

**MINUTES OF THE 632nd PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN TOFT PEOPLES' HALL  
ON MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009**

**PRESENT: Councillors S Roberts, P Hercus, D Bilsland, J Betson & C Sinclair. District Councillor Robin Martlew. There were two members of the public in attendance.**

Item	Content	Action
1.	<p><b>APOLOGIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jayne &amp; Norgett and from County Councillor Fiona Whelan.</li> </ul>	
2.	<p><b>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND ACTIONS OUTSTANDING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copies of the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 had been circulated. Councillors</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that these were a correct record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.</p>	
3.	<p><b>OPEN SESSION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members of the public having indicated that they wished to address the meeting, the Chairman proposed that the meeting adjourn and it was</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to adjourn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs Coppin of 4 High Street told the Council that flooding behind St Andrews Cottages continued to be a problem, despite previous reporting. District Councillor Robin Martlew indicated that he would take the matter in hand. In response to her suggestion that visibility was poor when turning left to Comberton from the junction of Hardwick and Comberton Roads, Members considered that this was adequate for drivers stopping at the give-way line.</li> <li>• Mr Sparkes indicated that there had been no action in response to matters reported by him in the last three months. The condition of footpaths and hedgerows required improvement on Mill Lane, between the Chinese restaurant and the cottages on the corner; on Brookside between Providence Cottage and School Lane; and on the High Street, between the recreation ground and Black Bull, where brambles at the stiles needed cutting back. Brambles had been cut back and the debris left at properties on the High Street. In response to his enquiry about the bridges selected for tarring and chipping and exclusion of others, Cllr Sinclair responded that these were being addressed in order of priority. There were still three to be dressed. Finally, in connection with the "Sandpath", Members heard that Cllr Sinclair had filled in some of the rabbit holes and that these continued to be a problem, since users were walking an a "conservation strip" to avoid them.</li> </ul> <p>The members of the public were thanked for their comments and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to reconvene.</p>	
4.	<p><b>FEED BACK FROM CIRCULATION &amp; CIRCULATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members had been asked to express a view on proposals to provide a textile and shoe recycling bin at the Village Car Park in School Lane and it was</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to support the proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of correspondence between South Cambs District Council's Environmental Health Officer and Anglian Water, copied to a resident in Brookside, was circulated by Cllr Betson. A meeting was to be</li> </ul>	KAC



	<p>The Clerk asked for clarification on agreement between the Parish Plan Steering Group and the contracted editorial service, since two invoices for the same amount had been received and there was no order confirmation against which to verify their validity. It was therefore</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to seek further clarification.</p>	KAC
7.	<p><b>FOOTPATHS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Sinclair reported that he had been unable to contact Mr P Tebbit, landowner/tenant, to discuss the rabbit holes in the footpath on footpath no 1, linking Toft with Caldecote. He had arranged a meeting with Andrew Stimson the following Wednesday to show him the extent of the problem. Since he considered there would be a substantial amount of digging involved to resolve the problem, it was unlikely that anything would be done. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note this with thanks and to await further reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Sinclair was advised that the Council's contractor was charging £110 per cut for the footpaths in Toft Wood. He suggested that paths which were the responsibility of the County Council were being cut and further that maintenance was required in an area which he had identified on a plan circulated at the meeting, referred to as "Area B". There was some discussion about the presence of wild orchids in this area and the need for sensitive timing. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to obtain a quotation from the contractor for this work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In connection with a letter from Mrs Ridgeon of Brook House, 34 High Street, Madingley, Cllr Sinclair mentioned that he had asked Andrew Stimson to look at trees in Pinfold Well Lane, since these were causing concern to Mrs Ridgeon, whose property at Priory Cottage neighboured the public thoroughfare. Cllr Sinclair told the Council that he had written to Mrs Ridgeon in response. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note this with thanks and to await further reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members had before them details of proposals to create a footpath link from the Comberton Road to footpath 16, which was the link between Toft and Comberton. Members noted that this would create a circular walk and provide an opportunity for schoolchildren to use the footpath rather than the roadside to walk to Comberton. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to recommend approval in respect of the proposals presented.</p>	KAC
8.	<p><b>VILLAGE MAINTENANCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members considered a proposal that the Glebe Meadow might be put to better use than currently and serve the community better if the Parish Council were to undertake to maintain it. Functioning as an area for recreation, the land was considered ideal for use as a green, as the area currently referred to as a village green was little more than a traffic island, where annual maypole dancing by the brownies was very restricted owing to the lack of space. People could walk their dogs there.</li> </ul> <p>Various views were expressed. The land was a considerable size and would therefore would be costly to maintain. It belonged to the Ely Diocese, which may not be amenable to the idea of public access, since the land was currently rented for grazing. Although classed as a protected amenity, it was felt that this protection was intended to</p>	KAC

