

TYDD ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Thursday 9th May 2024

Present - Cllr T Brown (Chairman), Cllr B Allen, Cllr M Carter, Cllr G Clifton, Cllr M Connell, Cllr K Malin, Cllr L Slade, Cllr S King (CCC), D Gibbs (Clerk), 6 members of the public

Apologies for Absence - Cllr B Barber (FDC), Cllr S Clark (FDC), Cllr C Seaton (FDC)

001/24 Election of Chairman for the Municipal Year 2024/25

Cllr Brown was nominated by Cllr Slade, seconded by Cllr Carter and duly elected. He signed his declaration of acceptance, witnessed by the Clerk.

002/24 Election of Vice Chairman for the Municipal Year 2024/25

Cllr Malin was nominated by Cllr Allen, seconded by Cllr Connell and duly elected. He signed his declaration of acceptance, witnessed by the Clerk.

003/24 Chairman's Announcements

None.

004/24 Pathfinder Clean Energy Presentation

No representatives of the company were present.

005/24 Public Forum

No items were raised.

006/24 Urgent Items

None.

007/24 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

- a) Delegation to committees - Members resolved to maintain the status quo.
- b) Members reviewed and readopted the terms of reference for the Planning Committee.
- c) Members reviewed and adopted the new model standing orders. The Clerk informed them that the new model financial regulations were published too late to be considered at this meeting. They resolved to consider the new financial regulations at the next meeting.
- d) The Clerk reported that the policy is due for renewal on 1st June and the broker has recommended a new policy underwritten by Ansvar Insurance on similar terms to the current policy. The Clerk is negotiating the details.
- e) The Clerk reminded members that they hold subscriptions to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils, Cambridgeshire ACRE and the Campaign to Protect Rural England. Members resolved to continue all three subscriptions.
- f) The register of assets has been updated to include recent purchases and the total value of assets now stands at £406,606. Members queried the values shown for the MVAS signs and defibrillators. The Clerk explained that the asset register values reflect the price paid

for each item rather than the replacement value. The Clerk agreed to check these figures and to ensure that appropriate figures are used in relation to the insurance cover to provide for replacement items.

- g) Members resolved to meet on the second Thursday of alternate months, namely 11 July, 12 September, 14 November (reserve date 21 November), 9 January 2025, 13 March and 8 May.

008/24 Confirmation of Minutes

- a) RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th March 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 11th April be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

009/24 Matters Arising

- a) Bus service - The meeting with neighbouring Councils will take place in May.
- b) Trees in Hannath Road - No progress has been made and Cllr King suggested to the Council that a formal complaint be submitted in an attempt to resolve the impasse.
- c) Roadside verges - No further update.
- d) Foul Anchor bench - Options for the repair or replacement of the bench and possible relocation will be considered as part of the wider environmental improvement scheme for Foul Anchor.
- e) Annual Parish Meeting - The Chairman reported that the meeting was well attended. He thanked Paul Sharman from the North Level District Internal Drainage Board for an interesting presentation and the representative of local organisations for their contributions.
- f) The Chairman reported that the new portrait of His Majesty The King had been hung in the Community Centre.

010/24 Police Matters

The Chairman reported that no meetings had taken place. Cllr Malin expressed the view that the Police or the Police and Crime Commissioner should attend Parish Council meetings. The Clerk reported that the District Council had prosecuted two people for fly-tipping in Tydd St Giles.

011/24 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report

Cllr King presented his report, previously circulated. The Chairman thanked him for providing information regarding funding opportunities available through the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation. He also expressed disappointment that the Council's application for funding from the County Council's Communities Capital Fund had not been successful.

012/24 Fenland District Councillor Reports

In the absence of the District Councillors, no report was received.

013/24 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including a training session on procurement, a consultation on environmental improvements with residents in Foul

Anchor, a National Grid project briefing, traffic orders for works in Middle Broad Drove and Hannath Road, and a forthcoming Golden Age Fair in the Community Centre on 13th September. Members agreed to cover the cost of hiring the Community Centre for the Golden Age Fair.

014/24 Reports from Members

- a) Cllr Allen - Communications, Foul Anchor and Four Gotes - Cllr Allen reported that he is exploring options for the creation of an online calendar of village events and activities, as suggested at the Annual Parish Meeting. He noted that there had been reports on Facebook of bonfires in Foul Anchor during the bank holiday weekend. Comments were also posted about unsafe driving, including vehicles being driven at high speeds after dark with their lights out. It was not clear whether this information had been reported to the Police.
- b) Cllr Carter - Community Centre and Play Equipment - The new picnic benches have been delivered and will be installed soon. A burglar alarm has also been fitted. A surveyor has visited the Centre to provide data to support a new funding application for an air source heating system. Concern has been expressed regarding the performance of the grass cutting contractor and Cllr Carter is pursuing this. The bolts holding the top of the seesaw down are coming loose. Cllr Carter will rectify this.
- c) Cllr Connell - Highways - No further items to report.
- d) Cllr Malin - Armed forces, flooding, Kinderley School - Cllr Malin noted that there is a Veterans' Breakfast Club at Bygones Café in Wisbech. He has attended flooding refresher training. Kinderley School has been inspected by Ofsted and the inspectors were pleased with the progress made since their previous visit.
- e) Cllr Clifton - Public rights of way, churchyard, trees - Cllr Clifton reported that he has been appointed by the Parochial Church Council to cut areas of the churchyard not included within the Council's contract. He is looking at maps to familiarise himself with the public rights of way in the Parish and will be inspecting them during the summer months. The Clerk offered to assist with the identification of the various rights of way.
- f) Cllr Slade - Street lights and parish assets - The locations and numbers of the lights in Foul Anchor have been confirmed. The long-standing replacements remain uncompleted.

015/24 Member and Parishioner Issues

- a) National Grid Eastern Green Link - The Clerk explained that this is a new project, unrelated to the recent Grimsby to Walpole proposal that will bring power from Aberdeen to Walpole. It does not pass through the Parish, however the proposal is for a sub-sea cable that will run underground when on land; a solution considered undeliverable for the Grimsby to Walpole line.
- b) Caravans at Foul Anchor - A number of caravans arrived in Foul Anchor in late April and have been placed on a field in Bedford Row. The Police have visited the site.
- c) Community Speedwatch - Several residents have volunteered to join the Speedwatch group and a Coordinator has come forward. The Clerk will discuss next steps with the Police.
- d) Newgate Road drainage - Cllr Clifton expressed concern regarding the missing drain cover in Newgate Road and the condition of the roadside dyke. Cllr King offered to discuss the missing cover with Highways.

016/24 Community Centre and Recreation Ground

- a) The wooden junior multi-play tower is the last of the original items of play equipment and has reached the end of its life. Repairs have been carried out in recent years, but it is no longer viable to keep repairing it. A quote of around £10,000 has been received for the supply and installation of a similar item, excluding the cost of removing the existing tower. Members resolved to submit an application to the Grange Windfarm Community Benefit Fund for £5,000. The Clerk will prepare and submit the application.
- b) The County Council has offered to provide charging points in community building car parks at no cost to the host venue. Members discussed the offer and resolved to invite the Community Centre Management Committee to submit an expression of interest.
- c) Members discussed quotes from Playsafety Ltd and Fenland Leisure Products Ltd for the annual inspection of the play equipment. They resolved to appoint Playsafety Ltd to carry out the inspection.

017/24 Planning

Members considered three applications and resolved as follows:-

- a) F/YR24/0291/O - Erect 4 x dwellings (outline application with all matters reserved) - Land North of Tydd Steam Brewery, Kirkgate, Tydd St Giles

Cllrs Brown and Carter declared non-pecuniary interests in this application as Trustees of the Brigstock & Wrens Charity and took no part in the discussion or vote. Cllr Malin took the Chair for this application. Members expressed the view that the scale of the proposed development is in keeping with the other recent additions to Kirkgate and will form part of an evenly spaced row of similar properties providing quality homes for families. The land is currently owned by the Parish Charity and the sale proceeds will enable them to invest in supporting individuals, organisations and facilities within the Parish of Tydd St Giles for many years to come, resulting in an immeasurable contribution to the local community and way of life. They resolved to express strong support for this development.

- b) F/YR24/0327/F - Convert existing double garage/workshop to an annexe (2-storey 2-bed) (part retrospective) - Fir Tree Farm, Bees Lane, Tydd St Giles

Members noted that the applicant has submitted no design and access statement or other documentary evidence regarding the need for, or proposed use of, an annexe. The original application had the appearance of a residential property and there is no evidence that the recently-completed building has been used for its intended agricultural purpose. Members were of the opinion that an application for a residential dwelling at this location two years ago would have been unlikely to secure consent, and that the same rules should be applied in respect of the proposed conversion. The Council resolved to object to the application.

- c) F/YR24/0382/TRTPO - Felling of 1no Sycamore tree covered by TPO 04/1975 - Sycamore Lodge, Broad Drove East, Tydd St Giles

Members noted that there has been evidence of the deterioration of these trees over a number of years with several trees already removed. They welcomed the commitment to plant a replacement tree and resolved to support the application.

018/24 Finance

- a) Members approved the internal accounts for the 2023/24 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 2023/24 and authorised the Chairman to sign it.
- e) Members reviewed and approved the Accounting Statements 2023/24 and authorised the Chairman to sign it.
- f) Members resolved that the period for the exercise of public rights be from Monday 3 June to Friday 12 July.
- g) The Clerk advised Members that the Internal Auditor Ivan Cooper had retired. He had been unable to locate a suitable replacement. Members agreed to defer the appointment until the next meeting.
- h) The Clerk presented the financial statement as at the end of April showing income of £9,000.00, expenditure of £300.21, resulting in a surplus of £8,699.79 and funds held of £48,196.59.

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

Barclays Bank (interest).....	£ 67.02
HMRC (VAT refund)	£ 1,491.10
Fenland District Council (precept).....	£ 9,000.00

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

Defibstore (battery).....	£ 336.00
NEST (pension contributions)	£ 146.39
NBB Recycled Furniture Ltd (picnic tables)	£ 2,160.00
HMRC (national insurance).....	£ 23.34
T Brown (expenses).....	£ 126.78

k) Members approved the following payments:-

D Gibbs (salary April and May)	£ 1,498.50
Tydd St Giles CC&RG (hall hire)	£ 144.00
I Cooper (audit fee).....	£ 160.00
North Level District Internal Drainage Board (drainage rates)	£ 604.22
CAPALC Ltd (affiliation fee).....	£ 517.01
CAPALC Ltd (training course).....	£ 40.00
Cambridgeshire ACRE (subscription)	£ 65.00

019/24 Confidential Item

Members resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, paragraph 1(2).

Members discussed a request from a tenant to terminate a tenancy and resolved to accede to the request, subject to specific conditions to safeguard the Council's interests.

102/23 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 11th July at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm