

TUDDENHAM ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Tuddenham St Mary Parish Council
Held via Zoom, on Monday 5th July 2021 at 7:30pm

Councillors present: Cllr. A. Long (AL), Cllr. C. Unwin (CU), Cllr. N. Crockford (NC), Cllr. Amanda Spence (AS) & Cllr. L. Michie (LM)

Present: Clerk – Vicky Bright. Rob Gray - Umbrella

ITEM

Public Forum – LGA 1972, Section 100(1):

Six members of public were in attendance.

Resident's raised the matter of the Gay Pride Flag being attached to the Village Sign on The Green. It was felt that it was inappropriate to display any flags, banners, posters etc. on the Village Sign (which is the official sign that is meant to reflect the village as a whole), as it did not necessarily reflect the views of the whole village. The Chair acknowledged that any flag etc. was unlikely to have 100% support by everyone. The Vice Chair, Claire Unwin clarified that the display was not political and was meant as a show of acceptance and inclusiveness of the village. She reported that she had received thanks from several residents. She also clarified that the village sign had only been used due to its ease as a place to affix things to, and offered to display it elsewhere on the Green. The Chair clarified with residents that it was an objection to anything being displayed on the village sign only, the residents confirmed that it was a Principal Objection to anything attached to the Village Sign.

One resident particularly wanted to raise the issue of poor mobile phone signal in the village, Boosters have been recently switched off by Vodafone and also 3, ee, Orange and O2, still Receives no signal within the village. The resident wrote to our MP, when he was Digital Secretary and received no response. It was suggested that the Clerk try writing to the new Digital Secretary, Oliver Dowdren, explaining the issue within the village and its effect on the Village, especially since the removal of the phone box, despite village and PC objections, and also asking if landlines in Tuddenham will also be affected due to the Mildenhall Exchange going digital. The Clerk and Cllr. Spence are going to write to the PCC regarding the mast scheme, and another consideration as a site is The Mill.

21/07/1

Accepted Apologies for absence – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) and (2):

Cllr. Mark Fitzjohn & Cllr. K. Soons sent apologies.

Absent:

None.

21/07/2

Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:

None.

21/07/3

Reports from Outside Bodies:

- i) **SCC – County Councillor** – Cllr. Colin Noble gave apologies.
- ii) **WSC – District Councillor** – Cllr. Brian Harvey gave apologies and the following report was presented. See **Appendix 1**

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21/07/4

To Approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 24th May 2021:

Resolved 21/07/4.01

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 24th May 2021 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman of the meeting (AL).

21/07/5

Highways & Footpaths:

Update on SCC Highways Issues Reporting/Complaint

The Clerk and Cllr. Spence are still working on compiling the list of Highways issues and reporting them online for a separate reference for each item. The Clerk advised that whilst at the Worlington PC meeting, Cllr. Lance Stanbury, SCC had advised that he had requested an internal review of Highways and its procedures, with Highways and the Chief Executive of SCC, he is awaiting their reply.

ii)

Highway Gates Funding Update

The Clerk presented an email from Cllr. Noble advising that due to Health & Safety Installation Requirement changes, the quotes for the gates had been increased significantly, which meant he could now only fund one set of gates per annum, and that as Tuddenham had already received a grant for the set at Higham Road, then this year's allocation would have to go to another village. The Clerk has been asked to write to Cllr. Noble asking for clarification on the new H&S requirements and the breakdown and costings of the quotes.

iii)

VAS Data Report & New SID Volunteer & Update on Post re-location

The Clerk confirmed that the last date received in March had been circulated and published. The volunteer who downloads and compiles the data from the SID has advised the Clerk that he can no longer do it; Many thanks were offered to Glenn Loveday for all his hard work and time, volunteering to do the SID for the last 4 years. Cllr. Spence is to place a notice in the Umbrella asking for volunteers.

The post is still to be relocated, a new site has now been chosen. The contractors at the school development have been advised by Highways that they can remove the post themselves and store, if needed.

iv)

Quiet Lanes Scheme Update – Icklingham Road, The Green (Rob Gray)

No Update.

v)

Update on footpath at bottom of Sandy Drove (AS/Nature England)

Cllr. Spence confirmed she had received an email from Chris Hainsworth, Nature England confirming they were purchasing the land and it would be maintained by them.

vi)

Update on Parking Enforcement for High Street

No update.

vii)

Public Footpath Icknield Way – Discuss vegetation clearance

It was discussed that the common land was overgrown with nettles; thanks were expressed to residents who had previously kept the area clear. Cllr. Spence confirmed that all litter had

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been cleared. The Clerk is to approach PROW-SCC to establish who should be responsible for maintaining the land and if it is SCC, then requesting it to be included on their Cyclic Program.

Thanks were offered to Cllr. Spence and all volunteers who helped with the litter pick and the clearing of weeds, nettles and mud. The Clerk is to request a copy of WSC road sweeping schedule.

