

Teffont Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Madeline Honeybourne

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Teffont Village Hall

27th June 2023 at 18:00

(This meeting was recorded).

MEETING CONVENED: 18:00

Those present:

Parish Councillors: I. Johnson (Chair). S. O'Donnell (Vice Chair). T. Deane. E. Worth.
C. Bell. N. Blackford

Also in attendance: M. Honeybourne (Parish Clerk). Councillor B. Wayman. 6 members of the public.

Questions and Statements.

The Chair invited questions and statements from the public.

There was a statement from:

Mrs Zillah Faulkner regarding the condition of the village rights of way, in particular, Teff13 and Teff 8. Mrs Faulkner requested a survey of all footpaths in the village be undertaken and for notification to be sent to relevant landowners to clear footpaths, bridleways and make good stiles and gates. Mrs Faulkner noted a steep bank on Teff 13 which is overgrown and obscures the road from pedestrians, making it unsafe. Teff 8 is a bridleway which has become overgrown and should be cleared to make a path of 1.5 to 2 metres wide for riders and walkers. There is dismay amongst village residents at the poor state of Teff 8. There is more concern caused by the sound of gunshots heard from the clay shooting range which is in such close proximity to a right of way and bridleway. Warning signs are displayed but this means use of the bridleway has become restricted at times. The noise and disruption from the Clay shooting operation has become intrusive in our family way of life and personally affects us. We have 3 horses on our property for our daughter and grandchildren who wish to ride the whole of Teff 8 safely and unencumbered. On numerous occasions they have set off and had to turn back due to the gunshot noise frightening the ponies. Mrs Faulkner requests the owner of Fontwyke Park publish their shoot dates on the village website and consider not shooting when the prevailing wind carries the noise across their neighbours.

Mr Robin Faulkner stated it is time to resolve the noise nuisance emanating from the clay shoot at Fontwyke Park. Mr Faulkner has taken advice and looked at cases and now believes there is a public nuisance caused by the shooting at Fontwyke Park causing significant harm, discomfort and obstruction to the public in general. Mr Faulkner states there is also a private nuisance which significantly interferes with the neighbours reasonable enjoyment of their own lives. Government supported guidelines from the Chartered Institute for Environmental Health for clay shooting, appear not to have been followed. These guidelines are echoed by the Countryside Alliance, British Association of Shooting Conservation and Clay Shooting Association and are supported by the views of a Solicitor who encourages shoot owners to do all they can to gain

	<p>neighbour support for their clay shoot operation. Mr Faulkner stated innumerable letters, emails and phone calls had been made to Fontwyke Park offering sound suggestions for improvement have been to no avail. Some Village residents have become so enraged they have been tempted to take extreme action. We fully support the complaints made by others. On frequent occasion our lives too, have been severely disrupted. We should like the guidelines to be followed in action and in spirit. Mr Faulkner asked for Fontwyke Park to let the village know shoot dates and duration of shoots and reverberations and to also take into account the weather conditions. Mr Faulkner would also like to know under what legislation or permission the clay shooting facility is operated? Mr Faulkner stated it was unlikely to be operated under the 28 day ruling based on evidence in the last month, shooting days would equate to 72 days per year. Records held by Fontwyke Park should clarify this. Mr Faulkner raised the substantial earthworks seen on aerial photos on Google Earth, do not appear temporary and would ask the owners to review all the guidance and legislation, and ensure they are doing all they can to live within the law and in harmony with their surrounding villages and may I please ask the PArish Council to guide them in so doing?</p> <p>Mr Michael Groom Re: Clay Pigeon shooting at Fontwyke Park, Teffont 22 June 2023</p> <p>I submit that the Authorities should restrict or ban the ongoing disturbance caused by the repetitive and relentless target shooting which takes place on most days of the week, including weekends, Sundays and Public Holidays at Fontwyke Park.</p> <p>No respect is shown to residents who must suffer the noise nuisance, which shatters the peace and calm for residents in Teffont, a community of approximately 120 dwellings (of which there are 49 listed buildings) and two churches, all within an area containing an SSSI and within an AONB.</p> <p>This beautiful valley is being severely affected – the topography exacerbates the noise from the shooting; a factor which should be taken into account. Additionally. It should be noted that there are two clay pigeon shoots within this one small village.</p> <p>In any event, dwellings, bridleways and footpaths should be protected by a statutory 1.5km buffer zone. Furthermore, there is a real danger to those riding horses (especially children) on bridleways nearby.</p> <p>In summary, the peaceful pleasures of living in the country are being severely jeopardised throughout the year. Residents are not kept informed of the schedule of shooting activities, which compounds the problem.</p> <p>The Parish Council and Authorities are requested to undertake a detailed investigation of these concerns, none of which are being addressed by the owners of Fontwyke Park, and the regulations governing shooting should be properly enforced.</p> <p>Michael Groom Holt House, Teffont Evias SP3 5RE</p> <p>To be forwarded by TPC to Wiltshire Council</p>
	<p>Report from Wiltshire Councillor.</p> <p>Councillor Wayman has been on holiday and, therefore, unable to prepare a report. Councillor Wayman did inform the Council of and Area Board meeting in Dinton.</p>
<h2>MEETING MINUTES</h2>	
23.06.01	<p>Resolution to receive apologies for absence.</p> <p>The Chair asked Council to accept the resignation of Councillor Graham due to work commitments.</p> <p>Proposed: EW Seconded: IJ Carried: Unanimously</p> <p>RESOLVED. Council resolved to accept Julia Grahams resignation</p>
23.06.02	<p>Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.</p> <p>None</p>

23.06.03	<p>Resolution of Minutes.</p> <p>The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on the 23rd May 2023 and 30th May 2023 were presented by the Clerk as an accurate and true reflection of the meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Deane challenged a typing error on the date. The Clerk informed Councillor Deane the typing error had been rectified. Councillor Deane asked why he hadn't seen the corrected minutes. The Clerk offered to postpone the agenda item but Councillor Deane gave permission to proceed.</p> <p>Councillor Deane queried whether Councillor Johnson had been a 'victim' of the flood, as stated in the minutes.</p> <p>Councillor Deane challenged the level of rainfall stated in the minutes. The Clerk informed him the amount of rainfall was given by the Environment Agency. Councillor Deane disagreed with the Environment Agency number of millimetres of rainfall. Councillor Worth informed Councillor Deane that his challenges were invalid.</p> <p>Proposed. SO Seconded. IJ Carried. Majority</p> <p>Resolved. Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes as a true and accurate reflection of the meetings held 23.05.23</p> <p>Proposed. NB Seconded. SO Carried. Unanimously</p> <p>Resolved. Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes as a true and accurate reflection of the meetings held 30.05.23</p>
23.06.12	<p>Noise Nuisance. Councillor Deane requested this item be moved forward on the agenda for the convenience of the members of the public in attendance. The Chair agreed.</p> <p>The Chair stated his intention of arranging a meeting with the owners of Fontwyke Park to inform them of the recent complaints of noise nuisance made by village residents in Teffont Evias.</p> <p>The Chair proposes opening a dialogue with Fontwyke Park to facilitate a better understanding of noise nuisance felt by villagers from Clay Shooting. The Chair's intentions are also to establish shoot dates and times, to be placed on the village website. Further aims are to limit noise nuisance when there are weddings taking place and at weekends when villagers are enjoying their homes and gardens.</p> <p>Furthermore, there are Rights of Way issues regarding the overgrown nature of Bridleway Teff 8. The Chair aims to discuss the close proximity of the shooting when there are riders and walkers on Teff 8. The Clerk will contact Fontwyke Park to arrange a meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk has been in recent contact with Fontwyke Park and informed them of the complaints. The Clerk asked for decibel readings but these have not been forthcoming.</p> <p>Councillor Worth reminded the Councillors of previous conversations with Fontwyke Park when they first moved to the village, regarding shooting noise. A meeting previously took place between the Chair, Clerk and the owners of Fontwyke Park which was beneficial. The owners of Fontwyke Park were open to dialogue with village residents, at the time.</p> <p>Councillor Worth stated she had recently been walking in a field when the shooting began and she was 'astonished' at the noise level and stated 'it sounded like a battlefield'.</p> <p>The Clerk has been in contact with Ley Farm regarding their shoot dates, which have kindly been supplied, and they were not shooting on the day concerned. They have expressed concern that if complaints are made, they will be happy to meet to village residents. No complaints have been made naming Ley Farm.</p> <p>Councillor Worth asked if this could be escalated to Public Protection. The Clerk informed Councillor Worth the noise diaries are key to escalating the issue. The Clerk stated Public Protection could be consulted regarding Teff 8 bridleway and its close proximity to the shoot.</p> <p>Councillor Worth noted TPC which to support the Olympic Bronze medallist at Fontwyke Park but a compromise needs to be found to resolve the noise issue.</p> <p>The Chair suspended Standing orders to allow Mrs Z. Faulkner to comment. Mrs Faulkner stated the noise monitoring diary supplied by Public Protection at Wiltshire Council was now being used by several village residents to log the date and times of shooting noise. The Clerk offered to publish the diary pages on the local town crier so that a wider audience might participate in monitoring noise nuisance from clay shooting. This was agreed.</p> <p>Councillor Wayman offered to raise the issue with the Rights of Way Officer. This offer was accepted by the Chair.</p>

	<p>Standing orders were reinstated. Councillor O'Donnell suggested all local shoots should be informed of wedding dates to minimise noise disruption. A suggestion was made to create a diary page on the website to include shoot dates and wedding dates.</p> <p>The Chair proposed a meeting with the owners of Fontwyke Park to open a dialogue and inform them of the complaints made against them. Furthermore, to contact Public Protection regarding the bridleway Teff 8 and the effects of gunshot noise on horses and walkers.</p> <p>The Chair further proposed the setting up of an events diary on the village website.</p> <p>Proposed: IJ Seconded: TD Carried: Unanimously</p> <p>Resolved. Council resolved to arrange a meeting with the owners of Fontwyke Park to open a dialogue and inform them of the complaints made against them. Furthermore, to contact Public Protection regarding the bridleway Teff 8 and the effects of gunshot noise on horses and walkers.</p> <p>The Chair further proposed the setting up of an events diary on the village website.</p>
23.06.04 /05	<p>Finance Reports.</p> <p>The Clerk informed the Parish Council of their current financial position. The Clerk informed the PC of the outstanding balance for the current financial year and informed the Council the finances are reconciled with all bank accounts.</p> <p>There were no cheque payments made.</p> <p>The Clerk asked the Council to agree the financial records as true and accurate for the financial year to date</p> <p>Proposed: EW Seconded: NB Carried: Unanimously</p> <p>Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to accept the financial statement as a true and accurate report of their financial position for year to date 23/24.</p> <p>The Council requested a current budget forecast for the remaining financial year.</p> <p>The Clerk agreed to prepare a forecast for the next meeting.</p>
23.06.06	<p>Review and Reset of Council Ways of Working. The Chair informed the Council of a recent meeting with the Vice Chair to review current subcommittees and ways of working with a view to refreshing the groups and their remits. The Chair proposed introducing advisory groups to report back to Council with a proposal to refocus and bring new perspective to working parties. The Chair opened the subject for discussion with Councillors</p> <p>The Clerk presented a slide of suggested advisory groups, remits and Councillors to work within each group. Councillor O'Donnell noted Councillors strengths and expertise and personal workloads should be considered. Councillors considered the proposal. The Chair stated all advisory groups are incumbent to inform the proper officer of contact and communications with outside agencies. Furthermore, all advisory groups will be required to adhere to the code of conduct and to work collaboratively across the advisory groups. Councillor O'Donnell noted handover of notes from former groups will be required. Councillor Bell commented the reason for the groups was to facilitate community engagement, to enable the use of experts when needed but to also enable the groups to be more agile. The groups would then be better informed to bring agenda items for consideration to the PC meetings. The Chair agreed this would drive ideas forward.</p> <p>The Chair proposed the advisory groups were agreed and accepted as new ways of working for the Council.</p> <p>Proposed: IJ Seconded: NB Carried: Unanimously</p> <p>RESOLVED: The Council resolved to accept the new ways of working, remits and advisory groups.</p>
23.06.07	<p>Adoption of Code of Conduct, Finance Regulations, Standing Orders and Complaints Procedure.</p> <p>The Clerk asked all Councillors to check their Declarations of interest. The Clerk has forwarded the access codes to all Councillors</p>

	<p>Proposed: SO Seconded: EW Carried: Unanimously Resolved: Council resolved to adopt the Code of Conduct, Finance Regulations, Standing Orders and Complaints Procedure.</p>
23.06.08	<p>Teffont Design Guide update. No progress has been made to date. Councillor Bell noted a training course run by the NALC could be useful. The Chair noted the new advisory group on Planning will investigate all options available. Councillor Deane asked if alms houses and affordable homes would be considered. The Chair confirmed they would be covered by the remit should the matter need to be considered.</p> <p>The Chair proposed Councillor Worth contact the author of The Chute Design Guide for a quote to write a design guide for Teffont. Councillor Bell agreed to attend a training course offered by the NALC</p> <p>Proposed: IJ Seconded: NB Carried: Unanimously</p>
23.06.09	<p>Climate Action Group. Councillor O'Donnell and Councillor Worth recently attended a meeting of the Tisbury Climate Action Committee. Councillor O'Donnell informed the Council of how impressive the group are even though they have only been in existence for one year. The areas the Tisbury group are investigating are recycling schemes, biodiversity, carbon reduction and so much more. Councillor O'Donnell stated it is essential that climate action remains a rolling agenda item for TPC. Councillor O'Donnell stated there was much to be learnt from other local climate action groups without the need for TPC to create their own projects. Councillor Worth has recently attended another meeting of the same group and both Councillors have been invited to participate in the next meeting and will be included on the agenda. Councillor Worth has attended the Big Green Week and attended a talk from Peter Shallcross, a local farmer. Councillor Worth has asked Mr Shallcross to present his talk in the village hall in September. Councillor Worth proposed TPC pay for hire of the village hall.</p> <p>The Chair stated the Climate Advisory Group will be the key component to all the work TPC undertakes through all the advisory groups.</p> <p>Councillor Worth has proposed Thursday 7th September for the presentation in the village hall. Councillor Bell offered to contact other local councils for their Climate Action contacts.</p> <p>Proposed: EW Seconded: TD Carried: Unanimously RESOLVED: Council resolved to pay the cost of hire of the village hall for a presentation by Mr Peter Shallcross on Thursday 7th September 2023</p>
23.06.10	<p>Flood Risk Update. Councillor Johnson informed the Council he had participated in a tour of the village to assess mitigation actions for flood risk. He was joined by Michael Holm from the EA, Danny Everett, Drainage Engineer Wilts Council, Harry Button, Flood warden, David Holm from the Teffont Estate, Councillor Blackford and Councillor O'Donnell. Michael Holm and Danny Everett will collaborate to write a report of suggested actions. M. Holm stated there were no quick fixes to mitigate the flood risk in the village but they will make a report of suggested interventions residents could make. The EA require as much evidence as possible from the recent flood to facilitate possible future funding to assist in helping avoid future flooding. Residents are urged to complete flood forms and return to EA, ASAP. The group toured the village and inspected drains. A suggestion was made for WC sewer/drainage to come to Teffont during the summer months and clear the drains through to ensure they are all flowing at speed. Wessex Water conduct routine maintenance in the village. Councillor Deane apologised for being unavailable for the tour. Councillor Deane suggested some quick fixes that may be suggested, contrary to the EA. Councillor Johnson suggested we wait for the report to arrive before making decisions and then reconvene. Council agreed to resend the flood forms out to the village. Councillor Worth stated consideration and respect must given to residents who do not wish to participate in completing the forms. The flood working group agreed to collate any additional information and photos relating to the flood event and forward them to the EA.</p> <p>Proposed: IJ Seconded: NB Carried: Unanimously RESOLVED: Council resolved to resend flood documents out to the village and to reconvene when they have received the flood report form the EA. Council further resolved to collate any additional information and photos relating to the flood event and forward them to the EA.</p>
23.06.11	<p>Highways Update. Councillor Deane does not believe the data contained in the Atkins report is sufficiently detailed and has suggested the report should be challenged with Wiltshire</p>

	<p>Council. The Clerk has already sent a list of questions to Paul Shaddock regarding the Atkins report. Councillor Deane challenged the value that SIDs afford. Councillor Wayman informed Council of an out of date study carried out that was incorrect in its data and opinion in Sid's as a speed deterrent. Dinton Village have found SID's to be of immense value to deterring speeding vehicles. Council continued to debate traffic calming measures.</p> <p>Council proposed to arrange a Teams meeting with Paul Shaddock to discuss the Atkins report before deciding on a final proposal for traffic calming measures for the village.</p> <p>Proposed: IJ Seconded: SO Carried: Unanimously</p> <p>RESOLVED: Council resolved to contact Paul Shaddock at Wilt. Council to review the Atkins report.</p>
23.06.12	<p>Parish Steward. Councillor Blackford is the nominated contact for the Parish Steward. Councillor Blackford has met the Steward and will forward the form to him with identified jobs to be completed.</p>
23.06.13	<p>Chairs Report. Councillor Johnson has contacted Mick Audus regarding business email addresses for Councillors. Councillor Johnson proposes moving this forward. Councillors have previously used their personal email addresses. Councillor Worth expressed a preference to maintain using a personal address. The Clerk informed Councillors they leave themselves open to divulging personal information for GDPR. Councillors agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting. Councillor Johnson queried the level of notifications from the flood warden The flood risk group agreed to pick this up. Councillor Johnson informed the meeting of ongoing issues with the grass cutting contractors. The contract ends this year and investigations have begun for a new contractor.</p>
23.06.14	<p>Clerks Report. The Clerk enquired whether the Council would be interested in arranging a stargazing event for the Village with Steve Tonkin from the Cranborne Chase Dark skies group. Councillors agreed to go ahead. The Clerk has advertised the Casual vacancy for a Councillor and is awaiting nominations. The Clerk has published the public rights for residents to inspect the finances. They have been published on the village website. The Clerk expressed personal thanks to Mr Don Ridley for giving his time to audit the accounts for the Council.</p>
23.06.15	<p>Correspondence Received.</p> <p>The Clerk received an email from Mr. M. Groom read out at the beginning of the meeting, regarding noise nuisance and expressed his disapproval of the use of residents to conduct speed checks on drivers. The Clerk is not available for the next PC meeting for the 8th August. Council agreed to move the meeting date. Council agreed to move the next meeting .</p> <p>Proposed: CB Seconded: IJ Carried Unanimously</p> <p>RESOLVED: Council resolved to move the date of the next meeting to the 12th September</p>
23.06.16	<p>Items for the next agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Parish Steward update •Advisory Group updates •Business email addresses
	<p>Meeting Closed: 20.07</p>
	<p>Date of next meeting: 12th September 2023 at Teffont Village Hall at 18:00</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>

