

# TYDD ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Present** - Cllr T Doyle (Chairman), Cllr C Brooks, Cllr M Carter, Cllr B Luck, Cllr G Mathias, Cllr S King (CCC), Cllr C Seaton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), S Almey, D Grainger, M Holman, S Holman, J Melloy (Parishioners)

**Apologies for Absence** - Cllr K Malin, Cllr A Renshaw, Cllr S Clark (FDC)

**Public Time** - Mrs Melloy reported that the sale of calendars had raised £530 to be divided equally between the Church and the Community Centre. She thanked the Council for contributing the cost of printing the calendars. Mr Almey reported a build-up of fallen leaves on the pavement outside the former village school and asked whether these could be cleared. The Clerk agreed to investigate. An additional dog waste bin was requested in Cats Lane.

### **068/21 Chairman's Announcements**

None.

### **069/21 Urgent Items**

None.

### **070/21 Confirmation of Minutes**

- a) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.
- b) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.
- c) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

### **071/21 Matters Arising**

- a) Defibrillators - The defibrillator at Foul Anchor is showing a low battery warning. The Clerk will investigate.
- b) Sutton Bridge Power Fund - Grants are now available again.
- c) Parish Council e-mail accounts - The Clerk will set up the one outstanding account shortly.
- d) Green Dog Walker scheme - The leaflets are being distributed this week, so the potential support for the scheme will be clarified before the next meeting.
- e) Drainage Issues - The Clerk and Cllr Carter will visit again shortly to extend the borehole.
- f) Parking in Church Lane - The Clerk is monitoring parking to ascertain whether residents have responded to the request not to park on the pavement.
- g) Parking at Church Lane, Hockland Road, Kirkgate junction - No further progress.

- h) Local Highway Improvements - The assessment panel will meet to consider the application for 2022/23 on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. The meeting with the Leader of the County Council to discuss the LHI scheme will be arranged shortly.
- i) Dog waste bins - The new bin for Hall Bank has been ordered. Members agreed to identify a suitable location for an additional bin in Cats Lane.
- j) Damage to play equipment - The damaged item will be repaired tomorrow.
- k) Maintenance of the churchyard - The Clerk has been unable to contact the Community Payback team and has asked the Police & Crime Commissioner's office for up-to-date contact details.
- l) Allotments - Further research is needed. If the Council resolves to provide allotments, budgetary provision will be required for 2022/23.
- m) Foul Anchor notice board - The area adjacent to the war memorial could be improved to provide a location for the notice board, a bench and a bin. This could be another Community Payback project.

### **072/21 Police Matters**

The Clerk reported that he had attended a meeting with the Neighbourhood Sergeant. Inspector Lombardo has been seconded to Peterborough and replaced by Inspector Morris, who has previous experience of policing in Fenland. The recent burglary in Sapphire Close is still under investigation, but is considered to be a one-off incident. The Police have offered to their support in looking out for inconsiderate dog walking on the North Level Main Drain. Neighbourhood Watch has new online resources on anti-social behaviour and preventing burglary.

### **073/21 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report**

Cllr King reported that the new joint administration will continue with the commitment to allocate nearly £30 million of additional funding for highways, footpaths and drainage. The budget for the new financial year will also include £5 million for community capital projects. Cllr Doyle suggested that the Council might consider this funding for projects relating to the Community Centre or children's play equipment.

The Highways and Transport Committee has agreed to the creation of a design guide for public rights of way to ensure that they meet the needs of all users. This resulted from Cllr King's intervention regarding the hard surfacing of paths making them unsuitable for equestrians.

### **074/21 Fenland District Councillor Reports**

Cllr Seaton reported that the District Council has endorsed the proposal to increase the number of councillors from 39 to 42. If adopted by the Boundary Commission, this would result in Leverington being removed from Roman Bank ward to become part of a new Wisbech ward, Parson Drove becoming part of Roman Bank and the number of members being reduced from three to two, to take effect at the next district elections in May 2023. The District Council's share of the Council Tax will remain the same for the next financial year.

### **075/21 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received since the last meeting.

### **076/21 Play Area Working Group**

No developments since the last meeting. A timetable of meetings will be published for the year.

### **077/21 Data Gathering and Digital Mapping**

Cllr Luck reported on progress regarding the online mapping of Council assets and circulated copies of a data handbook that brings together various data sets relating to the parish.

