

Minutes of the 740th meeting of Toft Parish Council
Meeting held on Monday 4 September 2017 in The People's Hall, Toft at 7.00 pm

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

In attendance: 2 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

District Cllr Hawkins reported on the City Deal discussions about the options for the Cambourne to Cambridge busway. Five options were being assessed for the proposed Park and Ride site. Nothing had been heard from the Inspector about the Local Plan.

A resident reported that a post had been knocked down on the Green.

It was reported that intruders had damaged a garden gate and fence in the village. Residents were urged to be vigilant.

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 interest from councillors on items on the agenda

Cllr McCarten declared an interest in item 6.1.2 as the applicant.

Cllr Pugh declared an interest in item 6.1.2 as her husband was the architect.

Cllr Ellis-Evans declared an interest in item 6.1.1 as she lived across the road from the applicant.

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 meeting on 3 July 2017

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 3 July be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. (Prop MY, 2nd JM, unanimous)

3. To consider any matters arising from the last or a previous meeting including

3.1 (3.1) To consider location of the 30 mph and village signs

Cllr Tall reported on the options available and the costs.

RESOLVED to opt for the "ornate" design 30 mph sign for the southern entrance to the village at a cost of £1300.00 plus VAT. (Prop AT, 2nd MY, unanimous)

RESOLVED also to opt for the "ornate" design at the Comberton Road entrance to the village, at a cost of £1300.00 plus VAT, noting that this may involve some adjustment to the locations of the 30 mph sign or the village entrance sign. (Prop EM, 2nd JM, 3 in favour and 3 against, carried by Chairman's casting vote)

RESOLVED that Cllr Tall will liaise with the County Council.

RESOLVED, given that maintenance of the signs once installed will become the Parish Council's responsibility, to check whether they should be added to the insured asset list.

3.2 (3.2) Bennell Farm S106 agreement – update and to consider request for a grant from Comberton Community Swimming Club as part of the Toft Recreation Strategy

RESOLVED having considered the request from the Comberton Community Swimming Club for a grant of £20,000 towards the replacement of the pool liner that it was too late to add the request to the Toft Recreation Strategy document submitted to SCDC and that the Parish Council was unable to assist with a grant of this size, but could possibly consider a smaller donation. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

RESOLVED having considered District Cllr Hawkins report and suggestion to write to SCDC explaining that the Parish Council has just received an application for funding to provide a new pool liner and asking whether it would be possible that this item could be funded from the S106 monies associated with Bennell Farm, given that these have not yet been finally agreed. (Prop MY, 2nd JM, unanimous)

RESOLVED to respond to the Swimming Club that the Parish Council has passed their request on to the District Council with a view to obtaining some S106 money associated with Bennell Farm, although it should be recognised that this is very late in the day. The Parish Council could not fund this sort of contribution itself, as £20,000 is more than its annual income. It is probable, however, that the Parish Council could make a modest contribution if the bulk of the funds could be sourced elsewhere. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

3.3 (7.2) Trees along Brookside – to consider response from Kingston Parish Council

RESOLVED, having considered the response from Kingston Parish Council, that the Parish Council believes the trees to be in Kingston Parish, and to respond enclosing a map marked with the location of the trees and suggesting that the trees will need some attention before winter storms cause damage to the trees and telephone wires. RESOLVED also to seek an update about the repairs to the gate in the corner of the field off Brookside.

3.4 (10) Dog fouling – to consider any action necessary

RESOLVED to monitor the situation.

4. Consideration of correspondence

4.1 CCC invitation to bid for LHI funding 2018-19

RESOLVED that Cllr Tall should circulate the link to the website so that members may study the criteria, categories of schemes and their costs in more detail, and to defer this item to the next meeting.

4.2 Cambridge Building Society – to review the balance and consider any action necessary

RESOLVED to transfer the sum of £350.00 into the Cambridge Building Society account to restore the required minimum balance to £1000.00. (Prop MY, 2nd JM, unanimous)
RESOLVED to investigate what interest bearing accounts and rates are available to Parish Councils and to consider this at the next meeting. (Prop MY, 2nd JM, unanimous)

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 J McCarten (Toft Sports expenses) £114.42, Salary £57.93, Salary £57.93, HMRC (PAYE/NIC) £87.00. (Prop MY, 2nd JM, unanimous)

LGS Services	Admin support	£473.26
LGS Services	Admin support	£420.75
Parish Online	OS mapping	£33.60
Toft People's Hall	Room hire	£15.00
Toft People's Hall	Room hire	£15.00
Buchans	Grass cutting	£432.71
Buchans	Grass cutting	£359.84
C Blower	Village maintenance	£145.00
Came and Company	Insurance	£443.18

Credits, including allotment rents, the defibrillator grant and Cambridge Ramblers grant were noted.

5.2 Play inspection reports

RESOLVED to note Cllr Yeadon's report. No action was necessary at this time.

5.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety

RESOLVED to note the Clerk's use of delegated powers to contract Nick Hancox on the recommendation of SCDC to register the allotment land with the Land Registry at a cost

of £500 plus VAT and Land Registry fee of approximately £30. This was the cheapest quote received and he has indicated there is no charge if he cannot complete the registration. He may be in touch with the ex-trustees in due course. Clarification on the adjacent land is to be sought before considering whether this is also to be included in the registration.

RESOLVED to ask Clive Blower to reinstate the post on the green. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications received

6.1 Planning Applications

6.1.1 S/2643/17/FL – Firs Farm, 64 High Street – Demolition of existing thatched garage and workshop building and replacement with single storey annex building

RESOLVED that the Parish Council objects to the application as the new application exceeds the scope and limit of the previously approved application to the extent that it is no longer a “simple building which reflects the rural character of the locality.” (Prop AT, 2nd MY, carried with 5 in favour and 1 abstention)

6.1.2 S/2863/17/FL – 32 School Lane – Conversion of existing bungalow to a two storey property with rooms in a raised roof space and a two storey rear extension. The existing front entrance to have a new single storey porch.

Cllr McCarten, having previously declared an interest in this item, left the meeting at 8.25 pm.

A proposal ^(EM) that the Parish Council object to the application on the grounds that the proposed building was not in keeping with the rural surroundings, was not seconded.

At 8.44 pm the meeting was briefly suspended to enable District Cllr Hawkins to comment. The meeting resumed at 8.46 pm.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application. (Prop MY, 2nd AT, carried with 2 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions)

Cllr McCarten re-joined the meeting at 8.47 pm.

6.1.3 S/2511/17/DC – Land adj 32 High Street – Discharge of condition 3 (Brick) of planning permission S/2599/14/FL

Noted.

6.1.4 S/2398/17/DC – 19 Millers Road – Discharge of condition 3 (Materials), 4 (Visibility splays) and 5 (Driveway details) of planning permission S/0723/17/FL

Noted.

6.2 SCDC decisions to note

6.2.1 S/2208/17/DC – 64 High Street – Application for approval of details reserved by Condition 3 (Materials) and 4 (Arboricultural Assessment) of planning permission ref S/3579/16/FL – Permission granted.

Noted.

6.3 Tree works applications

6.3.1 S/2540/17/TC – The Coach House

RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no comments.

7. Members items and reports for information only unless otherwise stated

7.1 Allotments

RESOLVED to receive the verbal and written reports from Cllr McCarten on the progress of the development of the Toft Allotments and wildlife area, and her proposals.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council approves expenditure up to a total of £655.00 on the activities and items below: (Prop JM, 2nd EM, unanimous)

CCV Clearing scrub and vegetation £80.00.

Water butt frame (c. £150 materials + labour) £200.00

Water butts (up to 4) and piping £75.00

Clearing site for water butts and fixing frames £150.00

Purchase of owl/ tit boxes £150.00

The possibility of bringing a water supply to the allotments at a future date was briefly considered. Consideration of a longer term solution was deferred to a future meeting.

At 8.59 pm the meeting was briefly suspended to enable Cllr Hawkins to comment.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council approves a delegated budget of £150.00 per annum to the Clerk together with Cllr McCarten for expenditure between meetings on the allotments and wildlife area. (Prop JM, 2nd MY, unanimous)

RESOLVED that the Parish Council approves the setting up of a working party to consist of Sharon Chandler, James McNiven, Clive Sinclair, Oliver Rubenstein and Peter Allen as well as Cllr McCarten. (Prop JM, 2nd MY, unanimous)

RESOLVED to enquire when the bench is to be delivered.

7.2 Village maintenance

RESOLVED to receive Cllr Tall's verbal report that the car park is very overgrown, particularly in the corner where the recycling bank is to be installed. Cllr Pugh is to provide a photograph so that Cllr Hawkins can follow this up. It was reported that stickers had been removed from cars.

RESOLVED to ask Clive Blower to remove graffiti on the bus shelter seat.

7.3 Highways

RESOLVED to note that Cllr Tall will report that the drain in High Street is blocked again.

7.4 Toft People's Hall

Nothing to report.

7.5 Footpaths

Nothing to report.

7.6 Toft Sports report

Cllr McCarten reported on a very successful day with 36 children participating. The Parish Council wishes to record its grateful thanks to Mary Paxman for the loan of the field; to Mary and Joc for hospitality; to Ann Mitchell for the marquee; and to all members of the working party and their friends who organised and managed the event.

7.7 Defibrillator update report including confirmation of Awards for All grant

RESOLVED to receive Cllr Ellis-Evans's verbal report that the grant of £2620.00 had been approved and must be spent within the first 12 months. This will cover funding for the defibrillator box, replacement battery and electrodes. It will be necessary to nominate ten people to agree to the use of their telephone numbers in an emergency. This facility will cost £145.00 after one year. It is hoped to hold a training session in October. The lottery funding must be publicised when installed and will be noted on the website and on Facebook.

8. Closure of meeting

Assets of Community Value – It was noted that the application for the pub had been withdrawn as SCDC required actual evidence of current or past community use as a meeting place. Other potential places in the village for registration as Assets of Community Value are to be considered at the next meeting.

Nothing further had been heard about the Village of the Year proposals.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

SignedChairmandate.