

Draft Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Turville Parish Council on Wednesday 16th February 2011 at Turville Village Hall, Northend commencing at 7.30pm

To be confirmed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Present: David Cairns- Chairman
Danny Fois
Steven Blake
Margaret Drage
Ray Jones

In attendance: Deirdre Hansen- Clerk.

11 members of the public were present; Valmai Pickett, Chris Hall, Michael Wicks James Vaughan, James McConville, Mark Weiner, Alice Nuttgens, WD Cllr Roger Emmett, Kate Ashbrook, Angela Fois and Mr

160. There were no apologies

The Chairman outlined how the meeting would be conducted. Reminding the attendees that this was a Parish Council meeting, for the Parish Council to discuss the matters on the agenda and make their decisions. Giving each councillor the opportunity to have his or her say without interruptions. The Parish Council would only decide on the 2 resolutions on the agenda.

161. No disclosure of interest in items on the agenda was made.

162. Mr and Mrs M. Clare had sought the Parish Council's approval for the stopping up of that part of Dolesden Lane that leads to Turville Court, the creation of a new bridleway to the north of that part of Dolesden Lane and the upgrading of part of the public footpath across Summer Heath and Summerheath Wood to a bridleway (see proposals and related map, dated 22 September 2010).

On 22 September 2010, the Parish Council agreed to seek the views of the community on the proposal. That consultation was completed prior to the Parish Council meeting on 12 January 2011. The Parish Council had taken into account all the results of the consultation, including late submissions and other information received since 22 September 2010. All the Parish Councillors spoke in turn giving their considered views on the proposals.

In general the Parish Council had reviewed the responses received from the community vs. the reasons given by Mr. and Mrs. Clare for the stopping up and the creation of the new bridleway. Cllr Blake showed slides of the various considerations and views.

It had been put forward that road safety would be improved by the stopping up, however it was considered that there had been no reported road accidents and the road crossing point for the new bridleway could be more dangerous.

It was felt that stopping up would not improve security for Turville Court.

The cost of road maintenance was not considered to be an issue as the road is in good condition and no maintenance had been carried out for many years, due to the very low usage.

Although there had been some support that the new bridleway would improve public amenity and views, the current views from the lane, now the hedges have been cut is excellent, far better than the view that would be offered from the new bridleway, contributing to the countryside experience. A 5 meter new bridleway, as suggested by BCC, would have a negative impact on the environment.

The maintenance cost of the bridleway would fall to the County Council, an additional burden.

The loss of the lane could restrict agricultural activities from being carried out.

There are extensive legal processes and procedures to be carried out with the whole proposal which add uncertainty and would be beyond the Parish Council's resources, if they had to deal with those.

The parish council voted on the following 2 resolutions:

Resolution 1 proposed by Cllr Blake and seconded by Cllr Jones:

To approve the proposed stopping up of part of Dolesden Lane, the creation of a bridleway and the upgrading of a public footpath to a bridleway as set out in the proposal dated 22 September 2010, subject to the conditions agreed by the Parish Council in November 2005 but modified to reflect the change in ownership of Turville Court and information obtained during the course of the consultation. Cllr Drage voted in favour of the resolution, but Cllrs Blake, Cairns, Fois and Jones voted against the resolution. The motion was defeated.

Resolution 2 proposed by Cllr Fois seconded by Cllr Drage:

To approve the creation of a bridleway and the upgrading of a public footpath to a bridleway as set out in the proposal dated 22 September 2010 but without the proposed stopping up of part of Dolesden Lane. Cllr Cairns voted in favour of the resolution, Cllrs Blake, Drage, Fois and Jones voted against. The motion was defeated.

The chairman thanked the Parish Councillors, Mr and Mrs Clare and all the parishioners who had taken part in the consultation for all their contributions.

The meeting closed 8.27pm.

The Chairman.....

Dated.....