

Minutes of the AGM of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held on Thursday 19th May 2016 in the small room of the Community Centre Tydd ST Giles

**Present** R Mallett (Chairman), M Carter, G Minney, M Hale-Smith, V Ware, Cllr S Clark, Cllr S King Mr & Mrs Simpson, Mr & Mrs Maxwell, C Ross, Ano, R Wright (Acting Clerk)

**Apologies for Absence** Cllr M Jupp & M Taylor, Cllr M Humphry, Cllr C Seaton, L Groves (Clerk)

No Prejudicial interests were declared

### **583/16 Appointment of Officers and declaration of Acceptance of Office**

The following appointments were confirmed:-

Chairman	R G Mallett	Vice Chairman	M Taylor		
Police Consultation	M Hale-Smith	Tree Officer	M Carter	Community Centre	M Carter
Church	M Jupp	Highways	M Hale-Smith	Allotments	R Mallett
Street Lights	G Minney	Foul Anchor/ Notice Board	Foul Anchor	M Taylor	
Planning	full council	Play equipment	V Ware		

Mr Ivan Cooper a retired Finance Manager with Fenland District Council has undertaken the audit on the 2015/2016 financial year and was re-appointed to undertake it in 2016/2017

The Chairman and Vice Chairman duly signed their respective Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

### **584/16 Confirmation of minutes**

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 were signed subject to an amendment on 575/16(h) from M Hale-Smith to C Seaton

### **585/16 Matters Arising**

a) Old School House – Further to minute 575/16(a). The Chairman welcomed Cllr S King of FDC who spoke about the matter. He reported that the current owner was in poor health and although an S 215 Order had been applied for, no works had been undertaken. A report was to be made to FDC Planning to set out the option. It was felt that action through the Courts may not be acceptable or reasonable. It may not be appropriate to compulsory purchase as it may not be cost effective. Cllr Ware question if any Council Tax had been paid over the years. The introduction of empty property tax was not brought into effect until about 2013.

The Chairman reported that the matter was first approached in 1981.

b) Neighbourhood Plan – Further to minute 575/16(b) RESOLVED – that the clerk checks upon the status.

c) Village Directory – Further to minute 575/16(c) Cllr Ware reported that she had resolved the anomalies and just contact details needed to be added if acceptable along with to-nights appointments.

d) PCC Green Burial Site – Further to minute 575/16(d) Cllr Ware reported that to date three burials had taken place and the question of memorials was being considered.

e) Street Lights – Further to minute 575/16(e) Cllr Minney reported that matter in Foul Anchor was on going. A bracket light in Newgate Road has been repaired. Cllr King reported that CAT1 lights had been replaced and FDC were looking at the contract with Balfour Beatty. He spoke that were appointed to replace all Cambs CC lights FDC had appointed them but now had doubts. The matter was ongoing and any decisions would be reported to the Council. He stated that FDC did not intend to charge parishes for power or some maintenance items. He agreed to send a schedule of items that were included in FDC contract. He admitted that communication regarding streetlights between the Council and Parishes could have been better.

f) Highways & Church Matters – Further to minute 575/16(f) Cllr M Hale-Smith had no further comments as he was not a Councillor at the time.

## **586/16 Police Matters**

Police Representative Report from PCSO Helen Norton-Smith

Speeding in rural villages still appears to be a key community concern. The Police will endeavour to encourage local community groups to set up community speed watch groups. Meanwhile they have organised some speed enforcement operations in the north rural villages.

They will continue to undertake patrols in Tydd St Giles and surrounding areas as often as resources permit, and will endeavour to attend the village primary school on a regular basis.

Security checks at key locations within the rural villages remain a priority, and are undertaken on a daily basis at present.

### **CRIMES REPORTED IN THE TYDD ST GILES AREA MARCH 2016**

1 x Theft of caravan

### **GENERAL CONCERNS**

There have been a number of shed burglaries in some of the rural villages, where power tools have been stolen. If you see or hear of anything suspicious, please ring 101, or in case of an emergency 999.

Cllr Hale-Smith was disappointed that a police representative was not present, the clerk mentioned that correspondence had been circulated that stated that no police presence at Parish Council meetings would take place.

**587/16**            **Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report**    no report

**588/16**            **Fenland District Council** – It was reported that the Dog Scene Officer has made inspections of the area but time was an issue. Cllr Clark mentioned e cops as a useful means of keeping track of police issues.

### **589/16**            **Correspondence**

a) Magpas – Letter received thanking the Parish Council for their support in 2015. They are also requesting whether the Council will be able to continue supporting them in 2016/2017. RESOLVED – that the matter be deferred until October.

b) Local Boundary Commission – The Clerk reported that consultations on a new draft would end on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

### **590/16**            **Planning**

F/YR16/0150/F Ms H Dales – Erection of 2 storey dwelling & double garage (demolish existing dwelling) supported

F/YR16/0179/PNH - Sees Cottage – Single storey rear extension - supported

F/YR16/0178/F – Mr S Johnson – Kirkgate – erection of single detached garage - supported

F/YR16/0208/F – Mr & Mrs Watson – Middle Broad Drove – Single storey rear extension, triple garage Supported

F/YR16/0258/O – Land East of Field House Hockland Rd – Erection of a dwelling – to councillors

F/YR16/0253/F – Ms E Wheeler – Hockland Rd – Erection of 2 x 2-storey dwellings & detached double garages with stores – note neighbours comments

F/YR16/0297/F – Mr A Crowson – High Broadgate – Erection of a single-storey rear extension – not yet circulated.

The Clerk referred to a letter from J Maxwell that had been circulated to all Councillors regarding a complaint that he had made to FDC about the robustness of the Council's planning procedure. The Clerk apologised for the delay but a document setting out the planning procedure has now been sent to him. The Clerk had spoken to FDC and stated that the Council had acted within the legal boundaries. No further action would be taken. The Clerk reported that Cllr Carter and the Clerk had attended a training course held by FDC. Cllr Carter reported that he had yet to receive the Paperwork promised. Cllr Clark to chase FDC. More training would be offered which would assist Councillors in making sure all was in order when looking at applications.

**591/16 Highway Matters/Street Lighting**

b) Highway matters. Cllr Hale-Smith was not happy with the issue of Pot Holes and would be chasing highways on behalf of the Council. Councillor M Hale-Smith would also take up the issue of the lay-by at Sutton Road, Four Gotes. The pothole sat Swallow Lane had been dealt with but many others had not. The criteria regarding pot holes was unclear and hopefully details could be supplied.

Cllr Ware mentioned a dead tree outside 9 Field Avenue and Cllr Carter agreed to investigate.

a) Street lights

**592/16 Income & Expenditure**

a) The Members considered and approved the following account for payment:

L Groves	Salary	212.39
Fenland District Council	Empty Wheelie Bin	86.74
Inland Revenue	Income Tax	3.20
E-on		9.63
NLI Drainage Board	Drainage Rates	427.85
CAPALC	Membership Fees	321.53
I Cooper	Internal audit fee	100.00
L Groves	Salary	212.19
HMR&C	payee	3.40
R Wright	Consultancy	136.56

b) The Council approved the Governance statement as on the Annual Return for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman sign the return.

The Council approved the Annual Statement of Accounts for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman sign the return.

c) The Clerk presented the Annual Accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 which were approved and duly signed.

d) The Clerk reported that the external auditors have called the audit for the 2015/2016 financial year on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

The Inspection of the documents will take place from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 15 July 2016.

The Clerk had circulated the Internal Auditors report, which was adopted and approved.

e) Risk Management – The annual review of the internal control arrangements and risk management took place and it was agreed that at present no changes were required.

f) The members of Public were excluded whilst the Council considered the Clerks position. The clerk appointment was confirmed by email on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 for a three-month trial period. Her salary was on SCP 15 at a rate of £8.613b per hour with a weekly £10 home working allowance. The Clerk had now completed her probationary period of three months and it was resolved that she be appointed as Clerk & RFO to the Council. A sub-committee of R Wright and V Ware would look into pension arrangements.

**593/16 Allotments** - Cllr Mallett reported that all was well

**594/16 Foul Anchor** –The road signs had been fitted but the potholes had not been repaired.

**595/16 Community Centre** – The security gates and railings were being made. The new heaters had been fitted and quotes for the supply of electricity was being investigated.

**596/16 Date of Next Meetings Parish Council July 21<sup>st</sup> 2016 at 7.00 p.m.**

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

## PUBLIC TIME

The Clerk reported that a letter from Mrs Simpson regarding property in Newgate Road had been received and sent to FDC. Following investigations, an explanation has been given to Mrs Simpson.

Cllr NM Hale-Smith reported that the Tydd Waterway Route was in progress and should be operational by September 2016. The Partnership between, the Council, Tydd Leisure and North level District IDB was working well. Cllr Clark reported that Newton were making investigations to link-up with the route.

Cllr Ware reported that an electricity failure meant that the Luncheon Club were struggling to prepare over 40 meals but the Tydd leisure Centre stepped in and helped and just proves that there is a good Community spirit within Tydd St Giles.