	<p>preserve the rural character of the area visually as opposed to preserving the land for public recreation. A Member suggested the proposal would find opposition with local people living near the site and it was considered that as a public open space, it could attract unwanted anti social behaviour. In conclusion it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to support the proposal in principle, subject to further investigation and enquiry with the Ely Diocese as owners of the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members had before them a copy of the report following annual inspection of the play area, recreation ground, Toft. The Chairman summarized action required as being to remove the risk of entrapment from the play area gate; to cut back planting obscuring road signs; to tie in loose ends of chain link fencing at the fence stile; and removal of redundant chain link fencing and a wooden telegraph pole at the corner of the play area. Members considered that these actions were outstanding from the previous report and acknowledged that it had not been possible to arrange for a contractor to carry out the work. Mention was made of a local handyman advertising in “The Calendar” and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to contact the local handyman and obtain a proposal for undertaking the work.</li> <li>The Chairman placed before Members a letter and petition that she had received on behalf of a substantial number of users of the recreation area. The letter requested a new set of football goals and netting, the cost of which was estimated at £809. It was therefore <b>RESOLVED</b> to enquire about the cost of equivalent goals supplied by Hucknets, who had supplied several sets of net supports which were unsuitable and from whom a credit for the cost was therefore expected.</li> </ul>	<p>KAC</p> <p>KAC</p> <p>KAC</p>						
9.	<p><b>TOFT PEOPLE’S HALL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chairman reported that conditions of hire and publicity materials for the hall had been reviewed and were being reprinted by J Tebbit. Purchase of a new heating boiler was planned, together with re-surfacing of the car park. The next meeting would take place on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Members wishing to attend on the Council’s behalf during the Chairman’s absence were encouraged to contact the Chairman in advance of the meeting. It was therefore <b>RESOLVED</b> to note this with thanks.</li> </ul>							
10.	<p><b>COMMUNITY SAFETY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chairman had attended the latest Neighbourhood Panel meeting, though commented that it had been poorly advertised. Of the eleven attendees, six had been police representatives. Residents of Cambourne had been most vociferous and the main topics of concern had been speeding, youth provision and anti-social behaviour. In connection with the Speedwatch initiative, it was suggested that the Toft volunteer could join with two Hardwick volunteers to assist. The next meeting would take place on 18<sup>th</sup> November at Comberton. It was therefore <b>RESOLVED</b> to note this with thanks.</li> </ul>							
11.	<p><b>FINANCE</b> The Clerk presented the following cheques for signature:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="175 1898 1287 1969"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="175 1898 334 1969">Cheque No</th> <th data-bbox="334 1898 1097 1969">Details</th> <th data-bbox="1097 1898 1287 1969">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Cheque No	Details	Amount				
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	1655	Toft People's Hall – Rent June	£10.00	
	1656	Pestagon – Wasp Nest Removal	£45.00	
	1657	CGM – Verges maintenance	£230.00	
	1658	EACH – Donation	£50.00	
	1659	Mr P J Whitehead – Grass Cutting	£180.00	
	1660	Mr P J Whitehead – Grass Cutting	£230.00	
	1661	K Cameron – Clerk's Salary (July & August)	£256.92	
	n/a	HMRC – Clerk's Tax (July & August)	£170.40	
	1662	K Cameron – Petty Cash	£50	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A report about the Council's expenditure &amp; income before Members showed an expenditure to date in the amount of £5436.54, income including reserves totalling £30338.61, and a reserve at bank in the amount of £24,902.07. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note this with thanks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Hercus told the Council he would carry out a quarterly check on the Council's accounts and place a report in the circulation bag for Members' information. It was therefore</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to consider any relevant outcomes at the next meeting.</p>			ALL
12.	<p><b>STANDING ORDERS &amp; OTHER ADMINISTRATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members considered some correspondence received from the Equalities Commission in respect of impending legislative changes. In conclusion it was</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to note this but that no further action was necessary in the meantime.</p>			
13.	<p><b>DATE AND AGENDA OF NEXT MEETING</b> 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009, 7.00pm at Toft People's Hall.</p>			