

TYDD ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held on Thursday 12th October 2017
in the Small Room of the Community Centre, Broad Drove East, Tydd St Giles.

Present - Cllr R Mallett (Chairman), Cllr M Taylor (Vice-Chairman), Cllr M Carter, Cllr M Hale-Smith, Cllr G Minney, Cllrs S King (CCC, from item 686/17) and C Seaton (FDC, until item 687/17), D Gibbs (Clerk), PCSO's Norton-Smith & Russ, N Burton & M Barrington (Circle Housing), Mr & Mrs Maxwell, Mr & Mrs Simpson and Mrs Ross (Parishioners)

Apologies for Absence - Cllr M Jupp (family commitment), Cllr V Ware (prior engagement), Cllr S Clark (FDC)

Public Forum

Mrs Simpson raised issues relating to the current temporary closure of Broad Drove East to traffic in connection with the new housing development. Drivers are ignoring the signs and attempting to pass through the closure, with varying degrees of success. There is no pedestrian access through the closure, isolating a number of properties from the village. She also asked whether the 30mph speed limit would be extended to reduce speeds at the Sapphire Close junction.

Mrs Ross asked about the details of the road closure and how it was publicised, as she had received no notification.

675/17 Sapphire Close Affordable Housing Development (discussed during Public Forum)

Nina Burton (Housing Services Manager) and Martin Barrington (Allocations Officer) from Circle Housing attended the meeting to provide an update on the Sapphire Close development. The construction is proceeding well, although the completion date has been put back to the end of January. The Local Lettings Plan, which gives priority to people with a connection to Tydd St Giles, was presented for ratification. The optional Under Occupation clause, which allows applicants to bid for a property with one more bedroom than their minimum requirement, was discussed at length.

RESOLVED - to ratify the terms of the Local Lettings Plan for Sapphire Close and to allow under occupation on up to 50% of the properties.

676/17 Police Matters (discussed during Public Forum)

Monthly updates for July, August and September were discussed. Oil theft and hare coursing still occurring locally. Recent speed enforcement in local villages resulted in a number of tickets being issued, all of which were to residents of the villages. Volunteers are required for a community Speedwatch group to monitor traffic speeds around the village. A new Police Service Volunteer Area Coordinator, Barry Ruggles, has been appointed to provide training and support for Speedwatch in Fenland. The possibility of a joint group with Newton-in-the-Isle was discussed. Mr Maxwell and Cllr Hale-Smith agreed to canvass for volunteers.

677/17 Urgent Items

Issues raised by Mrs Simpson and Mrs Ross during Public Forum to be discussed under agenda item 17a) Highways (minute 690/17 below).

678/17 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th July 2017 were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

679/17 Matters Arising

- a) Old School House - See item 680/17 below.
- b) Tydd Waterway Route - Outstanding bills have been paid. Two benches still to be installed. Meeting to take place before Christmas to discuss future plans.
- c) Church Grounds - Original issue now resolved, but further work will be required.
- d) Street Lighting - Issue resolved.
- e) E-mail - S Burgess - Item closed.
- f) Kirkgate Pavement - Work is under way and should be completed by the end of October.
- g) Cats Eyes - The Clerk reported that the Highways authority no longer see cats eyes as a priority, with improvements to vehicle headlights and to line marking paints making them unnecessary.
- h) Overgrown Hedges - Both hedges were cut back by their respective owners following the requests from the Parish Council.
- i) Website hosting - Resolution actioned and new website under construction.
- j) Obstructed Footpath - Footpath now cleared, but will require ongoing monitoring.
- k) Cross Drove Resurfacing - Budget insufficient to complete full length of road.
- l) Street Light, Church Lane Bridge - Due to be repaired shortly.
- m) Tree in Churchyard - Work completed.
- n) Children's Play Equipment - Play equipment omitted from asset register and insurance schedule. Insurance Company requires weekly visual inspection. Clerk to create necessary paperwork and provide schedule for insurance company.

680/17 Fenland District Councillor Reports

Cllr Seaton reported that the Council's Buildings Control contractor had inspected the former village school and it was not deemed unsafe. However a letter had been sent to the owner reminding him of his responsibility to secure the site. The District Council will discuss options for the future of the site with the Parish Council.

The District Council's funding settlement for 2018/19 will be finalised in December and further cuts are anticipated.

681/17 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on correspondence received (see agenda).

682/17 Appointment of Trustees to the Brigstock & Wrens Charity

Cllr Taylor took the Chair for this item. The term of office of Cllr R Mallett and Mr H Howlett as Trustees of the Brigstock & Wrens Charity is due to end shortly. They were appointed by the Parish Council. The Clerk of the charity has asked the Parish Council to appoint two individuals for a further term of office. Cllr Mallett and Mr Howlett are both eligible for reappointment and have expressed a willingness to continue.

RESOLVED - that Cllr Mallett and Mr H Howlett be appointed for a further term of office as Trustees of the Brigstock & Wrens Charity.

683/17 Community Centre Improvements

The Community Centre will be 25 years old next year and a number of proposals have been put forward for modernisation and improvement projects, some of which relate to the fabric of the building and the outside areas. The building belongs to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED - The Parish Council will be responsible for future capital works to the Community Centre and will seek to raise the necessary funds from external sources.

684/17 Defibrillator for the Community Centre

Donations of £609 have been received. The East of England Ambulance Service package of defibrillator, secure cabinet and training for volunteers costs £1,945. The availability of training will need to be publicised in the community. The proposed upgrading of the CCTV system will reduce the risk of theft and vandalism of the defibrillator cabinet.

RESOLVED - that the Parish Council will proceed with the upgrading of the CCTV system at the Community Centre and that further consideration will be given to identifying volunteers to undertake defibrillator training.

685/17 Annual Review of Allotment Rents

Allotments need measuring to confirm sizes. No increase proposed this year. Measurements to be obtained to allow decision in July 2018.

Cllr King joined the meeting.

686/17 Local Highway Improvement bid for 2018/19

Foul Anchor drainage project lacks wider public benefit and not achievable within the LHI budget. Alternative proposal to install a new street light at the crossing point from the old pavement to the new in Kirkgate and purchase moveable speed monitoring sign for use there and at other locations around the village. Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Hale-Smith.

RESOLVED - to submit an application to Cambridgeshire County Council for Local Highway Improvement funding for 2018/19 for a new street light in Kirkgate and a portable speed monitoring sign and to provide £1,000 as the Parish Council's contribution towards the project.

Cllr Seaton left the meeting.

687/17 Planning

Three applications were discussed as follows:

F/YR17/0886/F - Land north of Hollingworth House, Hockland Road, fronting Cats Lane.

As there is already planning permission for a dwelling on this site and the Parish Council's previous concerns related to vehicular and pedestrian access to the site, there was no objection to this revised proposal.

F/YR17/0933/F - The Bungalow, Broad Drove East.

The Parish Council did not support this application. The proposed building is too large for the location and out of keeping with surrounding buildings, including the new Sapphire Close development.

F/YR17/0940/F - Land North of West Bank House, Hannath Road.

The Parish Council supported this application.

688/17 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report

Cllr King reported that the County Council's budgetary process was forcing them to make difficult choices. Bus services are under review again, as Stagecoach wish to withdraw from less profitable routes. The County Council has secured challenge funding for additional road repairs.

689/17 Finance

- a) The new Financial Regulations were discussed and their adoption was proposed by Cllr Hale-Smith and seconded by Cllr Carter.

RESOLVED - to adopt the new Financial Regulations.

- b) The external auditor's report was discussed and its approval was proposed by Cllr Mallett and seconded by Cllr Taylor.

RESOLVED - to approve the external auditor's report for 2016/17.

- c) The accounts for the six months to the end of September show income of £23,162.46 and expenditure of £14,216.84, with a number of bills awaiting payment.

- d) Deferred to next meeting.

- e) The following payments were presented for approval:

CGM Ltd (Grounds maintenance - 2016/17 outstanding).....	£	660.00
CGM Ltd (Grounds maintenance - extras paid).....	£	26.40
PKF Littlejohn (Adjustment)	£	120.00
	£	<u>806.40</u>
CGM Ltd (Grounds maintenance - Recreation Ground).....	£	225.93
CGM Ltd (Grounds maintenance - Churchyard)	£	528.00
CGM Ltd (Grounds maintenance - extras to pay).....	£	528.00
Arb-Core Tree Care Ltd (Churchyard).....	£	600.00
Brigstock & Wrens Charity (Rent).....	£	135.00
DA Gibbs (Salary).....	£	750.00
DA Gibbs (Expenses).....	£	76.88
Fenland DC (Bin collection)	£	173.48
Proludic (Play equipment spare parts).....	£	<u>301.98</u>
	£	3,319.27

RESOLVED - that the above payments totalling £4,125.67 be approved for payment.

690/17 Reports from Members

- a) Highways - Cllr Hale-Smith reported that the Parish Council had been notified of the closure of Broad Drove East, but that it was the responsibility of the contractor to notify all affected residents. The issue of pedestrian access had not been highlighted in the closure notice, so the Parish Council was unaware of this. Cllr Hale-Smith agreed to meet with the site manager to discuss additional signage and pedestrian access. Any proposal to alter speed limits would require more evidence, which a Speedwatch group could gather. Cllr Carter enquired whether the grass verges at both ends of Field Avenue could be adopted by a local organisation or group to maintain them to a higher standard than the County Council contract. Cllr Hale-Smith agreed to raise this with the Golf Club.

- b) Street Lighting - All lights now appear to be working.

- c) Churchyard - The quinquennial review has highlighted a number of issues with ivy and other vegetation. Community Service Payback will be asked to arrange work parties. Volunteers are required to clear leaves from the churchyard before the Remembrance Service.
- d) Trees - The plane tree in the churchyard has been cut back.
- e) Allotments - All rent payments received when due.
- f) Foul Anchor - Remembrance Service 12th November. Mr Kirtley has painted the telephone box. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks and offer to pay for materials. Mrs Robbins has cleaned the war memorial and the owner of the overhanging trees has given permission for them to be cut back.
- g) Community Centre - The extension to the disabled car park will cost in excess of £17,000. The Clerk will prepare bids to the National Lottery Awards for All for £10,000, the Grange Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund for £5,000 and the Sutton Bridge Power Fund for £2,000. Quotes are being obtained for the upgrading of the CCTV system. The repainting of the roof is progressing well, in spite of the weather.

691/17 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 18th January in the Community Centre, Broad Drove East, commencing at 7.15pm.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm