

TYDD ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Thursday 9th March 2023

Present - Cllr T Doyle (Chairman), Cllr M Carter, Cllr B Luck, Cllr G Mathias, Cllr A Renshaw, Cllr S King (CCC), Cllr S Clark (FDC), Cllr C Seaton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), 11 members of the public

Apologies for Absence - Cllr K Malin,

Public Time - Mr Cooper advised members that there had been further problems with the sewage system in Cornfields. Residents believe that the pipe behind properties in Newgate Road might be blocked. The Clerk offered to discuss this matter with Clarion Housing Group, as they are responsible for the system.

A resident asked why the Council had not purchased child-shaped no parking signs to be used outside the school, as previously discussed. The Chairman explained that the signs would need to be moved in and out of the school on a daily basis and concern had been expressed regarding the feasibility of doing this. The Police will be visiting the school to talk to parents about unauthorised parking.

091/22 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

092/22 Urgent Items

None.

093/22 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th January 2023 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

094/22 Matters Arising

- a) Drainage Issues - The pipes pumping water onto Hockland Road have been redirected to another location, but a long term solution is still required. The Clerk has discussed this with the County Council's Flood Officer.
- b) Dog bin in Eaudyke Bank - The Clerk reported that the existing bin is being used in its current location, so relocating it elsewhere is not an option. It was noted that a spare bin exists at the top of High Broadgate, which could be relocated to the proposed location in Eaudyke Bank.

095/22 Police Matters

The Clerk reported that no meetings had taken place.

096/22 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report

Cllr King advised members that it is hoped that civil parking enforcement will commence later this year, which may alleviate some of the issues relating to parking around schools, with more regular enforcement and higher penalties. The replacement of cats eyes on Church Lane is being considered against the Highways Operating Standards criteria.

The new process for applying for funding to introduce 20mph speed limits will open in February and run until April. This is separate from the current LHI process.

097/22 Fenland District Councillor Reports

Cllr Seaton reported that the District Council has agreed to a reduction of 2% in Council Tax bills after four years with no increase. Other elements of the Council Tax will increase and a new Mayoral precept will be introduced, so overall bills will be higher. The Transport Access Group will undertake an audit of village footpaths over several years, prioritised in alphabetical order. The towns are represented on this group, but there is currently no parish representative, so a vacancy exists.

Cllr Luck noted that he had tried to contact the officer responsible for the Action on Energy scheme for an update on progress, but had not received a response. Cllr Seaton offered to follow this up and report to Cllr Luck.

098/22 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including webinars on community led housing and village hall energy costs, an FDC cost of living support event and an election briefing. Correspondence included details of free Run for Fun sessions and wellbeing walks, vacancies for polling staff at the elections, the re-launch of the Home Energy Support Service and the Great British Spring Clean.

099/22 Play Area Working Group

No further update. In response to a question from a resident, Cllr Mathias reported that the Group had been working on technical aspects, considering design issues and funding sources.

100/22 Data Gathering and Digital Mapping

Cllr Luck reported that the parish level data from the 2021 National Census is still to be released. Recent improvements to the mapping software include enhanced energy performance certificate data and more aerial photographs.

101/22 Member and Parishioner Issues

- a) Sewage pumping system, Newgate Road - Discussed during Public Time above.
- b) Defibrillators - The Clerk reported that a new battery has been installed in the Community Centre defibrillator, but the device must be sent away for a software upgrade. It is hoped that a temporary loan device will be made available. Pure Leisure has confirmed that they will take responsibility for the Golf Club defibrillator and may replace it with a more up-to-date model. The Foul Anchor defibrillator is working, but there is no electricity supply to the telephone box. The Clerk is trying to have the supply reinstated. A resident asked about defibrillator location signs that were supplied several years ago, but it is not clear what happened to them.
- c) Coronation of The King and The Queen Consort - The Chairman outlined plans for events to celebrate the coronation, including a family street party, a church service, a litter pick and a churchyard working party.

102/22 Planning

Members considered the following applications:-

F/YR23/0136/F - Erect a part 2-storey/single storey rear extension to existing dwelling - The Coach House, Main Road, Tydd Gote

Members resolved to offer no objection.

F/YR23/0186/TRTPO - Works to 1no Holme Oak tree covered by TPO 10/1990 - The Gatehouse, Kirkgate, Tydd St Giles

Members resolved to offer no objection.

Members noted the following application:-

F/YR23/0162/PNC04 - Change of use of agricultural store to 1 x dwelling (single-storey 1-bed) (Class Q (a) and (b)) - Building South of Windy Willows, Church Lane, Tydd St Giles

The Parish Council is not a consultee on Class Q applications.

103/22 Finance

a) The Clerk presented the financial statement as at the end of February showing income of £26,476.15, expenditure of £22,439.68, resulting in a surplus of £4,036.47 and funds held of £35,800.36.

b) Members ratified the following payment issued since the last meeting:-

NEST (pension contributions)	£ 277.60
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c) Members approved the following payments:-

D Gibbs (salary February and March)	£ 1,418.76
D Gibbs (expenses)	£ 712.08
	£ 2,130.84

d) Members considered a quotation from ProEdge Construction for the resurfacing of the narrow path to St Giles Church from Church Lane. They resolved to proceed with the works to the path and to the area immediately outside the church door, totalling £3,265.

e) Members considered a quotation from the District Council's contractor for the replacement of street light Newgate Road PC4. They resolved to relocate the light closer to the Broad Drove East junction and to accept the quotation of £2,714.74.

f) The Clerk advised members of donations made under Section 137 in previous years and reported that a request had been received from community transport provider FACT. They agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

g) The Clerk advised members that the proposed new bank account with NatWest would not benefit from free banking, so a charge of 35p per item would be levied. This would amount to around £20 per year. Members resolved to continue with the application on this basis.

104/22 Policies and Procedures

Members reviewed the following policies and procedures and resolved to re-adopt them:

a) Equality and Diversity Policy

b) Homeworking Policy

c) Expenses Policy

105/22 Annual Parish Meeting

Members discussed the date, format and content of the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting will take place on Thursday 27th April. Members asked the Clerk to invite speakers from Cambridgeshire Police, Neighbourhood Watch and the District Council's Emergency Planning Officer.

106/22 Allotments

Cllr Mathias reported that he has considered several potential sites. Whilst the initial response from residents was positive, it now appears that only three plots are required, which he considered not to be a viable number. More applicants are required to enable a viable site to be developed.

107/22 Reports from Members

- a) Communications - Cllr Doyle explained that alongside the website, the Council currently uses two notice boards and a Facebook page. The Facebook page is purely for information, not for dialogue. The Parish Council does not engage in discussions via the village Facebook page. These protocols will be reviewed after the election.
- b) Highways - Cllr Mathias reported that he will carry out another inspection in June or July.
- c) Street Lights - Cllr Luck reported that 5 faults are outstanding, but no new faults have been recorded.
- d) Churchyard - The works to the church path agreed under 103/22(d) will be funded from the tree works budget, so the proposed tree works will be deferred until the next financial year.
- e) Trees - nothing further to report.
- f) Foul Anchor - the Payback team will attend in May.
- g) Community Centre - Cllr Carter outlined the plans for the community celebration on the Sunday of the Coronation weekend.
- h) Waterway Walk - The enclosed sections of the permissive path have re-opened and dog walkers will be monitored for compliance with the rules.

108/22 Local Council Elections

The Clerk outlined the timetable for the elections and the process for seeking nomination to the Parish or District Councils. The notice of election will be published on 20th March and the deadline for nomination is 4th April.

109/22 Date of Next Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday 27th April at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 11th May at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm