

TRUDOXHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 6th November 2008.

PRESENT;

Mr Rod Lewis, Mr Patrick Twigger, Ms Flo Wallace, Mr Paul Wacey, Mr K Gray, Mr B Drage, Cllr Skidmore and Cllr. Cawood.

Somerset County Council Officers, Ioan Rees, Andrew Turner.

Carol Driver

APOLOGIES: Mrs Anne Friend

Mr Lewis had extended an invitation to Ioan Rees, Head of Highways and Transport for Somerset County Council and Andrew Turner, Head of Highway Maintenance for Sedgemoor and Mendip, Somerset County Council. Both Gentlemen answered questions about the condition of and maintenance plans for the roads and lanes within the Parish put to them by the council and an edited version of their comments follows:

Any work will depend on the budget to be set for the next financial year.

Foghamshire Lane from the Chapel to just west of Trudoxmead is due to be resurfaced as is the area on the Gare Hill Road prior to Cricket Farm past Brickhouse Farm to the veterinary entrance. Work is planned for early June 2009. All residents fronting the effected areas will be notified in advance to minimise any inconvenience.

The Parish Council has requested lights at the junction of the A361 and the turning to the village. Mr Rees said as this was not an accident black spot any lighting would have to be funded by the Parish. Mr Turner stated he would cost the work and let the PC know in due course. An alternative safety measure would be to construct a slip lane for those turning left travelling from east to west. Highways will monitor this area of concern. The PC also requested Highways to place verge side reflective bollards from this junction to indicate the very sharp bend on entering the road leading to the village.

The question of Brown Signs on the A361 showing the White Hart Pub and the Macmillan Way was again raised and supported by Councillors Cawood and Skidmore. Mr Rees said these were only used when a Public House was in a remote area or the amenity was of an historic nature. The Parish Council then sited many Brown Signs where this was not the case in the immediate area. Mr Rees asked the Parish Council to send him a list of signs that they felt were putting the amenities of Trudoxhill at a disadvantage by not allowing and erecting such signs.

Mr Lewis asked if it would be possible if there could be a weight restriction on roads throughout the Parish. Mr Rees and Mr Turner said width restrictions such as those in place in the Parish were more effective. When told of the increasing number of heavy lorries using the village as a through road the Parish were advised to collect evidence and send to Geoff Bunting.

The issue of constructing pavements throughout the village on safety grounds and partly on the grounds that it would be easier for Mendip to clean the road was discussed. The PC asked for a manual road sweep as the present method of a mechanical sweep was ineffective as the lorry could not get close enough to the road edge. The mechanical sweep did not cover the whole village and at times only swept one side of the road. The Parish were advised that they contact the department at Mendip responsible for road cleaning to discuss this matter and obtain a copy of the areas and a timetable that the contractors should be adhering to. When the matter of farmers failing to regularly clean mud that is deposited on to the roads from fields by tractors the PC was advised that the

Parish contact Mr Errington, Mendip District would clean the area and could re charge the farmer/landowner.

The Parish Council was advised that the speed limiters would be on place 'soon'.

The Minutes:

Having being circulated were proposed by Ms Wallace and seconded by Mr Wacey, Mr Lewis signed them off as a true copy.

Matters Arising:

Litter picking – Mrs Friend wished to thank those who turned out too help. It was generally thought that it was a little too early in the Autumn to access the hedges.

Mr Lewis has yet to contact the residents at Somerset Villa regarding the hedge obscuring motorist and pedestrian views when exiting West End Lane.

Chicken Sheds, Bunns Lane. Appeal hearing now complete and decision expected early in December.

Correspondence:

No Action.

Planning:

Mr C Gumm, Meadowside Farm. Approved

For Discussion

Ms Wallace announced that the website was now up and running but would like feed back from those with access to the internet. It was suggested that someone was needed to keep the website up to date, adding minutes and newsletter etc. It was agreed that software be purchased for this to allow for this to be done. Ms Wallace has offered to purchase the software and do the updating in the short term but as she has young family would prefer to hand this to someone else.

Accounts For Payment.

- Paul Lovell – Grass Cutting.
- Geoffrey Hill – Website Design
- Zurich Insurance
- Moore Stephens
- Parish Clerk.

The meeting closed at 9 pm, next meeting Thursday 4th December 2008.