TUDDENHAM ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tuddenham St Mary Parish Council
Held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 20th June 2017 at 7.30pm

Councillors Present: Cllr. A. Long (AL), Cllr. M. Fitzjohn (MF), Cllr. J. Kendall (JK) & Cllr. M. Dunnett (MD).

Present: Vicky Bright - Parish Clerk, Cllr. Rona Burt – FHDC.

Item		Action
17/06/1	**Public Forum – LGA 1972, Section 100(1):** Seven members of the public was in attendance. The owners of the White Hart expressed concerns over the Umbrella advertising a pub in Risby; this advert was identical to their advert and was on the page before theirs. They explained that this was not helpful for business as they rely on publicity and word of mouth. Support from the village is vital. Cllr. Long agreed he would pass on their disappointment and feedback that the Parish Council agree with their views to the Editor. It was stressed that Tuddenham Parish Council must push for representation of the need for a Bypass to resolve the Fiveways issues.	
17/06/2	**Accepted Apologies for absence – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) and (2):** Cllr. Karen Soons & Cllr. Nicola Sutherland. **Absent:** None.	
17/06/3	**Declarations of Members' Interests (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:** None.	
17/06/4	**Minutes of the last meeting – LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para41(2):** **Resolved 17/06/4.01** The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of 16th May 2017 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman, Cllr. A. Long (AL).	
17/06/5	**Local Authority Reports:**	
i)	**Suffolk County Council** Cllr. Colin Noble sent his apologies.	
ii)	**Forest Heath District Council** Cllr. Rona Burt reported the following; Mildenhall Base no update to report. Local Plan - The Inspectors who are dealing with our submission are seeking clarity on a number of matters by the Council. The response has to submitted by 26th June, this is normal procedure. The main queries are related to Hatchfield Farm and Newmarket. Their comment is that in Newmarket housing growth is rather low to what one would expect.	

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Hatchfield Farm - The Newmarket Horseman's Group have made a formal request to the Court of Appeal for a reconsideration of the High Court's decision to squash the Secretary of State's decision to dismiss(refuse) the called-in planning application for 400 houses on Hatchfield Farm. An initial decision will be made where a judge would determine whether permission to appeal is granted. If granted the case will be heard in the Supreme Court, if not the decision will be referred back to the Secretary of State. This does not impact on the Local Plan as Hatchfield Farm has not been allocated to meet our Housing requirements. We have been made aware this could take anytime from 3 months to 6 months.

The new Assistant Director for Planning and Regulatory, David Collinson is now in situ, David has decided not to sit in an office but to sit with the Staff.

We had Council on Wednesday 14th where it was agreed we will look at a Draft Business Case for a Single Council for West Suffolk, the report sought the consent of both Councils to undertake a public engagement exercise on the option of a single district-level council.

Meetings attended:
Conservative Group, Delegation, Site Visits, Steering Group, Planning Briefing, Planning Committee, Health and Safety Working Group at West Suffolk House & Full Council.

iii) **SNT (Police)**
The latest edition of your local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) newsletter is now available to view on the Suffolk Constabulary website
https://www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area

17/06/6 **Clerks Report:**
None.

17/06/7 **Councillor Vacancy Update:**
The Clerk advised that one application had been received.

17/06/8 i) **Highway Matters:**
Update on Icknield Way
The Public Rights of Way Officer informed the Clerk of the following;
"I was hoping the signs would be ready this week but we haven't received them yet and I have chased again for them today. As soon as we received them I will place them on site.

I have contacted the Brown family to arrange a meeting to discuss a potential barrier. I have also updated them on the signing issue. Obviously I need to look at options that will work for both the landowner and the public footpath. I did hope that the signs alone would be enough but I gather from the feedback at the parish meeting that a physical barrier will be the only deterrent."

The Clerk advised that Sgt. Mark Shipton, Police had reported back the following;

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"The investigation is still ongoing regarding the fatal accident on the Icknield Way at Easter. The road is a public highway maintained by the local authority and subject to the national speed limit, so all accidents would be investigated as per any other public road. It may be that the outcome of the investigation is that nobody but the rider is to blame but that is down to the investigation and then possibly a coroner's inquest if needed."

ii) **Higham Road 'No Overtaking' Appeal Update**

The Clerk reported the following response from Highways, emailed to her by Cllr. Colin Noble;

"We looked through the various accident reports and talked through the local issues, mainly concerning the importance of the route (which links the A14 to the A11), its use by US service personnel and its history in terms of the various traffic measures we have put in place over the last decade. We then discussed possible improvements to the two main locations where the accidents are more common.

Tuddenham Corner Crossroads.

It was agreed that further improvement, to highlight the junction, could be made by improving the signage – by the addition of further signs from both Cavenham and Kentford direction – as several accidents involved vehicles not giving way correctly. In addition, providing signs with a yellow reflective border on the main route through. Although this would need to be formally costed by Suffolk Highways it is thought this may be in the region of £5000. I have agreed to match fund this from my Local Highways Budget with the remainder coming from the Road Safety budget. In addition, the Higham Estate are going to be contacted to request further, and more regular, cutting back of the vegetation – so as to provide clearer visibility.

Bend immediately north of Tuddenham Corner, C624.

Given the nature of the accidents it was unanimously agreed that a double white (no overtaking) centre line would provide no benefit in preventing further accidents. It is considered the alignment of the bend is well highlighted given the number of marker posts in each verge. Also, the surface of the road is in good condition (albeit Suffolk Police commented that it was a little undulating in places). We noted that the accidents were from people traveling south to north indicating that vehicles, picking up speed from the A14 direction, could be a contributing factor. Therefore, it was agreed that the improvements described to the Tuddenham Corner Crossroads could help slow this traffic down.

In concluding, we do not up-hold your appeal for the no overtaking lines. However, we will press ahead with the improvements to the crossroads and then monitor this to see what impact this has on potentially reducing the accidents on the bend immediately north."

It was agreed that the Clerk write to Cllr. Noble and Highways and the MP expressing objections to the decision and our concerns being ignored. The Clerk is also to ask Highways to clarify the monitoring process for the hoped for reduction in accidents on the road. **Clerk**

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iii)	**Update on Nature Reserve Footpath and Bridge** The Clerk has submitted proposals for consideration by Nature England, so far no response or proposals have been received back. The Clerk is to chase this up.	**Clerk**
iv)	**Update on Potholes** No update. Cllr. Long is to follow this up.	**AL**
17/06/9	**<u>Correspondence:</u>** • The owners of the White Hart pub raised concerns regarding the Umbrella not promoting the village and its businesses, following their inclusion of another pus advert in the last edition. The Chairman reiterated that the Parish Council has no Editorial rights over the Umbrella and gives a £100 donation every year for a page in each edition for Parish Council information and news. It was agreed that the Chairman would write to the Editor voicing the concerns raised.	**AL**
	• A letter from a resident raising concerns over parking on the Green. The vehicle in question is a commercial vehicle, although there are also issues with cars parking on the Green at drop off and Pick up for the school bus at the Bus Stop. It was suggested that Cllr. Dunnett monitor the issue over the next month and report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting. The Clerk in the interim is to find the Council Bylaw documents in the archived files and check its facts.	**MD** **Clerk**
17/06/10 i)	**<u>Planning Matters (To be considered):</u>** **SCC/0090/17 Erection of 2 kiosks to house electrical control equipment – Tuddenham Water Recycling Centre, Off Cavenham Road, Tuddenham** **<u>Resolved 17/06/10.01</u>** No comments or objections to be submitted.	
ii)	**DC/17/1022/HH Householder Planning Application - (i) Reinstate original first floor bedroom window (following removal of existing first floor bedroom window and infill); (ii) entrance gate piers and walls and (iii) garden wall works - Old Hall Farm, Higham Road, Tuddenham** It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Applicant/Agent to arrange a site visit and the Clerk is to request an extension to the deadline for comments from the Planning Officer.	**Clerk**
iii)	**DC/17/1023/LB Application for Listed Building Consent (i) Reinstate original first floor bedroom window (following removal of existing first floor bedroom window and infill); (ii) entrance gate piers and walls and (iii) garden wall works - Old Hall Farm, Higham Road, Tuddenham** It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Applicant/Agent to arrange a site visit and the Clerk is to request an extension to the deadline for comments from the Planning Officer.	**Clerk**
iv)	**DC/17/1036/FUL Planning Application - Outdoor 60m x 30m all-weather equestrian arena including all weather surface and timber post and rail fencing and gate - Old Hall Farm, Higham Road Tuddenham**	

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	It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Applicant/Agent to arrange a site visit and the Clerk is to request an extension to the deadline for comments from the Planning Officer.	**Clerk**
v)	**DC/17/0927/HH Householder Planning Application - conversion of outbuilding to annexe - 20A High Street, Tuddenham** Concerns were discussed regarding; privacy for neighbouring properties, no off street parking, increased limits on shared access already shared between 3 properties, lack of drainage and water supply. It was also felt that the plans appeared to indicate residential use, for which the size was not suitable, and it was felt that as it is a separate outbuilding it was not really an annexe. It was confirmed that objections had already been submitted from Numbers 18, 20,22 and the property opposite.	
	It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Applicant/Agent to arrange a site visit and the Clerk is to request an extension to the deadline for comments from the Planning Officer.	**Clerk**
vi)	**DC/17/1025/HH Householder Planning Application – Detached garage/garden store - 16 High Street, Tuddenham** It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Applicant/Agent to arrange a site visit and the Clerk is to request an extension to the deadline for comments from the Planning Officer.	**Clerk**
vii)	***Applications & Appeals Pending*** **DC/17/0652/FUL Update –** The applicant presented reasons why the development could not be moved back in line with the existing street line, due to an Anglian Water pipe being situated 1m away, in relation to the building. Access is also needed to be allowed to the Pumping Station. **Resolved 17/06/10.02** It was agreed to withdraw the Parish Councils previous comments and offer No objections.	**Clerk**
viii)	**'Hatchfield Farm'** The issue of supporting the RPA against the Hatchfield Farm development was discussed, the Secretary of State's earlier decision to refuse the development at Hatchfield Farm has been quashed by the High Court, following the successful challenge by Lord Derby and the Rural Parishes. Amongst the reasons the Judge gave for quashing the Secretary of State's previous ruling, was that he had not applied his own policies. In a case where the Secretary of State has not suggested that there is to be a departure from national policy (as here), the Secretary of State has to apply policy. It was discussed whether the Parish Council should write to our MP to raise our concerns and add our support. The following points were raised; The impact no houses in Newmarket would have on surrounding villages, the Jockey Club is taking legal action and asking for a Judicial review, Newmarket itself is divided as is the Town Council. It was agreed to let the Secretary of State and the Courts decide.	

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17/06/11

Finance & Policies:

i) **Parish Council Bank Balances and Reconciliation from list of payments and receipts**

Resolved 17/06/11.01

That the bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts be received and adopted and initialled & signed as such by the Chairman, Cllr. A. Long (AL). The bank account balance as of 13th June 2017 is £15,825.96.

ii) **Cheques for Signing and Approval**

Resolved 17/06/11.02

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

Tilbrook's Landscapes	Play Area Bark	912	£2,021.40
Mrs. V Bright	Mileage & expenses	913	£12.50

Approval of cheques signed between meetings

Resolved 17/06/11.03

Approved cheque payments since the last meeting. Signed by Cllr. A. Long and Cllr. M. Dunnett.

05.06.2017	911	MEB Maintenance	Bench Maintenance	£270.00

iii) **Update of Signatories on Lloyds Bank Account Mandate**

The Clerk confirmed the mandate has now been processed.

iv) **Procedure for Obtaining Maintenance & Repairs Quotes to be discussed and agreed.**

The Clerk began by clarifying that it was perfectly legal for her husband or a known family member or associate to submit quotes for works needed, and that legally she did not have to disclose any personal interest, she confirmed she had declared an interest to the Council upon submission of the quotes from her husband, to ensure her complete transparency and for honesty. She confirmed that no information had been divulged to her husband regarding any other quotes, and that her husband had no access to her computer records, email or her office contents (which is locked). She suggested that in future to avoid any concern she would be happy to instruct contractors and suppliers to send their quotes to the Chairman for his attention and to be presented at the meetings. The Chairman advised that he had spoken with the resident who raised the concern and in his opinion the concerns were not justified and he expressed his satisfaction that the Clerk was above suspicion and had always conducted herself professionally, all Councillor's agreed with this and a unanimous vote was taken to not alter procedures and to continue as before.

Resolved 17/06/11.04

It was agreed not to change the procedure for obtaining quotes for maintenance, repairs or supply of materials and equipment.

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17/06/12	**Councillors' Reports:**	
i)	**Village Hall Committee Update** No report.	
17/06/13	**Parish Matters:**	
i)	**Play Area & Asset Maintenance Works Update** The Clerk confirmed that the benches on the Green had been re-stained and all Councillors confirmed they were happy with the standard of the work. The Clerk confirmed the bark at the play area has been topped up and raked. The Clerk is to chase Rowan Maintenance regarding the works to fic the gate post and paint fence, gate and benches at the play area.	**Clerk**
ii)	**Speed Watch Update** Cllr. Long confirmed he had spoken to Andrew Jarrett from Cavenham Parish Council, and he had confirmed that they are keen to share the Speed Watch equipment. On 31st May 3 residents from Cavenham were being trained to use the equipment and volunteers were being sought.	
iii)	**Defibrillator to be considered** The Clerk advised that the costs involved, as quoted by Community Heartbeat Trust were; • cPAD Semi Auto Defibrillator & Stainless Steel Cabinet (externally locked) £1,995.00 (This includes delivery, Webnos Governance System, Training & Community Info Session, Post Incident Counselling, 1st Year Emergency Telephone System, AED Signage, Personal Safety Kit) • Installation would be approximately £80-£200 • 2 years running costs approximately £126-£150 The Clerk advised that the Big Lottery Awards for All fund was offering 100% grants to support Defibrillator applications. The grant would include the installation costs, hall hire for info sessions and the first two years running costs. Suitable locations were discussed, such as the bus shelter, the Village Hall etc. It was agreed that the Clerk should submit an application to the Big Lottery.	**Clerk**
17/06/14	**Items for the next agenda:** • **Bins being left out – Action to be considered** • **Clarification of PC correspondence procedures** • **Update on Big Lottery Application & Defibrillator** • **Speed Watch Update** • **Play Area Repairs Update** • **Parking on the Green Update & Action to be agreed** • **Potholes Update** • **Update on Nature Reserve Proposal** • **Update on Higham Road and Highways Response** • **Co-Option of Councillor Vacancy**	

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The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 18th July 2017 at 7pm, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9:17pm

Signed: *Andrew Long* **Date:** 18th July 2017
Chair, Tuddenham St Mary Parish Council

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