

TUDDENHAM ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tuddenham St Mary Parish Council, held in the Cricket Pavilion on Tuesday 16th July 2013

Present:

Cllr R Lawson,
Cllr M Dunnett
Cllr A Tilbrook
Cllr P Hope

In Attendance: Mrs L Francis, Parish Clerk, PCSO Dawn Rowan, Mr Andrew Long.

1. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M. Lawson and Cllr Karen Soons who was out of the country. The Parish Council agreed to accept their apologies.

3. Declarations of Interest

None declared

4. Reports from outside bodies

i. **Mildenhall SNT:** PCSO Dawn Rowan reported that there had been one reported crime since the last meeting, offenders had forced entry to the sewage treatment works site. A large quantity of tools, plant and machinery had been stolen. A PCSO speed check had been carried out in the village on 2 July. Three offenders had been caught, the highest speed recorded was 39 mph. The PC carried out two checks in the centre of the village between 7.45 am and 8.45 am and 4.55 pm – 5.55 pm. The highest recorded speed was 35 mph. Another offender had been caught on Higham Road driving at 41mph.

In the wider district, expensive pedal cycles, high powered motorbikes, gardening equipment from sheds and garages and insecure vehicles had all been targets for thieves.

A speedwatch site check had been carried out to identify appropriate sites for operation.

Councillors reported that a motorcyclist was regularly speeding around the area of The Green where children are playing and a dog was continuing to cause a nuisance at Spooky Den. Dawn had reported the latter to the USAF base and agreed to keep a look out for the motorcyclist.

ii. **Suffolk County Council** – There had been no report from the County Council this month but Cllr Noble has donated £1,000 from his Locality Budget towards the setting up of a Speedwatch group in the village.

iii. **Forest Heath District Council** - Cllr Rona Burt had sent her report to councillors. She has great concern about the number of lorries speeding through the village. She intends to campaign for an A11/A14 link road. Rona has also donated £1,000 from her Locality Budget to Speedwatch. She was sorry to report that the Head of Planning, Nicola Baker is to leave Forest Heath to take up a position in Norfolk.

Development plans are going through the council for sites at Lakenheath, Hatchfield Farm, Newmarket, Red Lodge and the Tuddenham school site.

5. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18th June 2013

The minutes of the meeting were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. Clerk's report and Matters Arising from the minutes

The Clerk had contacted Highways Manager Guy Smith regarding the broken 30mph sign on The Green. This had still not yet been repaired but she had been assured that it would be repaired in the next week or so.

A letter had been sent to Anglian Water with regard to the odours emitting from the pumping station. She had not yet received a reply.

An email had been sent to Guy Smith with reference to the number of lorries travelling through the village.

Notice had been brought to a Stone Curlew event which is being held by Natural England on Cavenham Heath in September. This will be advertised on the notice-board. There were no further matters arising from the minutes.

7. Parish Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council voted unanimously to co-opt Mr Andrew Long to the council. He was pleased to accept the position and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

8. Village Hall Committee Update

The Chairman, together with District Cllr Rona Burt, had met the Structural Engineer at the Village Hall. They were advised that necessary repairs to make the building secure would involve considerable expense. However, he was of the opinion that the 8 Acrow props were sufficient to shore up the roof and he was therefore prepared to lift the dangerous building rating to allow Village Hall Committee meetings and Parish Council meetings to be held there but not general events admitting members of the public. It was pointed out that Parish Council meetings must be held in the presence of the press and public however and the Chairman agreed to clarify the position with the engineer. The application for the development of the school site is with the District Council but there is no further news on the interest of the County Council in the site.

9. Highway Matters

As previously reported, lorries are a constant concern. The Clerk will contact the Highways Manager again with regard to checks on vehicles travelling through the village and also contact Cavenham Quarry and Haird & Co to express the concerns raised and ask them to use the designated routes to gain access to the A11 improvement works.

10. Community Speedwatch

Cllr Tilbrook confirmed that they now have the required number of volunteers required to set up the scheme. A total of £2,000 has been pledged by the local councillors and the money will be paid into the Parish Council's account. Residents of Cavenham have expressed an interest in using the equipment when it arrives and it is possible that some accommodation can be reached whereby they cover the annual maintenance costs but nothing has been agreed as yet.

11. Finance

The council confirmed and authorised payments for the current month as detailed on the list which is attached to the minutes.

12. Correspondence

There was no additional correspondence to bring to the notice of the Parish Council this month.

13. Councillors' Reports

Cllr Hope reported that there were still problems with the emission of a foul odour from the pumping station. He had also noticed that several flint walls around the village seemed to be collapsing in places. It was reported that some children had erected a rope swing on a tree on The Green. Cllr Tilbrook confirmed that this would damage the bark and cause the branch to break off which would ruin the tree and also present a danger to any child using the swing. It was agreed that the swing should be taken down. Cllr Dunnett agreed to have a word with those responsible.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 17th September at 7.30 pm. Venue to be confirmed when the Chairman has spoken to the Structural Engineer regarding the use of the Village Hall.