### **078/21 Member and Parishioner Issues**

- a) Trees in High Broadgate - Cllr Carter has obtained a quotation for the removal of a cherry tree and reduction of an oak, a maple and a cherry, plus either reduction or removal of a silver birch. Further quotes will be obtained.
- b) Dog bin in High Broadgate - A resident has asked whether the dog bin near the junction of Hockland Road could be replaced with a litter bin. Members discussed this and agreed to place a litter bin alongside the existing dog bin.
- c) North Level Main Drain permissive path - Following a number of incidents of dogs chasing sheep and the inconsiderate and confrontational behaviour of dog owners, the North Level District Internal Drainage Board has reluctantly decided to close the permissive path. The Clerk reported that discussions will take place in the spring to ascertain whether future re-opening may be possible.
- d) Crown & Mitre public house - Members acknowledged that the Crown & Mitre is an important community asset and resolved to apply for Asset of Community Value designation to allow the community to consider options to purchase the site if it is to be sold at any time in the future. The Clerk will write to the current owner to invite them to comment on this decision before an application is submitted.
- e) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations - The Jubilee provides an opportunity for community celebration and the Council confirmed its wish to see suitable events taking place in the village. Members agreed to arrange a meeting of all community groups to discuss their plans and encourage joint working.
- f) Annual Parish meeting - The Clerk suggested that the event could be used to bring together speakers from statutory and voluntary bodies to discuss issues relevant to parishioners. Members agreed to this approach and asked the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

### **079/21 Policies and Procedures**

Members considered the following draft policy and procedure documents prepared by the Clerk:-

- a) Data protection policy.
- b) Publication scheme.

They resolved to adopt both documents.

### **080/21 Portfolio Responsibilities**

The Chairman proposed that this item be deferred and discussed individually prior to the next meeting and members agreed.

## 081/21 Finance

a) The Clerk presented the financial statement as at the end of December, showing income of £20,444.00, expenditure of £23,514.21, resulting in a shortfall of £3,070.21, and funds held of £36,004.92.

b) Members noted the following sum received since the last meeting:-

|                               |   |      |
|-------------------------------|---|------|
| Barclays Bank (interest)..... | £ | 0.52 |
|-------------------------------|---|------|

c) Members ratified the following payments made since the last meeting:-

|  |   |              |
|--|---|--------------|
| D Gibbs (salary December) .....                        | £ | 716.03       |
| CGM Group (East Anglia) Ltd (grounds maintenance)..... | £ | 621.94       |
| Geosphere Ltd (Parish Online digital mapping).....     | £ | 86.40        |
| Fenland District Council (bin emptying) .....          | £ | <u>95.20</u> |
|  | £ | 1,519.57     |

d) Members approved the following payments:-

|   |   |              |
|---|---|--------------|
| D Gibbs (salary January) .....                          | £ | 716.03       |
| Wicksteed Leisure Ltd (play equipment inspection) ..... | £ | <u>72.00</u> |
|   | £ | 788.03       |

e) Members reviewed the draft budget for 2022/23. They resolved to allocate the following sums:-

|                       |   |                 |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|
| Play areas .....      | £ | 5,000.00        |
| Community Centre..... | £ | 8,000.00        |
| Tree works .....      | £ | 1,000.00        |
| Allotments.....       | £ | 1,500.00        |
| Training.....         | £ | 300.00          |
| Foul Anchor .....     | £ | <u>1,500.00</u> |
|                       | £ | 17,300.00       |

They further resolved to phase the street light replacement programme over two years, reducing the sum allocated from £14,700 to £7,350.

Members resolved to increase the precept to £15,000, leaving a deficit of £14,927 to be taken from the Council's reserves.

## 082/21 Planning

Members considered the following application:-

F/YR21/1517/O - Erect 1 x dwelling (outline application with all matters reserved) - Land West of The Cottage, Sees Lane, Four Gotes

It was noted that the Council has previously offered no objection to a similar proposal under reference F/YR21/0409/F.

Sees Lane lies in a location defined as Elsewhere in the Fenland Local Plan and this proposal is therefore contrary to policy LP3 in this regard. Notwithstanding this, the development site has the characteristics of an infill opportunity in an otherwise continually-developed rural streetscape, characterised by unique detached properties centrally-located in larger than average plots. The proposed development shares these characteristics and is in keeping with its location. Members noted that the proposed development has six letters of support from

immediate neighbours and no objections. The previous concerns regarding the width of the access into Sees Lane from the A1101 appear to have been addressed in the new proposal.

Members resolved to support the application for a single dwelling at this location and to request that it be put before the Planning Committee to enable members to consider the potential benefits alongside the Local Plan context.

### **083/21 Speed Monitoring**

The Clerk presented a report on data recorded by the MVAS speed monitoring device in Kirkgate, as follows:-

|                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Monitoring period                 | 11.7.21 to 29.7.21 (19 days) |
| Number of vehicles                | 3,381                        |
| Maximum speed                     | 85mph                        |
| 85 <sup>th</sup> percentile speed | 38mph                        |
| Violations                        | 280 vehicles (8.29%)         |
| Prosecutable (i.e. 10% plus 2mph) | 75 vehicles (2.22%)          |

Further analysis of the data will provide details of priority times for enforcement action.

### **084/21 Reports from Members**

- a) Highways - Cllr Mathias advised members that he will be carrying out a full inspection of highways shortly.
- b) Street Lights - Cllr Luck reported that two more street light faults have been reported for repair.
- c) Churchyard - Nothing further to report.
- d) Trees - Nothing further to report.
- e) Foul Anchor - Nothing further to report.
- f) Community Centre - Cllr Carter thanks the Council for sponsoring the printing of the fund raising calendars.
- g) Waterway Walk - Nothing further to report.

### **085/21 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. The date of the Annual Parish Meeting will be confirmed in due course.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm