

**Minutes of the 712nd meeting of Toft Parish Council
Meeting held on Monday 13 April 2015 in The People's Hall, Toft at 7.00 pm**

Present: Councillors: M Yeadon (Chairman), J McCarten, E Dolman, G Pugh, P Gouldstone, A Tall and P Ellis-Evans.

In attendance: 3 members of the public, District Cllr T Hawkins and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

A resident reported that a post was down on the village green and that the potholes on Church Road were deteriorating. It was observed that the potholes had now been repaired as far as the Church.

Cllr Gouldstone spoke on behalf of two residents. Electricity contractors had cut down branches and ivy in Stoney Lane and Brookside and left the branches behind. It had also been reported that earth and concrete had been pushed into the hedge by the bus shelter when the lighting works were being carried out.

Cllr Hawkins arrived at 7.05 pm and spoke to her written report which was circulated. This covered:

- The Local Development Plan. Discussions have focused on the Memorandum of Understanding between the District Council and the City. There is still a shortfall in the five year land supply. Specific plans for Bourn Airfield and other developments have not yet been examined. The next meeting will focus on City sites.
- Northstowe. The Phase 2 development has not yet been agreed. There are shortfalls in funding for community buildings, and affordable housing proposals have been reduced.
- The City Deal.
- A Business Rates retention scheme to attract inward investment.
- Bin collections. Due to staff shortages personnel have been diverted to bin collections from street cleaning and fly tipping. Cllr Hawkins asked that residents informed her of any issues not being dealt with.
- The self-build register.

Cllr Hawkins had passed on the Parish Council's concerns about the car park and had been informed that the vehicles would be removed as soon as possible. She undertook to check who was responsible for the layby on Comberton Road as a great deal of litter had been reported in the vicinity.

1. Apologies for absence and declaration of interests

1.1 To approve written apologies and reasons for absence
None.

1.2 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda
Cllrs Yeadon declared an interest in Item 6.3.1 (Tree works) as the owner of the property.

1.3 To receive written requests for dispensations (if any) and to grant any dispensation as appropriate
None.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 2 March 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 2 March be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman, ^(Prop ED, 2nd PG) after an amendment under Item 6.3.1, line 4, to amend "Dolman" to "Pugh".

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Item 6.1.1 next.

- 6.1.1 S/0389/15/FL – North of Comberton Road (B1046) between Comberton and Toft – Erection of a new agricultural grain store measuring 18m x 24.6m
RESOLVED that the Parish Council had no objections. (Prop MY, 2nd JM)

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 (3.1) Silted up ditch in School Lane causing flooding to consider what, if any, action is required

Members had taken a look and reported that the area was dry now. It was felt that some recent drain clearance work might have improved the problem.

RESOLVED to monitor the situation and reconsider the matter if the problem recurs.

A resident offered to take a look to see if any work was required.

- 3.2 (7.3) Re-fixing of posts on the Green – to consider correspondence received
RESOLVED in response to correspondence from Clive to contact him to arrange a site meeting before the next meeting, to see whether the post could be moved to make it less vulnerable whilst still preventing vehicles from driving on the grass. The costs of CCTV were felt to be prohibitive

4. Consideration of Correspondence

None.

5. Finance and risk assessment

- 5.1 To consider the finance report and approve the payment of any bills

RESOLVED to receive the financial report and check the invoices and bank statements before the cheques were signed.

RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report be approved for payment, plus CPC (Village Hall Electrical supplies) £382.72. (Prop MY, 2nd JM).

Oakington Garden Centre	Community Land Trees	£173.90
Peter Oakes	Tree inspections	£150.00
Clive Blower	Handyman	£56.96
CAPALC	Affiliation Fee	£222.45
Buchans	Grass cutting	£302.40
PWL B	Loan repayment (DD)	£1162.42
Salary		£106.55
LGS Services	Admin support	£413.82
LGS Services	Admin support	£413.51

- 5.2 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety
Thanks were extended to the Chairman for clearing tree debris outside the playground. The bark underneath the equipment needs churning up. Road signs, playground signs and bus stop signs had been re-installed. It was reported that a resident had had to clear dog waste off a slide.

- 5.3 To set the date for the Annual Parish Meeting and

- 7.7 To consider arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting

RESOLVED to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 11 May at 7.00 pm, followed by the Annual meeting of the Parish Council. Reports are to be requested from the Meridian School, Comberton Village College, the Police, District Cllr and County Cllr; invitations are to be extended to representatives of the People's Hall Committee, Social Club, the Shop, Rev Mike Booker, the Friendship Club and the Historical Society.

6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications received

- 6.1 Planning Applications

- 6.1.1 S/0389/15/FL – North of Comberton Road (B1046) between Comberton and Toft – Erection of a new agricultural grain store measuring 18m x 24.6m
Taken earlier.

- 6.1.2 S/0599/15/DC – Home Meadow – Application for approval of details reserved by Condition 1 (commencement) of planning permission S/0261/12/FL for extensions

Noted.

- 6.1.3 S/0749/15/FL – 5 Eversden Close – replacement of existing prefabricated garage and workshop with new traditional construction garage and workshop
RESOLVED that the Parish Council had no objections. (Prop JM, 2nd MY)

6.2 SCDC decisions to note

- 6.2.1 S/2825/14/OL – Land off Comberton Road – Outline application for the erection of 6 dwellings and associated access (all other matters to be reserved) – Permission refused. Noted.

6.3 Tree works applications

6.3.1 5 Brookside

Cllr Yeadon, having previously declared an interest in this item, left the meeting at 8.05 pm. Cllr Dolman chaired the meeting for this item.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council had no objections. (Prop ED, 2nd PG)

Cllr Yeadon re-joined the meeting at 8.07 pm.

7. **Members items and reports**

7.1 Toft People's Hall and works update

Cllr Pugh reported that redecoration was planned before next winter. The ceiling work was currently under way.

7.2 Highways including to consider putting yellow lines around the Green

RESOLVED to note that the potholes in Church Road as far as the Church had been repaired. Some potholes by the pumping station had been repaired but the area was still in a poor state. Residents had thanked the Council for its efforts. Potholes had been repaired outside Cannors Close, the drains cleared and the surface tarmaced. Potholes in School Lane and Powell Close remained outstanding.

RESOLVED to monitor the water on the road in School Lane at times of heavy rain.

The concrete bar at Firs Farm had now been marked for remedial work.

RESOLVED not to take forward the suggestion of yellow lines around the Green for the time being.

RESOLVED that Cllr Tall should report the disappearance of the white stop lines at the junction of Hardwick Road, and loose gravel on the road which had caused a resident to fall off their bicycle and suffer an injury.

RESOLVED to note that while CCC had supplied two field gates for the bridge on the footpath in Kingston Parish, and quotations for their installation are to be obtained for the next meeting, and that Cllr McCarten should liaise with the Clerk about claiming the grant funding from the Cambridge Rambling Club.

RESOLVED that as the other side of the bridge leads towards Eversden Parish, Eversden Parish Council is to be informed.

Cllr Tall reported on the outcome of his enquiries with the Traffic Management Officer of the Police about the next steps for a possible speed limit between Toft and Comberton, and outlined the process involved. The approximate cost would be £2500. Consideration was briefly given to possible sources of funding. RESOLVED to leave the matter in abeyance for the time being.

7.3 Village Maintenance

The BT kiosk will be repainted by BT this year between April and October.

7.4 Community Land report

Two grass cuts had been carried out. Sheep had eaten the lowest branches on the fruit trees. Blackthorn branches are to be spread below the trees to keep the sheep off.

Future plans include a wildflower bed at the back, picnic seats to be ordered, and a competition to name the Community Land is to be held. An item will be placed in the May newsletter. A nature trail for the fete is to be organised.

The tree survey from Peter Oakes is to be circulated.

RESOLVED to check with the Land Registry to obtain official confirmation of the exact line of the two boundaries with adjoining land.

Cllr Hawkins undertook to find out whether SCDC would install a dog waste bin by the Community Land.

Cllr Hawkins left the meeting at 8.40 pm.

7.5 SPEP report

RESOLVED to raise awareness of the thermal imaging at the APM.

7.6 Allotments

RESOLVED to prepare a draft allotment tenancy agreement and draft rules for consideration at the next meeting, with a view to having them signed by the allotment holders by 29 September. Cllr Dolman will arrange for the half-plots in use to be measured and a plan to be drawn up. The wildlife report is to be checked and some brambles will be removed to create another plot. Agreement of the draft documents is to be an item for the next agenda.

7.7 Toft Car Park

RESOLVED that Cllr Hawkins is to be informed a resident had moved and removed some vehicles. However, some vehicles belonged to another resident.

7.8 Overhanging high hedge preventing street lighting for the snicket between High Street and School Lane

RESOLVED to write again to the owner of the hedge which was now very high and encroaching into the snicket, cutting out light from the High Street. RESOLVED to check what legal recourse is available to the Council if the hedge is not cut back.

7.10 RESOLVED to write to Balfour Beatty with a copy to Cllr Frost, expressing displeasure at the problems remaining following the street lights work, and asking for an update on the light which feeds the bus shelter, which has not been repaired; the absence of a light outside the Chapel, where people have fallen over in the dark; a stump left remaining after a post was knocked down and removed; a dark area at the South end of the High Street and a light not working outside 69 High Street; and requesting removal of the earth and concrete pushed into the hedge by the bus shelter.

7.11 RESOLVED to note that a resident had complained about electrical contractors who had cut back and left behind branches in Stoney Lane and Brookside while checking overhead wiring to keep an eye on the situation.

8. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

SignedChairmandate.