

TYDD ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Thursday 11th July 2024

Present - Cllr T Brown (Chairman), Cllr M Carter, Cllr G Clifton, Cllr M Connell, Cllr L Slade, Cllr C Seaton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), 6 members of the public

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

021/24 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported that the Council had submitted a response to the Tydd Solar planning application and noted that Fenland District Council had reversed its decision to allow South Holand District Council to determine the application. He also advised the meeting that the East of England Ambulance Service had agreed to provide emergency first aid training courses, with details of dates to be confirmed.

022/24 Public Forum

A resident questioned the Council's decision not to support the removal of part of the hedgerow in Kirkgate. The Chairman noted that the District Council and the Planning Inspectorate had both supported the retention of the hedge and the Parish Council does not favour ignoring planning conditions.

A question was asked about the half-completed property in Kirkgate. The Chairman confirmed that the Council is exploring options to address this matter.

The ongoing issue with the broken drain cover in Newgate Road was mentioned. The Chairman confirmed that the Council is discussing this matter with Highways officers.

023/24 Urgent Items

None.

024/24 Confirmation of Minutes

- a) **RESOLVED** - that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th May be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.
- b) The Chairman requested that his comments regarding the District Council's Planning Committee's inconsistency in decision-making be added to the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on Thursday 20th June. The revised minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

025/24 Matters Arising

- a) **Bus service** - A meeting has taken place with representatives of the other six parishes on the route. They agreed to consult residents regarding their usage of the bus service to provide evidence for future consultations with the Combined Authority.
- b) **Trees in Hannath Road** - Awaiting a response from the County Council.
- c) **Foul Anchor bench** - The Probation Service has been asked to assist with the environmental improvement scheme around the war memorial in Foul Anchor and a funding

application will be submitted for elements of this, including the restoration of the bench and its relocation in a less vulnerable position.

- d) Community Speedwatch - A number of volunteers have come forward to join the group. The County Speedwatch Coordinator is on secondment, but it is hoped that someone else may be able to make the necessary arrangements for registration.

026/24 Police Matters

The Chairman reported that no meetings had taken place.

027/24 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report

Cllr King's report was presented in his absence. The Local Highway Improvement application for 2024/25 will be presented to the County Council's Highways and Transport Committee at the September meeting. The highway weed spraying in the village should have taken place already, but it is not clear whether this has happened. This will be clarified shortly.

028/24 Fenland District Councillor Reports

Cllr Seaton explained that the General Election had curtailed most meetings. He thanked the Council for bringing together the seven parishes along the Stagecoach 50 bus route for such a positive discussion about the future of the service. He confirmed that members of the District Council had insisted that the District Council has a responsibility to residents to participate in the assessment of the Tydd Solar planning application. He offered to set up a meeting with the new Head of Planning to discuss the Council's concerns but the Chairman stated that a meeting had taken place previously and no change was evident. The application for a judicial review of the decision to grant permission for the Wisbech Incinerator has been turned down. Further options will be explored.

Cllr Slade asked for clarification of the District Council's policy on pavement parking. Cllr Seaton explained that the District Council still hoped to pursue civil enforcement of parking, which would allow enforcement officers to issue tickets, but this is a long process and there is no end in sight. The Chairman invited residents to report concerns to the Council for discussion with the Neighbourhood Police Team.

029/24 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including a webinar on the National Grid Eastern Green Link scheme, the retendering of the street light maintenance contract and appointments to the board of the £20 million for Wisbech programme.

030/24 Reports from Members

- a) Cllr Allen - Communications, Foul Anchor and Four Gotes - in Cllr Allen's absence, there was no report.
- b) Cllr Carter - Community Centre and Play Equipment - The new picnic benches will be installed soon. The wooden play tower is beyond repair. Temporary repairs have been made to make it safe pending an application to the Grange Windfarm Community Benefit Fund for assistance with the purchase and installation of a replacement. The loose bolts on the seesaw have been tightened. The grass cutting is now back on track after issues earlier in the year. A model car racing club will be hiring the Community Centre every Wednesday evening. The report from the energy assessor has been received.

- c) Cllr Connell - Highways - No further items to report.
- d) Cllr Malin - Armed forces, flooding, Kinderley School - in Cllr Malin's absence, there was no report.
- e) Cllr Clifton - Public rights of way, churchyard, trees - Cllr Clifton reported that the churchyard is looking better. He is starting to explore the public rights of way in the Parish.
- f) Cllr Slade - Street lights and parish assets - No further items to report.

031/24 Member and Parishioner Issues

- a) Allotments - The Clerk explained that the site had not been ploughed, but was otherwise ready for occupation.
- b) Vacant property in Sapphire Close - The Clerk informed members that there had been 99 bids for the vacant property, but only one had a confirmed connection with Tydd St Giles and was therefore offered the tenancy.

032/24 Community Centre and Recreation Ground

- a) The first stage funding application to the Government's VCSE Energy Efficiency scheme was successful and an assessor was appointed to survey the building. The assessor's report has been received and will form the basis of the second stage funding application for air-source heating, solar panels and LED lighting. The deadline for applications is 15th August.
- b) The application to the Grange Windfarm Community Benefit Fund for the new junior play tower has been submitted and will be assessed at the forthcoming panel meeting.

033/24 Finance

- a) The Clerk presented the financial statement as at the end of June showing income of £9,067.27, expenditure of £4,472.04, resulting in a surplus of £4,595.23 and funds held of £44,092.03.

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

Barclays Bank (interest).....	£	67.27
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- c) Members ratified the following payments made since the last meeting:-

Identity Plus (badges)	£	7.44
NEST (pension contributions)	£	293.18
Information Commissioner (registration)	£	35.00

- d) Members approved the following payments:-

D Gibbs (salary June and July)	£	1,498.50
Tydd St Giles CC&RG (hall hire)	£	188.00
Nurture Landscapes Ltd (grass cutting)	£	1,079.18
CAPALC Ltd (training courses)	£	130.00

- e) The Clerk presented the new draft financial regulations, based on the latest model published by the National Association of Local Councils. Members resolved to adopt the new regulations.
- f) The Clerk reported that no alternative auditor had been identified. Members agreed to defer this decision until the September meeting.

034/23 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 12th September at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm