

TADMARTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
ON WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY 2025
AT 8PM IN TADMARTON VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr Turner, Cllr Doust, Cllr Fitzpatrick and Cllr Higley

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), County and District Cllr Chris Brant and one villager

1. Welcome/Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. To receive an annual statement from the Parish Council including a financial overview

Highways

It has been noted that OCC has had a blitz on many of our local roads closing some overnight for repair. Whilst the surfaces and potholes are improved it will continue to be a problem. Hopefully with this summers tar/chippings we will see more of an improvement. We will still continue to report problems as and when on Fix My Street www.fixmystreet.com.

Following numerous complaints from us and residents, the flooding in Hollow Road was finally resolved by a very cross grandmother and her grandchildren much to the shame of OCC as a site meeting was eventually cancelled.

The springs and surface on Stant Hill continue to be a problem and OCC will eventually have to stop the water using the roadside as a watershed.

We are in continued discussion with OCC re speeding and resolution of same. Following a site meeting with OCC about the double yellow lines outside 'The Old Red Lion' OCC are looking into a better proposal of traffic calming which might include a 20mph limit.

We are also very alarmed about the large number of RTA's especially on the B4035 around the entrance to Hollow Road. A fatality is likely.

Planning

Ms Katie Lavin won her planning appeal for the stables on the Swalcliffe Road. The site entrance has been started exactly at the original site that OCC and us as a PC and many objectors considered was too dangerous. The mobile dwelling has been delivered and is awaiting completion and there are two mobile stables at the bottom of the site. The planning department have assured us they are checking that nothing goes ahead until planning conditions have been approved.

We remain vigilant to our promise to keep the rural aspect to the village.

The Estate have culled a lot of trees along the valley bottom between us and Broughton. This is standard practice (last time was 50 years ago). The trees are a long term crop and it is to aid the EA on flood relief.

Defibrillators

Following our policy of monthly checks and routine maintenance being done, all is well.

Village Hall

With the demise of the pub the village hall with its very strong and proactive committee goes from strength to strength. We have a massive community asset covering many activities, our thanks go to the team.

Bridleway 12

In spite of slight changes to other paths Bridleway 12 remains deadlocked. Our thoughts go to Mr Yeomans and his family and a year on I can repeat its ongoing.

Horticultural

Thanks go to Cllr Doust for running the allotments which are thriving, plus Cllr Fitzpatrick for her work on the wildflower meadows. Much work is quietly going on with paths and hedges on our public paths. Safety work has also taken place on our woodland behind Brookfield Rise.

The draft accounts were presented. Income was £18.7K. It was slightly higher than normal due to a high VAT reclaim and insurance claim for the damaged village gate. Expenditure totalled £26.7K. £13.4K was spent on improvements to the village hall. £6.7K was spent on maintenance. A large payment was made to purchase a new village gate but the Parish Council were reimbursed by their insurance company through a successful insurance claim.

3. Open Forum

A villager asked if there was an update on the consultation on double yellow lines. The Chair explained that following the consultation an on site meeting was held with Highways in October. It was productive and many resolutions were discussed. Highways do not like double yellow lines and are trying to remove centre lines to reduce speeding. Traffic calming options were discussed. The villager referred to a recent incident where four to five cars were parked near the brow of the hill and a bus coming forward could not get through. All the cars on the opposite side had to reverse back. The road narrows a bit further along. The Parish Council are currently waiting to see the comments made as there were more objections. Cllr Brant noted that double yellow lines could create more problems and push cars somewhere else to park. The villager present has lived in the village for forty years and the parking near the brow is a recent problem. It is a blind hill. There are many careless drivers who speed and there are more vehicles on the road. One village gate near Lower Tadmarton was hit and destroyed last year and recently the other side has been hit and damaged. Councillors agreed speeding is an issue. There are traffic calming options available in a 20mph limit without street lighting. The village will have to fund traffic calming measures which can be expensive.

The villager asked for an update on the new equestrian centre at the top of Tadmarton. When planning was given there were conditions set. The applicant has to get conditions approved before commencing work.

The allotments were discussed briefly. They used to be judged twice a year in June and August but have hit a stumbling block. Some plot holders do not want to take part. The judging would maintain a high standard and reward those for their hard work. Most plots are being used and the overall standard of plots is rising. The allotment land was given to the village in perpetuity many years ago.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.