

TURWESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 3 JUNE 2024

Present: Cllrs H Morrison (Chair) A Kirkland, H Howard and A Green

Ward Cllrs Patrick Fealey and Caroline Cornell

Dave Butcher – EKFB Engagement Manager, Dan Eustance,
Landscape Architect, Sergio Madrigal, Arboricultural Manager

- Welcome and Introduction.** Cllr Morrison welcomed local residents, our Ward Councillors and HS2/EKFB team. She added that Charmaine Jay, our Clerk, was unable to attend due to an accident which had affected her mobility and wished her a speedy recovery. She explained that the annual accounts are in draft form but will be audited and posted on line before 1st July as required. She reminded residents of the various ways to keep in touch (a) through the Village List emails administered by our Clerk and compliant with Data Protection (b) the Turweston Facebook Community Page administered by Sally-Anne Watts (c) the Parish Council website www.turwestonpc.co.uk and (d) the village noticeboard.
- Apologies** received from Charmaine Jay, Cllr John Tilley, Gill Richards and Brenna Slade (EKFB)
- Minutes of the last meeting.** Signed by the Chair subject to the amendment of date of 2022 APM which was on 26 May 2022, proposed Cllr Andrew Green, seconded Cllr Tony Kirkland.
- Ward Councillor Report.** Cllr Patrick Fealey's report has been circulated. He was questioned on the use of our Council Tax and the costs of brown bins. Cllr Cornell said that HS2 payments to Buckinghamshire Council may help with the repair to the Brackley footpath and with traffic calming.
- EKFB presentation on HS2 works.** Dave Butcher gave details of the likely re-opening of our rights of way and some realignments which were shown on slides. TUW3, 5 and 9 should reopen Q2 2025, TUW7 and BD7 in Q3 2025 but no timeline yet for the Westbury Circular Ride which will be diverted under the Westbury viaduct.

Dan Eustance then gave a presentation on the environmental works associated with the construction in Turweston Parish. The Green Bridge Construction will have 3.1 high parapets and bollards on the open areas to prevent parking. The planting would be hedgerow-type. The 1.8 fence along the cutting would be dropped into the cutting to improve visual amenity. He went on to explain the types of planting generally with a combination of woodland, woodland edge, and hedgerow planting with local species. Small stock would ensure better growth with high density planting to allow for some failures and thinning out if necessary. He outlined the ecological principles ensuring connectivity for wildlife. The ponds created by the construction would also be planted with suitable species.

Questions were raised about implementation of the planting scheme and whether these environmental costs were ring fenced. The plan is to plant

during the next three years, but Dan was necessarily limited in what he could say due to the period of purdah until the forthcoming election on 4th July.

6. Residents' Questions.

EKFB were asked about the number of vehicles using Oatleys Road, some driving too fast. EKFB said that some of their white pickups were security and survey vehicles but she should report any that were driving inappropriately.

The road between the Turweston turn and HS2 site on A422 is in very poor condition due to the level of HGVs and is particularly dangerous for cyclists. Dave Butcher explained that they cannot repair public roads but that HS2 give a special pot of money to Buckinghamshire for this purpose. Poor road surfaces/potholes should therefore be reported to Bucks on Fix My Street. HS2/EKFB were asked about the maintenance of the gardens of empty properties in the village. Carter Jonas have the contract for this work and can be contacted via Dave Butcher.

The Chairman said that, following their exhibition in Brackley recently, the developers of the land on the south of Turweston Road Brackley had not yet submitted a planning application to West Northamptonshire. When this happens the village will be alerted.

Some work has started on the footpath to Brackley with the cutting back of vegetation and digging of soakaways. The Parish Council will continue to put pressure on Buckinghamshire for a solution to the flooding.

Parish Council is also continuing to look into best solutions for traffic calming.