

# Teffont Parish Council

**Parish Clerk: Madeline Honeybourne**

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Teffont Village Hall

**24<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
at 18:00**

## **MEETING CONVENED: 18:00**

### **Those present:**

Parish Councillors: S.O'Donnell (Acting Chair), C.Bell, N.Blackford, T.Deane, R.Evans

Also in attendance: Councillor Wayman, M. Honeybourne (Parish Clerk). There were 8 members of the public present.

### **Questions and Statements.**

No questions or statements were made by members of the public.

### **Report from Wiltshire Councillor- Bridget Wayman.**

Councillor Wayman informed the Council the Wiltshire Council planning consultation was still ongoing until 22<sup>nd</sup> November 23. There is very little in the consultation that will affect Teffont. Councillor Wayman expressed concerns over the renewable energy element of the consultation and its effect on the AONB. She further commented the document contained a lack of appreciation for the local landscape and the dark skies policy was currently insufficient. Councillor Wayman asked the Council to read the draft proposal and make comments.

Council Wayman informed the Parish Council of a local bus consultation that was currently underway.

The Council were informed that Councillor Wayman has a template of a letter asking landowners to cut hedgerows where they impede on the highway, if required. The Clerk asked for a copy.

Councillor Wayman informed the Council of an additional £5m to repair highways. Wiltshire | Council is working out a program of repairs.

The LHFIG meeting is on the 29<sup>th</sup> November at East Knoyle Village hall 19:00-21:00.

A meeting of the Flood Working Group is due to take place 25<sup>th</sup> October in Warminster. There is also a meeting between the Environment Agency, Wiltshire Council and Wessex Water to discuss groundwater flooding. Members of the public may attend. To be held 14<sup>th</sup> November at Wyelye Village Hall between 18:00-20:00. Places must be booked at [floodwessex@environmentagency.co.uk](mailto:floodwessex@environmentagency.co.uk)

Councillor Wayman offered to represent Teffont Parish Council at the flood working Group tomorrow.

# MEETING MINUTES

23.01.01	<p><b>Resolution to receive apologies for absence.</b> Emma Worth (Ill Health). <b>Proposed: SO Secoded: NB Carried: Unanimously</b> <b>Resolved: Council resolved unanimously to accept Councillor Worths absence</b></p>
23.01.02	<p><b>Declarations of Interest/ Dispensations</b></p> <p>A) Declarations: Councillor O'Donnell declared an interest in agenda item 23.10.4c as a consultee of Wiltshire Council and as a neighbour to Clarendon Stud. <b>Proposed: CB Secoded: NB Carried: Unanimously.</b> <b>Resolved: Council resolved to accept Council O'Donnells declaration of interest in planning application PL/2023/08591</b></p> <p>B) Dispensations: None required</p>
	<p><b>Resolution of Minutes.</b> The Acting Chair asked Council to accept the minutes of 12.09.23 as a true and accurate precis of the meeting. <b>Proposed: SO Secoded: NB Carried: Unanimously</b> <b>Resolved: Council resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 12.09.23 as a true and accurate precis of the meeting.</b></p>
	<p><b>Planning Application PL/2023/07927 Howards House</b> The Acting Chair asked the Applicants if they wished to speak in support of their application. The applicants explained the proposals for the building and car park. No members of the public opposed the planning application Teffont Parish Council fully support the application to construct an orangery at the back of Howards House. Teffont Parish Council support the change of use of land to create a car park for Howards House. The Council, however, recognise the need to protect the peaceful environment of Teffont Evas and ask the applicants to carefully consider the risk of noise and light pollution that may be generated by the car park. Teffont Parish Council appreciate the applicant's willingness to consider suggestions and ideas from the residents of Teffont. Teffont Parish Council welcome the commercial enterprise and the renovation of the building. The Council ask the applicants to carefully consider accessibility for disabled customers. <b>Proposed: NB Secoded: TD Carried: Unanimously</b> <b>Resolved: Council resolved to forward comments to Wiltshire Council by 26.10.23, in full support of Planning Application PL/2023/07927</b></p>
	<p><b>Planning Application PL/2023/08124 Howards House</b> Continuing from the previous Application for Howards House, the Applicants were asked to explain the proposal to enlarge the opening between the dining room and lounge. Teffont Parish Council fully support the formation of an enlarged entrance to the orangery and dining room. <b>Proposed: RE Secoded: NB Carried: Unanimously</b> <b>Resolved: Council resolved to forward comments to Wiltshire Council by 26.10.23, in full support of Planning Application PL/2023/08124</b></p>

	<p><b>Planning Application PL/2023/08591 Clarendon Stud</b></p> <p>The Acting Chair asked the Applicants if they wished to speak in support of their application. The applicants explained the reasons for altering the original planning application were due to the flooding that occurred on 11.05.23. The original site was completely flooded. No building works had started on the site.</p> <p>No members of the public opposed the planning application.</p> <p>Teffont Parish Council fully support this application. The Council were in full support of the previous application but now recognise the need to move the location of the proposed dwelling due to serious flooding issues. Teffont Parish Council would ask the applicants to consider creating a holding pond at the original location to alleviate flooding issues in the village.</p> <p><b>Proposed: CB      Seconded: TD      Carried: Unanimously</b></p> <p><b>Resolved: Council resolved to forward comments to Wiltshire Council by 08.11.23, in full support of Planning Application PL/2023/08591</b></p>
23.01.03/04	<p><b>Finance Reports/ Current position.</b></p> <p>The Clerk informed the Council she has reconciled all accounts against the bank statements. The budgets are currently running in line with forecast.</p> <p>The Clerk is still trying to add a new second signatory to the account.</p> <p>Councillor Deane questioned the Clerks role in managing the accounts. The Clerk informed Councillor Deane the role of the Responsible Finance Officer would be altered if it were given to a Councillor to present at the meetings.</p> <p>The Acting Chair asked for the Financial statements to be approved</p> <p><b>Proposed: RE      Seconded: TD      Carried: Unanimously</b></p> <p><b>Resolved: Council resolved to accept the accounts as a true and accurate record.</b></p>
23.01.05	<p><b>Parish Councillor Vacancy.</b></p> <p>The Clerk informed the Parish Council she had been notified by Electoral Services at Wiltshire Council that no one had requested an election, therefore the Parish Council have permission to Co-Opt a Councillor into the casual vacancy. No applications have been received by the Clerk. The Acting Chair proposed the Parish Council continue working with a vacancy until a candidate comes forward.</p> <p><b>Proposed: SO      Seconded: CB      Carried: Unanimously</b></p> <p><b>Resolved: Council resolved to accept the vacancy remains unfilled and to continue looking for a candidate.</b></p>
23.10.11	<p><b>Resilience Group update</b></p> <p>The Acting Chair moved this up the agenda. The resilience group held a meeting to discuss flood mitigation. The Acting Chair heard from Michael Holme at the Environment Agency. He informed her that he and Danny Everett from Wiltshire Highways drainage department had revisited Teffont to discuss mitigation options. No conclusions have been reached but they will be in touch when they are in a position to discuss flood mitigation measures. The Environment Agency did not receive sufficient flood forms from residents in Teffont who experienced internal flood damage from the 11<sup>th</sup> May flash flood, to trigger a Section 19 report which means the village is unable to access as much financial support for flood mitigation. However, the EA will meet with the resilience group when they have completed their report.</p> <p>The resilience group have offered to source gel sacks for the village and there has been a good response from the village residents. Councillor Wayman asked how the gel sacks were being paid for. Councillor Deane stated he believed Wiltshire Council. Councillor Wayman was unsure they would but offered to investigate. Councillor Deane informed the meeting the gel sacks would cost circa £6k to buy from a commercial website.</p>

	<p>Councillor O'Donnell informed the meeting that the Flood Warden was moving from the village and this generates a vacant position.</p> <p>The resilience group are in the process of updating the village resilience plan.</p> <p>Wessex water have issued there first bi monthly reports on the flow of the stream.</p> <p>Wessex Rivers Trust have agreed to undertake a survey and to report on the health of the stream. They are prepared to do a presentation to the village on their findings.</p> <p>Councillor Wayman agreed to report the findings at the flood meeting tomorrow.</p>
	<p><b>Grounds Maintenance Contract.</b></p> <p>The current grass cutting contract ends this month. The Clerk has sourced one quote from Countrywide. They recommend an extended grass cutting season from Feb-November because of climate change. They further stated that to maintain the village to a high standard it would need to be cut bi-monthly. Countrysides quote was in excess of £8k per annum, plus VAT. This represents all of this years precept of £9,161.66. The Clerk requested help from Councillors to negotiate a new contract with local businesses. Councillor Deane stated the community will need to decide how tidy they wish the village to be kept. Councillor Deane suggested the Council look for alternative solutions to current grass cutting contract. This matter will be added to the next agenda for further discussion. The Clerk will continue to contact other contractors.</p>
	<p><b>Teffont Village Design guide consultation.</b></p> <p>This agenda item was deferred to the VDS Group to discuss outside of this meeting due to the absence of Councillor Worth.</p>
	<p><b>National Trust Proposal for Philipps House.</b></p> <p>This agenda item was deferred to 12<sup>th</sup> December due to the absence of Councillor Worth.</p>
	<p><b>Environment Group Update</b></p> <p>Wessex water rivers trust has been discussed in the previous item 23.10.11. The environment group are going to undertake a knowledge sharing meeting with Mrs Pamela Fisher.</p>
	<p><b>Highways and Amenities Group Update.</b></p> <p>Councillor Bell informed the meeting the highways group wishes to proceed with installing horse warning signs near Clarendon stud. Clarendon stud have been approached to support 50% of the cost of the signs. This is to be confirmed. Councillor Deane will raise the cost at the next LHFIG meeting on 15.11.23 as he believes some financial support may be available. Discussions will continue with Wiltshire Council regarding speed limits. Councillor Blackford proposed TPC accept the estimated cost of the horse signs to enable the project to proceed.</p> <p><b>Proposed: NB    Seconded: SO    Carried: Unanimously</b></p> <p><b>Resolved: Teffont Parish Council resolved to proceed with the installation of horse warning signs near Clarendon Stud.</b></p>
	<p><b>Councillor Deane exited the meeting at 19:20</b></p>
	<p><b>Parish Steward.</b></p> <p>There were no issues raised for the Parish Steward.</p>
	<p><b>Chairs Report.</b></p> <p>Councillor O'Donnell informed the meeting Councillor Bell has agreed to join the Teffont Trust as TPC representative. Councillor Bell attended the TT meeting and will join them formally at a later date.</p> <p>Councillor O'Donnell offered formal thanks to the Teffont Trust for their generous grant of £2,700.00 to re ridge the bus shelters. This will protect the thatch for the next 10 years and preserves the cultural heritage of the buildings in the village.</p>
	<p><b>Clerks Report</b></p> <p>The Clerk has requested a quote from Dave Foy to renovate the bus shelter larch panels and to renovate the noticeboards. The quote also includes re-painting the phone box. The Teffont Trust has kindly offered to renovate the noticeboard adjacent to St Michaels church burial ground. The clerk will ask DF for a separate quote. The</p>

	<p>Chair suggested relocating the Eviars noticeboard near Howards House.</p> <p>The Clerk has organised a stargazing event in Dinton Park with Dark Skies Cranborne Chase on 9<sup>th</sup> November.</p>
23.01.06	<p><b>Items for the next Agenda.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Highways Update</b></li> <li>• <b>Environment Update</b></li> <li>• <b>Parish Steward Update</b></li> <li>• <b>Best Kept Village Competition</b></li> <li>• <b>Grass cutting contract</b></li> <li>• <b>Insurance renewal</b></li> <li>• <b>Rights of way footpaths</b></li> <li>• <b>Precept setting</b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>Meeting Closed: 19:26</b></p>
	<p><b>Date of next meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 Teffont Village Hall at 18:00</b></p> <p>Note: The Village Hall is open for 30 minutes prior to the start of any public meeting for questions from any resident.</p>

