

**Minutes of the 770th meeting of Toft Parish Council  
on Monday 1 June 2020 at 7.00 pm  
Held remotely via Zoom due to the current pandemic**

Present: Councillors: M Yeadon (Chairman), P Ellis-Evans, K Popat, J Wrycroft, E Miles, L Borrell and A Tall.

In attendance: District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services). One member of the public was briefly present.

**Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors**

District Cllr Chamberlain reported on:

- The changes to planning delegation. Cllr Chamberlain expressed concerns that the final say on which applications went to Planning Committee would fall to the Director of Planning.
- The East-West Rail proposals. Residents were encouraged to continue to express their views. Timescales for future meetings were not known but Cllr Chamberlain will keep parish councils informed.
- A forthcoming meeting of the Local Liaison Forum regarding the Cambourne to Cambridge Busway. This matter will go to the Greater Cambridge Partnership board on 25 June.
- Cllr Chamberlain expressed his thanks to the volunteers looking after vulnerable residents, who were doing an incredible job, and asked that his thanks be passed on.

Cllr Borrell arrived during this item at 7.03 pm.

**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**

None.

**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**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 4 May be approved by the Council.  
RESOLVED the minutes are to be signed by the Chairman as soon as practically possible given the current pandemic. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

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

**3.1 (4.2) Local Highways Improvement Scheme 2021/2022 – Invitation to bid**

Cllr Tall reported.

RESOLVED to resubmit the application for improvements to the cycleway between Toft and Comberton, including solar lighting, but with enhanced evidence of the need for the improvements, backed by data on usage, and evidence of community support.

RESOLVED to:

- demonstrate that the Parish Council is already addressing areas within its control by cutting back encroaching vegetation
- seek and demonstrate the support of local businesses and of Comberton Village College for making the route safer for children and other users
- undertake a survey of usage by cyclists and pedestrians, and passing vehicles, beginning from September when patterns of use might be more normal.

RESOLVED that Cllr Tall should submit the application, co-ordinate the project, supported by other councillors.

RESOLVED, noting a suggestion that the Council should investigate the feasibility of additional grant funding towards the cost of the project, to defer consideration of funding aspects until supporting data had been collected. (Prop AT, 2nd MY, unanimous)

#### **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 payments were approved, plus LGS Services (Admin support) £148.76. (Prop MY, 2nd PEE, unanimous)

Salaries		£115.88
LGS Services	Admin support (April)	£428.95
LGS Services	Payroll 2019/20	£79.20

##### **5.2 Play inspection reports**

RESOLVED to check whether the handyman is able to spread the bark when delivered and to provide him with the gate code.

RESOLVED, as the previous sign had disappeared, that Cllr Ellis-Evans should put a replacement sign on the gate, indicating that the play area is closed in accordance with Government guidelines.

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

It was reported that a pane of glass in the telephone kiosk had been broken. Cllr Tall had swept up the broken glass. RESOLVED to accept Cllr Wrycroft's kind offer to obtain replacement glass and install it. (Prop JW, 2nd PEE, unanimous)

RESOLVED, given that a pane in the bus shelter was also broken, to ask Clive Blower to repair the window and the internal wooden frame. The window had been taped up by Cllr Tall.

#### **6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications received**

##### **6.1 Planning Applications**

##### **6.1.1 20/02181/PRI06A – The Stable, Bennell Farm, West Street – Prior approval for the erectino of an agricultural building**

RESOLVED that the Parish Council is neutral.

##### **6.1.2 20/01621/S73 – 6 Powell Close – Removal of condition 5 (Obscured glass) pursuant to planning permission S/4338/18/FL as the owner of adjoining property has erected a high timber fence, which covers most of the window**

RESOLVED that the Parish Council is neutral.

##### **6.1.3 20/01992/FUL – Bennell Farm, West Street – Erection of 45 dwellings, including two self-build plots, and associated development**

RESOLVED to seek a time extension.

##### **6.2 SCDC decisions to note**

##### **6.2.1 20/01177/HFUL – The Farmhouse, Wood Barn Farm, Millers Road – Removal of thatched roof, two storey rear and side extensions, conversion of associated outbuilding and erection of car port – Permission granted.**

##### **6.2.2 20/1316/TTCA – 43 High Street**

This tree works application was received between meetings but in response to the request for a time extension SCDC has replied:

“A decision notice with authorisation for the works has already been granted. You will see from photographs that the trees were in a poor state of health.”

##### **6.3 Tree works applications**

None.

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

##### **7.1 Village Maintenance**

RESOLVED that Cllr Wrycroft should purchase a pack of five panes of 4mm glass for the telephone kiosk at a cost of approximately £35.00. (Prop MY, 2nd JW, unanimous)

7.2 Highways including update on LHI application

Cllr Tall reported on vehicle numbers and speeds. Some very high speeds had been recorded. Cllr Chamberlain asked that a copy of the data be sent to him as similar problems had occurred in other villages.

7.3 Toft People's Hall

Nothing to report.

7.4 Footpaths

Cllr Miles reported on:

- The new bridge on the footpath at the bottom of Miller's Way which was much appreciated.
- It was reported that the gate into Lot Meadow had been left open and horses had got in. RESOLVED that Cllr Ellis-Evans should arrange for a post to be placed in the ground to prevent this.
- A fallen tree on the footpath along the brook towards Hardwick has been reported.
- Cllr Miles reported that horse riders were going through Toft wood, and that notices were needed in several locations. RESOLVED, noting that posts may also be required, that Cllr Miles should purchase 3-4 signs indicating "No horse riding or cycling on the footpath," up to a limit of £50.00. (Prop MY, 2nd AT, unanimous)

7.5 Defibrillator report

Cllr Ellis-Evans reported that everything was in order.

7.6 Climate Change Working Group report

Cllr Popat reported that the group had not met but he would arrange a meeting in the next four weeks and put a note in the Calendar encouraging residents to continue cycling and walking.

7.7 Operation London Bridge Working Group report

Cllr Miles reported on discussions with residents. A working group meeting will be held in due course.

7.8 Sports Day – to consider if it is to proceed and if so in what format and when

RESOLVED that the event be cancelled for 2020 due to the pandemic and to put a notice of cancellation in the Calendar. Residents will be encouraged to participate in events in their own gardens and submit photographs. Cllr Yeadon to publicise in the Calendar.

8. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.12 pm.

Signed .....Chairman .....date.

---