

TUDDENHAM ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Claire Unwin
Clerk: Tina Newell
25 Shakespeare Road, Stowmarket,
Suffolk IP14 1TU.

parishclerk@tuddenham-pc.gov.uk

07767 163706

Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 8 February 2024 In The Village Hall, Tuddenham St Mary.

Councillors Present: Claire Unwin (CU) (Chairman), Amanda Spence (AS) (Vice Chairman), Carron Bignall (CB) and Kim Burt (MB)).

Others in attendance: David Taylor (DT) District Councillor, Tina Newell (Clerk) and nine members of the public.

Apologies for absence:

- 080224/01 Councillor's Sharon Garnett (SG) and Maria Carpenter offered apologies for absence prior to the meeting due to illness.
- 080224/02 All Councillors accepted apologies for absence from SG and AL
- 080224/03 Colin Noble (CN) (County Councillor) tendered apologies for absence prior to the meeting.
- 080224/04 **Declarations of Interest:** No declarations were received prior to or at the meeting.
- 080224/05 All Councillors confirmed they had not received any gifts of hospitality.
- 080224/06 **Dispensation:** Councillors noted there had been no requests for dispensations prior to the meeting and no requests were forthcoming at the meeting.
- 080224/07 **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5 January 2024 as a true reflection of the decisions made and authorised AS to sign the minutes (reference 050124/01-62 inclusive).

Public Forum:

- 080224/08 DT as District Councillor was not in attendance; it was agreed to defer his report until he is present.

- 080224/09 A resident asked why local businesses are not invited to the meetings talking more specifically about The Quarry noting they have a planning application for consideration.
- Planning:** Councillors considered the following planning applications made to the Local Planning Authority (WSC) relating to the Parish:
- 080224/10 SCC/123/23F The installation and use of a replacement mineral washing plant Cavenham Heath Quarry, Tuddenham Road, Cavenham IP28 6SE.
- After a lengthy discussion all Councillors agreed to offer NO OBJECTION to this application noting it is a replacement of a washing plant already on the site.
- 080224/11 SCC/0125/23F The installation and use of a washing plant for the recycling of inert materials together with associated access onto the highway Cavenham Heath Quarry, Tuddenham Road, Cavenham IP28 6SE
- After much consideration and having listened to residents' concerns all Councillors resolved to STRONGLY OBJECT to this application and request the application is REFUSED.
- Councillors considered the following planning application made to West Suffolk District Council relating to the Parish since the last meeting:
- 080224/12 DC/24/0117/HH Householder planning application a. two dormer windows b. two rooflights Bristol, Higham Road, Tuddenham, IP28 6SG.
- Councillors agreed this application would not have a material effect on any neighbouring property and resolved to SUPPORT this application.
- 080224/13 **Councillors considered a response to the West Suffolk Local Plan (Regulation 19) submission draft consultation:**
- After a very lengthy debate involving members of the public, and noting that the recent call for sites saw at least four sites put forward for consideration and with no sites allocated to Tuddenham all Councillors agreed to STRONGLY OBJECT to the plan. It was agreed public knowledge of the plan is limited and therefore resolved to hold a public consultation to receive residents thoughts on potential development sites and to use these to support the strong objection. It was agreed to hold this event on Saturday 2 March 2024 from 10am to 2pm in the Village hall.

- 080224/14 Councillors noted the following decision made by West Suffolk Council on applications relating to Tuddenham since the last meeting:
 NMA(A)22/0554 Non material amendment to DC/22/0554/FUL
 Tuddenham Village Hall, High Street, Tuddenham IP28 6SA
 WSC: GRANTED TPC: Supported
 Councillors noted updates on the following planning applications considered at previous meetings:
- 080224/15 DC/23/1991/FUL cricket nets – Sport England has raised numerous objections and are currently liaising with the applicant.
- 080224/16 DC/23/1968 FUL The Mill – this application has been ammended to retention of Ti-Pi on a permanent basis. The application is out for re-consideration and will be disucssed at the next Parish Council meeting.
- 080224/17 DC/23/1275/VAR Nethercroft Farm – Planning are waiting for a shadow habitat redulation assessment to confirm if any development on the site would have an adverse effect on stone curlews.
- 080224/18 DC/23/1269/PIP Land at 3 High Street - the applicant has not submitted any information to inform a project level Habitats Regulation Assessment and therefore the local planning authority is unable to conclude that the development, in combination with other plans and projects, would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of Breckland SPA alone or in-combination with other development.
- Finance:**
- 080224/19 All Councillors confirmed receipt of the finance report for the period ended 31 January 2024 prior to the meeting.
- 080224/20 **Bank Reconciliation:** In the absence of SG CB confirmed the bank reconciliation as presented agrees to the bank statements with cash available of £10,081.62; £8,205.85 in the Treasurer account and £1,875.77 in the Instant account.
- 080224/21 **Budget to Actual:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of this report prior to the meeting. Noting expenses of £10,034.93 (with the exception of the play equipment and SID) and receipts of £15,831.15 this is all in line with the budget. There were expenses and receipts totalling £1,256.48 which gave a net effect of zero – these were overpayments made to SALC and WSC for which refunds were

received. TN confirmed grants from DT and CN towards the SID have yet to be received.

080224/22 **Reserves:** All Councillors confirmed the reserves account reconciles to the bank statements and all Councillors present accepted the general reserve is 40.3% of the precept and in line with best practise.

Receipts: With the exception of the two refunds previously mentioned Councillors noted there had been one receipt since the last meeting:

080224/23	Lloyds	Interest	1.94
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Payments:

All Councillors resolved to approve the following gross payments by internet banking confirming a full schedule, supported by invoices and receipts, had been received prior to the meeting:

	Payee	Details	£
080224/24	Tina Newell	Salary and re-imburements	601.68
080224/25	Tuddenham Village hall	Hall Hire	15.00
080224/26	Westcotec	SID	4,588.80

080224/27 All Councillors agreed to purchase a further four sets of brackets to enable the SID to be easily moved from posts at a cost of £52.00 each plus VAT and to apply to DT for locality funding to cover this expense.

080244/28 Noting diminishing Council funds TN has prepared a VAT return and will send it after the meeting.

Governance

080224/29 All Councillors agreed to change the procurement threshold on the Financial Regulations increasing for goods or services from £213,477 to £214,904 and from £5,336,937 to £5,372,937 for public works (construction).

Playing field:

080224/30 CU confirmed an area for the proposed play equipment extension was marked last week; the playing field committee have agreed the new fence line however they would prefer to continue utilising the space as it is used on a regular basis for car parking and storage but they accept the proposal if it is for the benefit of the village. They expressed concerns regarding the increased risk which will arise from moving the fence closer to the cricket pitch and are unsure where the sight

screen will be placed and are hoping the Parish Council has engaged in discussions with the neighbouring properties and feel the responsibilities for assessing these risks and putting mitigation measures in place is with the Parish Council. All Councillors agreed it would be the Cricket Club who would need to re-site the screens and the Parish Council will undertake risk assessment for the play equipment.

080224/31 As the extension line has been agreed TN will seek quotes to replace the ball stop netting; it was agreed to request assistance from the cricket club to ensure the netting is acceptable to them.

080224/32 A resident kindly offered to repair the entrance wall to the playing field free of charge. All agreed the residents must be aware that repairs such as this should come from the precept and proposed to accept the offer of free labour paying only for the materials

080224/33 Further to a meeting on site with a Civil Engineer from Suffolk County Council (SCC) it was deemed the culvert under the ditch is owned by SCC and requires exploration by a camera; the ditch at the bottom of the playing field is owned by the Parish Council (the boundary fencing clearly defines this) and must be cleared of debris; the owners of the ditch on the neighbouring land have riparian rights and will be written to asking to clear this ditch of debris also.

Road safety:

080224/34 The replacement 'Tuddenham' sign has been delivered and is waiting for an engineer from SCC to confirm the site is clear of any utility pipes/lines before its installed on entrance to the village from Mildenhall

080224/35 The new Speed Indicator Device has been delivered and is with a resident who has kindly taken responsibility for its operation in the village; this has been added to the asset register.

080224/36 Councillors confirmed receipt of notes from the recent meeting with Matt Hancock, Suffolk County Council and National Highways prior the meeting in which it was confirmed the proposal to close the gaps across the A11 has been defferred due to it's sensitivity and the number of objections received. Councillors also received written confirmation SCC had not supported the proposal. National Highways are re-analysing their previous data and making it clearer whilst considering all other options and will present their findings to the Parish Council prior to any public

consultation. It was noted the split in the village favouring not closing the gaps was 75/25.

080224/37 A resident reported a speed camera was at the A11 Tuddenham crossing recently and confirmed this made crossing the road easier and safer as traffic was adhering to the speed restriction.

080224/38 **Village Hall:** KM confirmed the directional sign has been erected.

080224/39 **Mobile Phone Signal:** There is no update; TN will continue to pursue this.

080224/40 **Community Emergency Plan (CEP):** KB proposed the Parish Council consider producing a CEP noting the poor mobile phone signal and frequent disruption to the water supply all Councillors supported the proposal. It was agreed for KB to take the lead supported by CU, TN and a resident. A meeting with SCC's lead in Community Emergency Planning. will be arranged for Friday 16 February.

080224/41 **Flooding and Drainage:** AS, KB and TN met with a Civil engineer from SCC and walked the areas of the Parish for which flooding has been an issue; the owner of the land closest to Cavenham, along Cavenham Road, has no responsibility for water on the highway and as this flooding does not effect dwellings there is little that can be done; the flooding which affected a property along Cavenham Road is a Civil matter; the owners of land along Higham Road will be asked to re-instate the ditch line; the storm drain along the main High Street opposite Bakers Way will be reported to the drainage team; the storm drain along Icklingham Road is no longer fit for purpose and a request for the drainage team to look at it has been made; the ditch along the back of the playing field needs to be cleared of debris and the owners of the ditch on the land adjoining it have riparian rights and a letter requesting them to clear the debris will be issued

Working Together:

080224/42 CU, AS, KB and CB were delighted at how well attended the event was; questions and comments included are documentation currently in the archives in Bury St Edmunds there on loan; how often are the roads swept through the vilage and can a schedule of the dates be advertised; the number of times Anglian Water have had to attend to broken pipes in the village in the recent past. It was resolved for TN to look into these and report back at the next meeting.

- 080224/43 It was agreed to rename this as 'Village Voice' as they give residents in the village the opportunity to voice their thoughts. After discussion all Councillors resolved to hold the next event on Saturday 11 May 2024.
- 080224/44 **Correspondence:** Councillors have been invited to a meeting with Icklingham Parish Council to discuss the ongoing concerns over 4x4's and dirt bikes using the Heath; CU and a member of the public agreed to attend.
- 080224/45 **Councillors to note any items for inclusion in a future meeting:** white lines along Higham Road, Speed Indicator Device along Icklingham Road, housing needs survey, Parish Council owned land, ground maintenance contract, A11 proposed gap closure and mobile phone signal, review of policies/procedures and risk assessments, poo bins, war memorial update, streetlights, anglian water.
- 080224/46 **Councillors noted the date of the next scheduled meeting is 14 March 2024.**
- 080224/47 **Chairman closed the meeting at 21.34pm.**