Cllr Deane had represented TPC on this matter.

**WC reserve funds.** Cllr Wayman confirmed that WC are not "dipping into" reserve funds though finances are tight.

## **Presentation – History of Teffont.**

Mrs Faulkner, on behalf of Richard Long-Fox, a long term Teffont resident who has sadly died recently, presented TPC with Mr Long-Fox's History of Teffont. A very informative document about our village from 1894 to approximately 2013 compiled from archived minute books and historical papers held by villagers as well as his own extensive knowledge of the village. A copy is with the Archivists at Chippenham.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Faulkner for all her work with Mr Long-Fox to finish the document and expressed regret that Mr Long-Fox had been unable to present it himself.

Cllr Wood opened the meeting at 18:30.

1. **To receive and accept apologies.**  
Cllr Fisher – unwell
2. **Exclusion of the press and public.**  
None required
3. **Declarations of Interest.**  
None declared
4. **Chairman's announcements.**  
None
5. **Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018**  
The previously circulated minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were approved by Councillors. They were then signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting held.
6. **Planning – Determined Applications.**  
The documented applications were noted.

Applications from Corrindale 17/06709/FUL and Enderley 17/09957/FUL have also been approved.

**7. Finance**

**Accounts for the Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.**

- a) Councillors noted the bank balance for Teffont Parish Council which was £10,562.01 Cllrs noted that the balance agreed with the account figures prepared by the RFO and are therefore properly reconciled as at 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

The Chairman and RFO signed the accounts as a reconciliation certificate to this effect.

- b) Councillors reviewed the financial forecast for the year ending 31st March 2018 and noted the payments made from the Council account since the last meeting.
- c) Councillors approved payments due.

**8. Teffont Trust.**

Cllr Aspden reported to Cllrs that the original idea for the Village Hall to be bought has been dropped. There is now a proposal for the PCC to lease the hall to VHC for £500 pa with a £5000 upfront payment on a 50 year lease.

The VHC consider it advantageous for TPC to be joint lessee but it is not financially necessary.

The Hall is owned by the Diocese but managed by the PCC. It could be sold and the Village would lose its community space. By leasing it from the PCC, preferably on a 99 year lease if possible, it would give security of tenure.

If the VHC were unable to pay the rent, without the back up of TPC the hall would again be lost to the village.

Cllr Wood proposed to Cllrs that TPC agree to commit to the joint agreement, meaning that TPC would take over the lease if VHC could not manage. TPC would prefer a 99 year lease and would not be responsible for repairs.

Cllrs agreed and Cllr Aspden will discuss this with Mr Homan.

**9. Proposed woodland on estate land opposite the Lodge.**

The Chairman had this matter discussed after Mrs Faulkner's presentation. Mrs Robinson outlined the impact the proposed woodland would have on their property. However, the application has not been submitted for this year and she wondered what was going to happen next.

Mr Bacon, on behalf of the Teffont Estate, explained that the application will be submitted next year. It is for a mixed variety of deciduous trees on what was woodland many years ago. The application has been altered and he apologized that Mrs Robinson had not yet seen the new plans.

He confirmed to the Chairman that official planning permission was not required, but the Estate did not wish to upset villagers.

Cllr Wood suggested the way forward was for Teffont Estate and the Robinsons to meet again, look at the revised plans and try to come to some agreement. TPC would willingly look again at the situation if necessary in the future.

**10. WiFi/broadband reception in the village.**

Cllr Worth and the Clerk had met with James Body about boosting the mobile signal in the village. He is intending to cover the Chalk valley but is at an early stage in the proposal and is looking for other communities that may be interested. Cllr Worth suggested he present to TPC at some point in the future when his proposals are more advanced. Cllrs agreed and Cllr Worth will write back to Mr Body with this suggestion.

- 11. Welcome to Teffont Letter/Info.**  
Cllr Wood acknowledged he had not been so diligent about contacting new residents recently. Cllr Blamey offered to take over the introduction of new villagers with Mrs Faulkner, the NW Coordinator. Cllr Wood accepted their offer.  
Mrs Wacher, Parish Clerk, agreed to look at the “Welcome to Teffont” pack on the website and update it.
- 12. Clerk’s report.**  
The Clerk reported Teffont had been awarded funding to repair the footpath between Cookes Cottage and Hillside Drive.  
The First Aid course had gone ahead and was a great success.  
The Clerk requested Cllrs look at a leaflet requesting a donation to Wiltshire Carers. To be considered at the next meeting.
- 13. To note any items to be reported to Highways** for the Parish Steward  
Cllr Blamey praised the Parish Steward, Simon, for all his hard work.  
Pot holes in Holt Lane are dangerous – Clerk will report via My Wiltshire app.  
Grass verge outside Riverside Cottages being destroyed by car parking. Clerk to write to Howards House who rent out the house to their staff
- 14. Any Other Business.**  
Nothing was raised.
- 15. Items for the next agenda.**  
Please note that any items for the agenda should be sent to the Clerk by 9am on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018.
- 16. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be after the Annual Parish Meeting on May 8, 2018, in Teffont Village Hall.

Cllr Wood closed the meeting at 19:55