

TYDD ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Thursday 9th July 2026

Present - Cllr T Brown (Chairman), Cllr B Allen, Cllr M Carter, Cllr E Sharpe, Cllr C Tirrell (CCC), Cllr S Clark (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), 4 members of the public

025/26 Apologies for Absence

Cllr G Clifton, Cllr K Malin, Cllr B Barber (FDC), Cllr C Seaton (FDC)

026/26 Chairman's Announcements

None.

027/26 Public Forum

A resident noted that there is widespread ragwort in the field through which the public footpath connects Kirkgate and Tretton Bridge.

A resident advised the Council that the District Council appears reluctant to take any enforcement action regarding the loss of trees on a property in Cats Lane that may have been subject to protection orders. The Chairman noted that the District Council's use of its enforcement powers has been inconsistent on several issues raised by the Council.

028/26 Urgent Items

None.

029/26 Membership of the Council

The Chairman reminded Members that a vacancy had arisen following the resignation of Cllr Connell. No petition was submitted for a public election, so the Council must fill the vacancy by co-option.

The Chairman confirmed that only one expression of interest had been received in response to the advertisement of the vacancy. Charlotte Day was duly co-opted and signed her declaration of acceptance, witnessed by the Clerk.

030/26 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 14th May be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

031/26 Matters Arising

- a) Bus service - The Chairman noted that the Combined Authority is consulting on changes to various bus services, but the Stagecoach route 50 is unaffected. Cllr Day advised Members that the school bus service to Spalding is being withdrawn.
- b) Bird deflectors on overhead power lines - No progress.
- c) Former Village School - The District Council has issued a holding response acknowledging receipt of the Council's call for action.
- d) Overgrown wasteland between Newgate Road and Field Avenue - Clarion Housing Group has confirmed that they have instructed a resident to remove an accumulation of rubbish and their surveyors are looking at the condition of the garages and other structures on the site with a view to removing them. The vegetation will then be cleared.

- e) Creation of a wildlife area - The Chairman reported that the Council has received further information from the landowner and it is his intention to create the wildlife area, which will feature in a planning application for part of the site.

032/26 Police Matters

The Clerk reported that he has still not met PC Ben Taylor, the dedicated neighbourhood officer for Tydd St Giles.

033/26 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Tirrell as the new County Councillor for Tydd St Giles. Having just been elected, he had nothing to report, but promised to work on behalf of the Council and residents.

034/26 Fenland District Councillor Reports

Cllr Clark reported that the Government's decision on the local government reorganisation proposals is due imminently.

035/26 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on correspondence received, including traffic orders for a closure of Church Lane from 3-5 August. The new food waste recycling scheme will start on 7th September and the bins and bags will be delivered to every household by the middle of August. Following a successful prosecution, Cambridgeshire Police has secured a 10-year criminal behaviour order against two hare coursers for offences in Fenland.

Kirkgate from 14-18 May, Grangehill Road from 1 to 14 June, and Cross Drove and Hassock Hill Drove from 22 to 28 June. The County Council has launched its Close Pass campaign highlighting Highway Code rule 163, and details of the heating oil support scheme have now been published. Cambridgeshire ACRE has a talk on Cancer Awareness and Early Diagnosis.

036/26 Reports from Members

- a) Cllr Allen - Communications, Foul Anchor and Four Gotes - Cllr Allen noted that the ongoing project at Foul Anchor will need further attention during the summer months. In Cllr Barber's absence, he reminded everyone of the next Litter Pick.
- b) Cllr Carter - Community Centre and Play Equipment - Cllr Carter reported that the Community Centre has changed brewery and received all new equipment at no cost, but needs a temperature-controlled cellar to get the maximum benefit. The new supplier offers a wider choice of beers. Cambridgeshire ACRE attended the recent Coffee Morning and brought a supply of slow cookers for distribution free of charge to residents. A further supply has been ordered and will be collected when available.
- c) Cllr Sharpe - Highways - Cllr Sharpe reported that he has driven around the Parish looking at the condition of the roads. Some potholes were marked for repair, but others were not and he has reported them. Some have subsequently been repaired, but there are many more. He questioned the decision making process for road repairs and the viability of investing in roads serving a very small number of properties or with minimal traffic flow.
- d) Cllr Malin - Armed forces and flooding - In Cllr Malin's absence, there was no report.
- e) Cllr Clifton - Public rights of way, churchyard, trees - In Cllr Clifton's absence, there was no report.
- f) Street lights and parish assets - Cllr Day agreed to take on this portfolio and will report to future meetings.

037/26 Member and Parishioner Issues

None.

038/26 Play Equipment

The Clerk is awaiting confirmation from the District Council regarding the process for purchasing and installing the play equipment and fence. It is unclear whether the funds will be distributed to the parish councils or whether the process will be administered centrally by the District Council.

039/26 Community Centre

National Lottery Awards for All application to repair and recoat the roof - The Clerk advised Members that he is still working to identify suitable contractors.

040/26 Annual Parish Meeting

Members agreed that the meeting went well, but was not well attended by residents. In view of this, it was agreed that next year's meeting will take place on the same evening as the March meeting of the Parish Council.

041/26 Highways

- a) The Clerk advised Members that the proposed surface dressing of Hockland Road was not completed as the road was in use as a diversion route for a closure elsewhere. Slurry sealing of several pavements is due to take place this year, but no dates have been proposed.
- b) Community Speed Watch - not discussed.

042/26 Planning

- a) Members considered the following application:-

F/YR26/0503/F - Change of use of existing building to office/café use (Class E g(i) & b) including alterations to fenestration and installation of an external extract duct - The Chapel, Hockland Road, Tydd St Giles.

Members agreed that this was a good use of a redundant building in the heart of the village to provide a flexible workspace and social amenity for residents. They resolved unanimously to support the application.

- b) Members noted the following application:-

F/YR26/0461/CERTP - Certificate of Lawful Use (Proposed): Erect a modular classroom involving the demolition of existing classroom - Kinderley Community Primary School, Church Lane, Tydd St Giles.

- c) Members noted the following appeal:-

F/YR24/0457/F - Installation of 49.9MW ground mounted solar photovoltaic panels with associated battery storage, substation and ancillary plant and infrastructure, and erection of security fencing and pole mounted CCTV cameras - Land at Treading Field, Treading Drain, Tydd St Giles.

043/26 Street Lights

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to the District Council officer responsible for the lighting contract and subsequently received documentation regarding the condition of the Council's lights. There are nine lights that are deemed to be at the end of their working life and the total cost for replacement is in the region of £10,000, including traffic management for two lights in Foul Anchor. The Chairman, Clerk and Cllr Day will arrange a meeting with

the relevant officer to discuss this in more detail. Cllr Carter enquired about the light in High Broadgate that was cut down without warning by the contractor. The Chairman stated his intention to ensure that this would not be allowed to happen again. Members agreed that the unauthorised removal of lights results in additional expenditure and is unacceptable. The Chairman noted that a number of councils have opted out of the District Council contract and make their own arrangements for lighting maintenance.

044/26 Finance

a) The Clerk presented the financial statement as at the end of June showing income of £16,856.96, expenditure of £5,990.03, resulting in a surplus of £10,866.93 and funds held of £60,157.64.

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

Fenland District Council (recycling credits).....	£	34.58
J Parker (allotment rent).....	£	50.00
Brigstock & Wren's Charity (precept).....	£	300.00
Barclays Bank (interest).....	£	91.38
Fenland District Council (concurrent functions grant)	£	2,791.00

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

Land Registry (title deeds).....	£	21.00
Tesco (refreshments).....	£	9.75
NEST (pension contributions)	£	312.06
Information Commissioner (registration fee)	£	47.00

d) Members approved the following payments:-

D Gibbs (salary June and July)	£	1,594.96
Tydd St Giles CC&RG (hall hire)	£	96.00
Nurture Landscapes Ltd (grass cutting)	£	1,727.78
B Hubbard (site levelling).....	£	182.00

e) Members noted the 5.8% price increase from Nurture Group on the grass cutting contract from 1st May.

045/26 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 10th September at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm