

MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Council meeting) of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20th February 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Twynning

Councillors Present: Chairman Cllr P Hadley, Ellis, Ferguson, Lockett, Murray

Also Present: Clerk/RFO, County Councillor Cate Cody, Borough Councillor Mike Syzmiak, 9 members of the public

682	<p><u>Welcome</u> The Chairman will ask if anyone wishes to record or film the meeting. There were no requests</p>
683	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u> Councillors are reminded to give their apologies in writing to the clerk prior to any meeting. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Horsfall</p>
684	<p><u>Co-option of Councillor</u> To consider an application for co-option to the Council Two applicants introduced themselves to the council members. After consideration of their applications the Council voted unanimously to co-opt Keith Davies and Simon Clayson to the Council</p>
685	<p><u>Declaration of interest/Requests for Dispensation</u> Councillors are reminded to update their interests with any relevant change of personal circumstances There were no declarations or requests</p>
686	<p><u>To agree the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th January 2023</u> The Minutes were agreed as a true record</p>
687	<p><u>Meet representatives from AGE UK Gloucestershire to discuss holding Drop In Sessions in Twynning and their work in the Tewkesbury area</u> Ida Poschel, Community Circles Project Manage, representing AGE UK Gloucestershire was present to explain the work carried out locally. Currently based in Tewkesbury, the team realised there were not enough outreach services and started to provide Drop-In sessions in Northway and the library. The team are able to assist with advice on benefits such as carers allowance, access to help in the home, navigating the social care system for instance out of hospital services. They are also now providing assistance with digital skills. Homeshare is another project which matches households of over 65s with people needing accommodation who can provide company and support. AGE UK also produce helpful leaflets and booklets. She asked if a drop in session would be useful in Twynning. It was suggested that this could piggyback onto current sessions such as Lunch Club. Clerk to provide contacts.</p>
688	<p><u>Progress on Matters from Previous Minutes</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign – pending a decision by Glos County Council 2. Footpath Surfacing – completed 3. Expression of Interest in Nut Orchard – no response 4. Village Inn ACV – waiting decision by TBC
689	<p><u>Receive and request reports from Borough/County Councillors</u> Tewkesbury Borough Report for Twynning Parish Council.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20th February 2023</p> <p>Council tax. Tewkesbury Borough Council will meet tomorrow evening to discuss their budget and set the Council Tax for 23/24. The recommendation before Councillors is to increase the band D rate to £139.36, an increase of £5 per annum for the Borough portion of the council tax. (The total council tax that people have to pay will be much higher once you add on the county council, parish council and police and crime commissioner portions).</p> <p>Bridge to nowhere. The potential new bridge over the railway line in north Northway which had planning permission granted by the Borough was challenged in the High Court by Ashchurch Rural Parish and the permission was overturned by 3 judges that were officiating. If a new planning permission is made, whoever makes it, will have to address the issues raised by the judges namely,</p>

the need to conduct a full environmental impact assessment considering the consequences of building the bridge and also to balance the gains from the bridge against the negative effects. The bridge, if it gains permission, is part of the Garden Town Project.

Nut Orchard - Asset of Community Value Registration. It is proving difficult for a suitable date for the Tribunal to assess the merits of the Nut Orchard site as an asset of community value. A date between May and July is now being sought.

Nut Orchard – Planning Appeal. At the time of writing the Planning Inspector has not released her decision however decisions of this sort are normally made within 6 weeks so we should hear by the middle of March.

Voter Photo Id – households on the electoral register should have received a letter from the borough informing them of a change to the law whereby people voting at the polling station will have to show photo id to be able to vote. If you require further information on this then go to <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/photo-id-required-for-voting>

Ukraine update. As of the 3rd February in Tewkesbury Borough there are 99 guests with 43 active hosts/households.

The Tewkesbury Leisure Centre and Mythe Medical Centre have joined forces to provide classes to improve strength and balance for health and well-being.

Members allowance. Councillors voted in January to increase members allowance by approximately 4%. Although this percentage is below the inflation rate we both voted against the proposal as the Borough allowances are still higher than the average in the Country and also now is not the best time for residents to be funding this increase.

Hedgehog update. An order has been placed for some hedgehog warning signs.

Surgery. We plan to hold a surgery in Twyning on the Tuesday 7th March at 7pm.

Cllrs Mike Sztymiak and Philip Workman.

Gloucestershire County Council Report - Cate Cody - 20th February 2023

- Bow Farm Gravel Extraction (Land At Bow Farm, Bow Lane, Twyning, Tewkesbury) Planning Application 19/0081/TWMAJM Was refused on 26/01/23
- Kemerton Conservation Trust are purchasing additional land situated on the bank of the Avon River at Upham Meadow SSSI near Twyning. It has a public footpath along the riverbank and boats can moor alongside the Meadow. In summer it is a popular walk for locals, fishermen and boaters also use the riverbank and in winter it is a crucial natural flood defence for the local area, absorbing water when river levels rise. It will also provide vital nesting habitat for curlews and skylarks. I'm pleased to say that I have given some of my Gloucestershire funding towards this project.
- County Budget wins The four-strong Green Group at GCC has secured amendments worth over £400,000. These include a range of projects that will help the council meet its environmental commitments, support communities and protect our natural landscape. They will: Give people the opportunity to trial e-bikes; Provides secure bike storage, (lockers for road bikes / e-bikes, to store equipment etc); Fund improvements to our rivers with biodiversity promotion and tackling pollution and fund the maintenance of public rights of way so residents can enjoy our fabulous Gloucestershire scenery. Full GCC budget: <https://tinyurl.com/3wdfhpnf>
- How can transport can be decarbonised? Please give your views on the best methods for reducing the emissions and tackling the climate emergency, the survey is open until 28/02/23 <https://tinyurl.com/2p8vexud> 'Cutting costs and carbon'
- Winter energy saving campaign. In the UK, around 22% of carbon emissions come from our homes, (heating, lighting and appliances). Carbon and money saving ideas here: <https://tinyurl.com/v5s8xab>
- Have your say on GCC's healthy lifestyles service As part of the council's legal duty to improve the health and wellbeing of local people and reduce health inequalities, they provide a healthy lifestyles service that supports people to make changes like quitting smoking or losing weight.

	<p>The consultation runs until 16/04/23 https://tinyurl.com/2p83h4wr 'No Person is an Island'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCC's Director of Public Health's first annual report. It highlights connecting with others for good health, wellbeing and the prevention of loneliness. The report showcases projects and groups bringing people together and provides recommendations that individuals, communities and organisations can take to make sure Gloucestershire is a place which connects people. "One thing we can all do is check in on someone, be that a friend, family or a neighbour". Read the excellent report here: https://tinyurl.com/46v5afcu • Tewkesbury Repair Cafe Next session Sat 18th March, 2-5pm at the Baptist Church. • As part of the Fire Kills campaign, Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service is encouraging parents and carers to make any kitchen activities a chance for children to learn about cooking safety. Fire Safety in the kitchen Top tips: If you need to leave the kitchen whilst cooking, take pans off the heat or turn them down to avoid risk. If a pan catches fire, don't take any risks: Get Out, Stay Out, and Call 999. Double check the hob and oven are off when you've finished cooking. Keep tea towels and cloths away from cookers and hobs. Watch loose clothing – this can easily catch fire. Avoid leaving children in the kitchen alone when cooking. Keep matches and saucepan handles out of their reach to keep them safe. Keep leads and appliances away from water and place grills and toasters away from curtains. Keep equipment clean and in good working order, a build-up of fat and grease can ignite a fire. Don't cook after drinking alcohol. Hot oil can catch fire easily - be careful it doesn't overheat. Never throw water on a chip pan fire. In the event of a fire, have an escape plan in place. Don't take risks by tackling a fire. Get out, stay out and call 999. Make sure you have at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home and test them monthly.
690	<p><u>Receive reports from Parish Councillors</u> Tree Warden Report - All Parish Council owned trees were inspected. Nothing significant to report. There was minor shedding on the two Plane trees-The Ratley Green dead tree was part-felled on the 27th January. Work to create a habitat area with the wood will commence when the weather improves. We have taken possession of the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Oak Tree. A planting ceremony will be arranged and the necessary information passed to GCC.</p>
691	<p><u>Council Business</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree the bank reconciliation for January – The balance was agreed as correct at £19473.96 and payments were checked against invoices by Cllr Murray 2. Agree the budget report – Expenditure/ Receipts to date were noted 3. Agree payments in February: The following payments were agreed: Chris Arnold - Tree Surgery 150 Village Hall - meeting room 16 Councillor Lockett - Expenses 33.45 Administration 985.22 Sarah Don Bramah- Website editor 283.32 (previous month still not invoiced) Bank Charges 8 Microsoft 11.28 Sinclair Minibus 456 Office Expenses 79.4 Other expenses of £35.15 for tree planting was agreed together with payment of the invoice for footpath surfacing £2970 4. Agree the arrangements for the Annual Parish Assembly, speakers, organisations to be invited, civic award – Cllr Hadley had drawn up a list of organisations and would circulate for help with contact details 5. Consider purchase of a tree plaque and agree wording – Council agreed to purchase a tree stake at £43 with standard wording. 6. Review the Risk assessment of council activities and Fixed Asset Register B/F 7. Discuss moving planning matters to main Council and start times of meetings – Cllr Davies offered to join the Planning Committee therefore committee meetings would remain at 7pm 8. Slow down for Horses & Hedgehogs signs – receive clerk's report and discuss

Max Kelly, Area Manager GCC, met with myself, Borough Cllrs Workman and Sztymiak to discuss signage for hedgehogs and horses.

