

TYDD ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Thursday 11th May 2023

Present - T Doyle (in the Chair), Cllr B Allen, Cllr T Brown, Cllr M Carter, Cllr A Renshaw, D Gibbs (Clerk), 12 members of the public

Apologies for Absence - Cllr K Malin, Cllr S King (CCC), Cllr B Barber (FDC), Cllr S Clark (FDC), Cllr C Seaton (FDC)

001/23 Election of Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/24

Cllr Brown was nominated by Cllr Renshaw, seconded by Cllr Allen and duly elected. Cllr Brown took the chair and Mr Doyle left the meeting.

002/23 Election of Vice Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/24

Cllr Malin was nominated by Cllr Renshaw, seconded by Cllr Carter and duly elected.

003/23 Acceptance of Office

Members signed their declarations of acceptance which were witnessed by the Clerk.

004/23 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting, thanked the retiring Councillors for their service to the Council and invited Cllr Allen to say a few words by way of introduction. He commented on the success of the Coronation celebrations in the village as a good example of everybody working together.

005/23 Urgent Items

None.

006/23 Membership of the Council

The Chairman reported that several expressions of interest had been received for the two vacant positions on the Council, but a decision had been made to allow applicants more time. An extraordinary meeting will be called later in the month to consider all applications received and to resolve accordingly.

007/22 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

- a) Delegation to committees - Members resolved to defer this item until the next meeting.
- b) Members reviewed and readopted the terms of reference for the Planning Committee.
- c) Members reviewed and confirmed the standing orders and financial regulations.
- d) The Clerk confirmed that the Council holds adequate insurance for all known risks with Royal and Sun Alliance, arranged through Community Action Suffolk, with a renewal date of 1 June. Royal and Sun Alliance has withdrawn from the local councils insurance market, so a new provider will be identified for the renewal.
- e) The Clerk reminded members that they hold subscriptions to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils and to Cambridgeshire ACRE. Members resolved to continue both subscriptions.

- f) Armed Forces Champion - Members resolved to defer this item until the next meeting.
- g) The register of assets has been updated to include recent purchases and the total value of assets now stands at £404,242.
- h) Members resolved to meet on the second Thursday of alternate months, namely 13 July, 14 September, 9 November, 11 January 2022, 14 March and 9 May.

008/23 Confirmation of Minutes

- a) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th March 2023 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.
- b) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday 27th April 2023 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

009/23 Matters Arising

- a) Drainage issues - Work ongoing.
- b) Sewage pumping plant - The Clerk reported that he has been in discussions with the District Council, Clarion Housing and Cambridgeshire Highways to clarify the cause of the recent issues and will be monitoring the situation over the coming months.

010/23 Police Matters

The Clerk reported that the current quarterly priorities for the Wisbech Neighbourhood Team include speeding in the villages and drugs in Wisbech and rural areas.

011/23 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report

In Cllr King's absence, no report was received. He has provided details of a forthcoming grant scheme from the County Council that may be applicable to the Community Centre.

012/23 Fenland District Councillor Reports

In the absence of Cllrs Barber, Clark and Seaton, no report was received.

013/23 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received. Pre-election restrictions have curtailed much of the regular business of the councils. The Local Highways Improvements Assessment Panel takes place on May 17. The Chairman agreed to assist the Clerk in presenting the Council's application.

014/23 Reports from Members

- a) Communications - Nothing to report.
- b) Highways - The Clerk reported that the anticipated surface dressing of Hannath Road has been postponed until next year. The second MVAS device awarded through the Local Highways Improvements initiative is awaiting collection. The County Council has received an additional £3.6 million from the Government for pothole repairs.
- c) Street Lights - One further failure has been reported and no repairs or replacements have taken place since the last meeting.
- d) Churchyard - The narrow path from Church Lane to the west door of the church will be resurfaced shortly.

- e) Trees - Residents have expressed concern regarding the condition of a group of trees off Hannath Road belonging to the County Council that are protected by a Tree Preservation Order. Cllr Carter and the Clerk have visited and inspected the trees that show evidence of fungal growth at ground level and other defects. The Clerk has asked the District Council's Tree Officer to visit as a matter of urgency to assess the trees and determine whether action is required.
- f) Foul Anchor - Cllr Carter and the Clerk have discovered an accumulation of fly-tipping of garden waste near the war memorial. Quotes will be obtained for the removal of all waste to tidy up the area in readiness for the installation of a new notice board and bench.
- g) Community Centre - Cllr Carter reported on a successful Coronation celebration at the Community Centre and the charity's plans for the Summer.
- h) Waterway Walk - Nothing to report.

015/23 Member and Parishioner Issues

Black Dike Footbridge - The Clerk reported that a stolen moped had been set alight on the bridge, causing significant damage resulting in the closure of the bridge. The County Council is aware of this and will be arranging for the bridge to be repaired in due course. The Police have arrested several people believed to have been responsible for this in relation to another crime committed shortly thereafter.

016/23 Play Equipment Safety Inspection

- a) The recent inspection noted several non-urgent issues for attention. Members asked the Clerk to prepare a list of actions required.
- b) Cllr Carter offered to assume responsibility for the weekly play equipment checks. The Clerk will provide the checklist.

017/23 Annual Parish Meeting

Members reviewed the recent Annual Parish Meeting and agreed that the format provided an informative evening and should be repeated next year. It is hoped that the Police will be able to attend next time.

018/23 Finance

- a) Members approved the internal accounts for the 2022/23 financial year.
- b) Members reviewed and approved the Governance and Management Risk Assessment.
- c) Members approved the internal audit report. There were no matters requiring attention.
- d) Members reviewed and approved the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 and authorised the Chairman to sign it.
- e) Members reviewed and approved the Accounting Statements 2022/23 and authorised the Chairman to sign it.
- f) Members resolved that the period for the exercise of public rights be from Monday 5 June to Friday 14 July.
- g) Members confirmed the appointment of Ivan Cooper as Internal Auditor for 2023/24.
- h) The Clerk presented the financial statement as at the end of April showing income of £7,500.00, expenditure of £2,440.56, resulting in a surplus of £5,059.44 and funds held of £44,994.07.

i) Members noted the following sums received since the last meeting:-

Barclays Bank (interest).....	£ 25.73
HMRC (VAT refund)	£ 6,516.98
Fenland District Council (precept).....	£ 7,500.00
Brigstock & Wren's Charity (Coronation celebrations)	£ 500.00

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

NEST (pension contributions)	£ 277.60
The CGM Group (East Anglia) Ltd (grounds maintenance)	£ 497.32
Tydd St Giles CC & RG (hall hire)	£ 64.00
Playsafety Ltd (play equipment inspection).....	£ 115.20
T Doyle (expenses re coronation event)	£ 1,764.04

k) Members approved the following payments:-

D Gibbs (salary April and May)	£ 1,418.76
The CGM Group (East Anglia) Ltd (grounds maintenance)	£ 445.72
CAPALC Ltd (affiliation fee).....	£ 494.66
North Level District Internal Drainage Board (drainage rates)	£ 569.95
I Cooper (audit fee).....	£ 150.00
Cambridgeshire ACRE (subscription)	£ 60.00

019/23 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 13th July at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm