

**Turville Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Turville Parish**  
**Council on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Turville Village**  
**Hall, Northend commencing at 7.30pm**

Present: David Cairns- Chairman  
Ray Jones- Vice-Chairman  
Barbara Phillips  
Margaret Drage  
Veronica Ramsay

In attendance: Deirdre Hansen- Clerk.

Also attended by Phillip Arnott, Nigel Adams, Robert Barber, Robin Harman and Graham Twemlow

1. No apologies received
2. No disclosure of interest in items on the agenda
3. Application 11/07684/TPO by Turville Park Estate for Works to various trees as per Turville Park Estate schedule of works document. The chairman gave a brief introduction to the topic and explained that he had spoken to the second owner of part of the Lime Avenue. It was the intention that the meeting should focus on the present and the future. All members of the liaison group were present

*The meeting was closed to allow for public speaking.*

*The meeting was reopened.*

The report provided by the liaison group circulated to all councillors was considered a very useful tool and the PC requested to be able to use the information in their response to WDC. The request was granted.

The meeting discussed the report and the various options. The communication from the estate was a positive step, but the liaison group would like annual contact with the estate.

The overall thoughts were that the veteran small-leaved lime trees should be retained as long as possible whilst meeting the requirements of public safety. The intention is to preserve the existing character of the Lime Avenue.

*The parish council had no objection to the proposed works, subject to the following comments:*

*The proposed works are unclear about the need for, and the timing of, any replacement of veteran small-leaved limes. Historically, the avenue has been famed for its small-leaved limes. Only the juvenile trees (recently planted) and the veterans are small-leaved limes. The diversity of age is also a feature of the avenue and should be preserved. Without the veterans, there would be no mature small-leaved limes on the avenue. Therefore their preservation is considered to be an important part of the conservation of the avenue. For that reason the parish council believes that the veteran small-leaved limes should be retained as long as possible subject to any requirements of public safety. Despite the condition of some of the veteran trees, they have responded well to previous surgery. No decision on their replacement should be made until they have had the opportunity to respond to the further surgery now included in the proposed works.*

*The parish council has consulted a liaison group which has met the representatives of the applicant and discussed the proposed works. The group shares the council's views on the retention of the veteran small-leaved limes for as long as is possible subject to any requirements of public safety. The group has also identified several other issues which it intends to discuss with the representatives of the applicant. These issues are as follows:*

*Juvenile and Young Trees*

*The general intention of the applicant is to remove lower branches and to carry out formative pruning. On some trees (e.g. Nos.13 & 14) the lower branches are now of substantial size and close together. There is concern that if these branches are cut back to the trunk the trees could suffer damage.*

*Veteran Trees*

*Crown and limb reduction is proposed by the applicant on trees Nos.15, 16 & 21. Whilst in agreement with the proposals, there is concern that these trees have been earmarked for replacement in the five-year plan. Despite their condition, all these trees have responded well to previous surgery and can be expected to do so again.*

*It was noted with concern that no work is proposed to veteran tree No.25. Owing to its height and condition, this tree is at risk and should be reduced in the same manner as Nos.15, 16 & 21.*

*The Holly bush*

*The group considered whether the holly bush between trees 100 and 101 could be moved, rather than felled. Although this is theoretically possible, this would be a major undertaking and is unlikely to be successful.*

*Other works*

*The beech tree in the merging avenue between trees 39 and 20 may not survive the proposed reduction of 25-30%. A reduction of 15% appears to be the normal maximum for a beech tree.*

The liaison group asked the parish council to let Knight Frank know that continued communication with the estate on a more frequent basis would be much appreciated. The council agreed. Action clerk. Clerk to let Phillip Arnott know when the PC had written to Knight Frank.

The Chairman.....

Date.....