Hedgehogs

We learned that hedgehog signs may have to pass regulation tests and be a standard sign to be acceptable on the highway.

Otherwise, the design created by the school could be attached to street furniture such as a gateway or be placed on parish council land with the permission of the council. We looked at some possible gateway locations in Brockeridge Road and Hillend Road. These would cost approximately £3000 but are a good safety measure to indicate to drivers that they are entering a built up area. GCC might match fund.

Horses

Max agreed that funding might be found for signage in the next financial year. We identified two areas in Downfield Lane which allowed space for signs. The lane leaves the Village Green and winds round into Hillend Road and is very narrow with no space for a horse to leave the road with traffic travelling in both directions.

I sent street views of the locations we thought possible:

In the direction from Hillend Rd to Downfield Lane opposite the pond, and again in that direction just before the road narrows heading towards the Village Green.

We also looked at Cherry Orchard Lane and the lane leading to Church End either side of the junction but decided there was no space for a sign.

Vehicle Activated Sign

We are waiting on the outcome of our application. If we get a static sign then the preference would be for this to go on Brockeridge Road where we have indicated gateways might be appropriate. This is the location which showed the most speeding.

If we get a Mobile sign then a second position could be the Change in Road Layout sign which is redundant just around the corner catching traffic from the other direction.

Councillor Ferguson and a member of the public thought that horse signs were needed in Hillend Road and Church End Rd.

9. Additional litter bins on the Quay (£402 each) – discuss whether the provision of further bins will assist in litter control and whether to accept the cost – **Cllr Luckett to check whether existing bin could be relocated with the new bins in a more discreet location.**

10. Consider a Drive It Day application for use of the Village Green – **The Council approved the use of the village green for the 23rd April**

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Village Matters

Changing Rooms

Receive drawings and tenders for approval –

TRAC is seeking utilise the £48,000 S106 funds to enhance the existing changing room facilities at the TRAC site with the addition of an external accessible toilet. Since previous updates some progress has been made in aligning plans and identifying a builder such that we would like to agree with the Parish Council that we are in an agreeable position to proceed.

TRAC are planning to add a fully Document M compliant accessible toilet and baby changing facility to the east elevation of the existing Changing Room building.

The facility will make toilet and baby changing available to TRAC users of the Tennis Club, Twyning Tigers, other group users and families using the playground.

The Clerk queried whether further use of the funding might be used for better security etc. Cllr Hadley had made the original application and the PC need to explain to TBC the change in plan and obtain approval before proceeding any further. Planning Fees might then be claimed as part of the S106 payment. TRAC would obtain another quotation for the building works.

Twyning Primary School

The school have made an approach to the Parish Council to find a solution for construction welfare/parking during building works at the school – discuss what information is required to take this further

Cllr Hadley provided a report :

Summary

- TPS have approval and funding from GCC to expand school to 140 pupils

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal is to build a 5th classroom on the existing upper playground • Barnwood appointed (by GCC) as contractor for a 55 or 63 sq.m. building • Programme is very tight with an April start to complete by Sept 2023 • GCC / Barnwood have requested use of PC land for the site compound <p>Current situation</p> <p>1. Planning GCC can determine some its own planning applications under Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992 where the development is to be carried for the provision of statutory GCC services (the provision of school places). However, the current construction programme assumes Permitted Development (PD) as determined by TBC Officers.</p> <p>2. Timing Subject to proposals being PD, a start in April / Easter Holidays is planned with construction through the summer term & summer holidays.</p> <p>The Developer has asked permission for a compound on parish council land subject to a licence but without payment. The Council determined it could not consider this request without proof that the necessary planning permission was in place and would need to consider payment for use of the verge and terms for the protection of the Green/consideration of residents.</p>
693	<p><u>Public Participation</u> Members of the public may raise question on any items on this agenda: A resident queried why the school were not considering building up a level instead of a separate building. It was anticipated that this was due to costs. A resident queried the number of markings appearing on the pavements. It was anticipated that this might be Openreach and Severn Trent. TRAC requested more information about EV charging points as they might be able to accommodate one on the TRAC site. TRAC are still exploring funding for a defibrillator on the site. It was suggested that a suitable location might be alongside the school, opposite the shop. (B/F to next agenda)</p>
694	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u> 20th March 2023</p>
695	<p><u>The Council meeting will be adjourned for a meeting of the Staffing Committee – No quorum, deferred</u></p>