

17/15 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

In attendance

Clive Nightingale (Chair), Chris Hollander (Parish Clerk), Eileen White, Tom White, Stephen Bennett, Mike Bennett, Barry Gibson, Brenda Gibson, Jackie Bradley, Alan Mauro
Margaret Norris, Andrew Dunstan, Tif Loehnis, Rob Pollock

Apologies

Will Carleton Paget, Viv Bennett, Ben Bradley, Emma Bradley, Percy Bradley, Tomas Bradley,
Jess L Warde, Peter Buckman, Nigel Coulston, Anne Carter, Sue Cave

17/16 Reports from County/District Councillors. No Councillors were present

17/17 Minutes of, and matters arising from, the AGM held on 15th May 2017

It was pointed out that the statement (17/07) that the Timberyard was not liable for Council Tax was incorrect. The Chairman apologised and agreed to remove it. Tom White so proposed and Barry Gibson seconded. The Chairman reported that the Poor's Land Trust had notified its tenant of an increase in rent to £100 an acre from 2018 (Item 17/11). The Chairman noted that Mr Holt, the owner of Fitt's Barn, had more than fulfilled his undertaking to make good any damage to the verges nearby. (Item 17/05). Thanks were voted to the organizers and helpers for a very successful village picnic on 25th June (Item 17/13).

17/18 Approval of Audited Annual Return and financial update.

Barry Gibson reported that the external auditors had approved the accounts. The Parish assets remained unchanged. Funds were sufficient to meet our needs for the next year but, following the registration of the Timberyard Room there might be a need to raise funds in the future (for 2019/20). Thanks were expressed to all those involved in looking after the interests of the Timberyard Room, and to Barry Gibson for managing the Parish Accounts.

17/19 Soho Farmhouse development proposal

The Chairman noted that most objections lodged online concern a likely increase in road traffic. There was some discussion, as at earlier meetings, of a speed limit for Little Tew, and a consensus that village traffic has increased. The developers are apparently funding improvements in road signage and have commissioned traffic surveys. A survey for Little Tew was suggested, as were traffic calming measures and the adoption of signs such "20 is Plenty" seen in Swerford. The proposal to create a motor museum on the Enstone Airfield site implied, it was felt, a further threat to local roads. The Chairman was asked to communicate village concern about traffic volume and speed to the Council.

17/20 Superfast Broadband

Mike Tomlinson updated the meeting. He said that fibre broadband had been due to be introduced in early 2018 but this had been cancelled. Meanwhile, Wurzelweb, using microwave broadband, were hoping to be up and running by the end of the year. Home Farm would be a possible site for a mast. The Council had received tenders for broadband contracts which were due to be signed soon. Little Tew was under review, though Great Tew School would need to be supplied. Mike confirmed that customer contracts would be on an individual basis, not as part of a village community. Mobile phone companies were another option as a source of broadband.

17/21 The Timberyard Room Trust

The accounts were approved by the auditors.

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17/22 Date of Christmas social event

It was agreed this should take place on Saturday, 2nd December.

17/23 Any Other Business

Tom White invited suggestions for suitable ways to use money donated formerly to support the village Newsletter (£195). Printing copies of the village Millenium Book to give to new residents was felt to be a good idea. Refurbishing notice boards might also be appropriate. Ginny Thomas announced a concert at St Michael's Church on 5th November and a churchyard tidying on 29th October. There would be a coffee morning on 21st October.

17/24 Dates of future meetings

It was agreed that the next (Annual General) meeting be held on Monday, 14th May at 7:30pm.