21/07/6

i)

Planning Matters:

Update on application and PC Concerns raised - DC/21/0481/VAR - Variation of condition three of DC/13/0404/FUL to amend permitted opening hours for a. restaurant/coffee Shop to 08:00 to 22:00 Monday to Sunday, including bank holidays b. garden centre 08:00 to 22:00 Monday to Saturday 10am to 4pm Sunday and bank holidays Location: Tillbrooks Landscape Gardeners, 3 High Street, Tuddenham IP28 6SQ

The Clerk presented an update received from Cllr. Brian Harvey;

"As a result of our site visit, the proposed operating hours have been revised and agreed by the licensing team." It was agreed that the Clerk should raise a compliant with Planning and cc. Cllr. Harvey regarding the fact that a decision was taken by the LPA, without comments from the PC, despite agreeing to a Holding Objection and promising further information was to follow, before any decisions would be taken. It was reported to the meeting by a resident that despite the applicant stating at the last PC meeting that no Takeaway service would be offered, 4 Takeaway evenings had already been offered by the Café, offering discounted alcohol. The Sunday hours have been amended only.

21/07/7

i)

Councillor & Community Reports:

Village Hall Committee Report +/- consider a donation for a new Fridge Freezer

The Clerk reported that she had received a grant request from the hall committee asking for Help to purchase a new Fridge/Freezer at a cost of £344 plus £20 delivery. The Clerk is to write to the committee asking them to clarify the current usage of the Fridge/Freezer and asking if it will be transferred to the new Village Hall when they move.

ii)

Tuddenham Playing Field Committee Report

No issues raised, other than that the committee have now finished the installation of the Fence and have put up a new STOP sign at the entrance to the field, by the pond.

21/07/8

i)

Parish Matters:

Play Area Project Funding Update

The Clerk confirmed that 50% of the funding needed had now been raised for the Play Area. Second Phase of the project will be deciding on what type of Gym Equipment is needed etc. It was suggested that the Clerk invite the TPFMC to a meeting to discuss their concerns and opinions.

ii)

Discuss Trees on Playing Field Maintenance

It was suggested that the Clerk arrange quotes for a Tree Survey of the all the trees at the playing field.

iii)

Discuss Road Improvements Proposal at the Playing Field (TPFMC) +/- Discuss Donation

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No update from TPFMC received. The Clerk is to provide assistance with contractors details etc. and also suggest contacting Newport's for assistance.

The issue of the flooding ditch was raised again, the Clerk and Cllr. Crockford are to follow up on this with Anglian Water, the EA and SCC.

iv) Village Sign Plinth Repair/ Bench Maintenance /Bus Shelter Roof Update

The Clerk confirmed that she had been given an approximate works start date of end August by Peter Rowan. The Clerk was asked to raise the issue of the wood possibly having some rot at the Bus Shelter.

v) Discuss Grass Cutting and Parking on Green & Use of Glyphosate on base of trees on Green

The Clerk was asked to report to the Council that Tilbrook's are having issues cutting the grass on the Green, because of residents and their guests parking on areas of the Green on grass cutting days. The Clerk was asked to write to the Green residents advising of the days the grass is cut, and asking residents to avoid parking on the Green.

Resolved 21/07/8.01

It was agreed to refuse the request from Tilbrook's to use Glyphosate at the base of the trees, and that it was to be trimmed only.

vi) Report on Village Litter Pick (AS)

Cllr. Spence reported that the litter pick was very successful, with minimal litter. 25+ people were in attendance volunteering, along with 6 USAF Personnel. The groups also cleared nettles, weeds and cleaned the village signs. Thanks were extended again to Cllr. Spence and the volunteers and USAF Personnel.

21/07/9

Correspondence:

- WSC Holiday Activities and Food Programme – The Clerk is to display information on the notice board and website. Cllr. Unwin is to post it on the village Facebook page.
- Highways England Meeting Ref: upcoming survey and maintenance improvement works on the A14, between Junction 42 and 51. The meeting is on 7th July 2021 and the Clerk is to forward details to Cllr. Spence to attend.

21/07/10

Finance & Policies:

i) Parish Council Bank Reconciliation from List of Payments/Receipts

The Payments and receipts were scrutinised and approved. The Lloyds account balance was confirmed as £31,027.85, as of 23rd June 2021.

Resolved 21/07/10.01

That the Bank balances and reconciliation of payments & receipts be received and adopted and initialled as such by the Chairman of the meeting (AL).

ii)

Parish Council Account Cheques for signing and approval

Resolved 21/07/10.02

It was agreed to approve the payments of the following outstanding invoices and the cheques were approved and signed by Cllr. A. Long & Cllr. C. Unwin.

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Mr R Gray	Umbrella donation	001066	£150.00
Mrs V Bright	Mileage & expenses	001067	£20.72
Worlington PC	Printer cartridges	001068	£82.35

21/07/11

Items for next Meeting to be held on Monday 6th September 2021 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:59pm

Signed: *Andrew Long*
Chair, TSMPC

Date: 6th September 2021