

11th November '08

Minutes of a Parish Meeting held on the above date at The School Tatsfield.

Mr A. Denton in the Chair

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 26th March 08 were read, Confirmed & Signed.

Change of Meeting place of Dist Council

The Chairman Mr A. Denton having explained the reason for commencing the meeting put the following resolution

"That this meeting of Parochial Boarders is strongly in favour of the proposed change of the meeting place of the District Council from Godstone to Old as being more convenient & economical for the District Councilors, Overseers, & Ratepayers"
Carried Unanimously

Read the Report of Tatsfield Green Mr J. Thomas Offer

Mr J. Howard Milkins proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr S. Hooper Field:-

"That this Parish Meeting approves of the proposed new road on Tatsfield Green provided Mr Joyce Thomas bears the cost of its construction by the District Council & the cost of its upkeep by the District Council for 20 years.
The direction of the road to be approved by the Parish Council. This

Road
Continued

approval is subject to Mr Joyce Thomas giving an undertaking that on completion of the road by the District Council he will place at the disposal of the District Council a sum of £100, to be devoted to the improvement of Larkfield Westmore Greens, other than the construction & maintenance of the said road"

Mr Williams said it would be within the recollection of most of those present, that on the last occasion when the subject was brought up, he was opposed to it, on the grounds of the direction of the first proposed road—across the green & that the Parish would be giving Mr Thomas a valuable asset for nothing. If the road were to be made he certainly thought compensation should be given to the parish in some form or other. That view was supported by a narrow majority, & a resolution was carried against the then proposed road. Since that meeting he had had an opportunity of discussing the question again with ~~the Chairman~~ Mr Thomas & the Chairman of the Parish Council. Mr Thomas had recognised the reasonableness of the suggestion made at the last meeting of a "quid pro quo." It should, however, be borne in mind that Mr Thomas considered that he had a right of a pathway across the green—he would express no opinion as to the right or wrong of that claim. If they passed a resolution sanctioning the present proposal they would do away with any possible difficulty which might arise from the supposed claim of Mr Thomas. The direction of the present proposed road was

On which he & the chairman had viewed, and had come to the conclusion that it would not be of serious detriment to the use of that part of the Green. It was clearly stated at the last meeting that there was no real wish to obstruct the development of Mr Thomas' property, and it would be unreasonable to stand in his way if a reasonable conclusion could be arrived at. Mr Thomas' offer of £100. in return for the concession was a handsome one, & could be exceedingly well laid out on improvements to the Green. Mr the speaker, came before them in no way to press the matter, but simply to lay the facts before them for them to give their unbiased opinion. They would be foolish not to accept the offer for it was made in good faith, and was a good one. He could see no objection to the proposed road, & explained why it was not necessary to make it of a greater width than 15 feet.

Mr Wright

Mr Wright put a series of questions whether the Lord of the Manor had given his consent to the Parish Council; was the freehold vested in the Parish Council; as to the Lord of the Manor claiming compensation for disturbing the turf for any purpose. To which the chairman replied that the Lord of the Manor had passed, except his yard & minerals, his right to the District Council; the Lord of the Manor still held the freehold; and in regard to disturbing the turf quoted clause 6 of the regulations which permitted the Dist Council to make paths & roads.

Mr Hitchcock said the Lord of the Manor had allowed him to cut the turf & lay make pipes without claiming compensation

prosperity of

Mr G M Spencer said there were two sides to ^{the} question, & as far as he had heard from Mr Milkins only one had been put forward. The principal consideration had not been ~~put~~ mentioned viz: the responsibility the parish had, as trustees for the commons. Disturbing from the report in the "Westham Shreds" of the Chairman's speech at the last meeting, he drew attention to what was an apparent change of mind, but at the request of the Chairman to show that that was not so, read the whole speech. He also referred to Mr Milkins' ~~speech~~ reference in the same report to cutting turf. Mr Thomas came with an offer to sell, & mention has been made of employment being afforded to the locality. But who would make the road? Would not the Dist Council show many local men were they likely to employ? He did not wish to place restrictions on Mr Thomas, but he wanted the workmen to know what to expect, and not to be fooled as they had been before, what guarantee had they that because one house had been built by local labour the others would do so he built? Would Mr Thomas divert a certain footpath across his field.

Mr Thomas — I have no intention of deviating the footpath

The Chairman — we shall watch Mr Thomas very closely if it comes to deviating the footpath.

Continuing Mr Spencer said he did not dispute the ~~convenience~~ convenience of the road, but protested against spoiling the common, for if granted they would have to allow other roads to be made by other property owners who contributed to the prosperity of the place. They ought not to give

up their own responsibility at the mere flimsy
of £100. The Dist Councillor had said they would be
adding £1,000. value to Mr Thomas's property.

Mr Wilkin - I absolutely deny that. I
said £500.

The speaker accepted the correction
& continued. He was not trying to stop progress
but it was ridiculous for a man with 20 acres
& two openings not to be satisfied. He moved
an amendment suggesting an opening to the main
road from Crown road.

It was elicited that such an opening
already existed & the amendment ^{was} withdrawn.

In answer to a question by Mr Brown
Mr Thomas pointed out the inconvienence of making
a road from his property Crown road way, as his
present house was some 500 feet distant.

Mr F. H. Keeble spoke against the resolution.

Mr Thomas said he would prefer to
employ the people of Latsfield in the develop-
ment of his property. He had already expended
close on £1000 & the bulk had gone to Latsfield.
If he had any more in the making of the
road, he would certainly insist upon the
Latsfield people being employed. Talk had
been made of progress & improved transit
service, which suggested a Railway. The
only way to get the railway was by getting
more houses, but would they get more houses
if they prevented access to them. He endorsed
every word of their Dist Councillor. He made
his offer which had been fixed by Mr Wilkin's
which was supported by Mr Denton, & he
was prepared to abide by their decision as

arbitrators following the suggestion of their chairman at the last meeting. He believed, ^{that} following the advice of those two gentlemen who had worked long in their interest it would meet with the meeting's approval. He came in no mean spirit & under the circumstances he asked them to pass the resolution.

messrs Dent & White spoke on behalf of the resolution.

Mr Ward asked what guarantee they would have as to the class of property to be built, the amount of ground allocated to them & whether Mr Thomas would submit the plans to the chairman.

Mr Thomas replied that they would be high class houses similar to the present one existing. His plans were waiting the approval of the road.

The chairman commented on only part of his speech being quoted which was not his idea of fairness. He maintained that the amenities of the Common would not be destroyed by the road which would hardly be seen. He with others was keen in carrying out the trusteeship of the Commons. The only place to test Mr Thomas' claim to a right-of-way across the Common was a law court, but that would cost money. He thought they should accept Mr Thomas' offer, for if the money were spent on the Greens it would be a great thing. They must know whether that would be beneficial, & he would leave it to them to decide.

Mr Wiskin did not think it was

fair to quote only part of one speech, he
 then read from the report of his speech which
 had been stopped short of. His whole objection
 in that speech was to prevent the motion
 being put in law. He had carried out to the
 letter every word of his speech, the road first
 proposed, if allowed, would be creating a
 dangerous precedent if they gave it for nothing.
 He pointed out that there was no necessity to
 bring the present proposals before the Parish
 Council, ^{but the Parish Council} always takes an expression first
 from the parishioners appealed before they
 took action, hence the meeting. They would
 place confidence in the integrity of Mr Thomas
 who was thought worthy in his own district to
 be put forward as a candidate for the
 London County Council, & was only recently
 defeated by a very narrow majority. They
 would be entirely safe in trusting to his
 fair word.

The motion on being put was
 carried.

For the Road 47
 Against 9.

Arthur Tator

Chairman

March 24th 1909

17th November '08

Minutes of a Meeting of The Tatsfield
Parish Council held on the above date.

Members
Present

Mr A Denton in the Chair
~~Mr S Howard~~ Minutes by the Clerk
Councillors West, Patten, Brown, Taster & the
Clerk J. Lee.

Purpose
New Road on
Tatsfield Green

The Chairman explained that the
meeting was called for the purpose of viewing
the ^{site} of the proposed new Road on Tatsfield
Green in connection with Mrs. Thomas's new house.
A plan of the road was produced, where
the Council proceeded to view the site. After which
it was proposed by Mr Brown & seconded by Mr
Taster — "That the plan is approved by this
Council with the proviso that it may
be extended in a southerly direction only."

Carried Unanimously
Arthur Denton
Jan'y 6th 09.