

**Minutes of the 774th meeting of Toft Parish Council
on Monday 2 November 2020 at 7.00 pm
Held remotely via Zoom due to the current pandemic**

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

In attendance: District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain and Mrs C Newton (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

Cllr Chamberlain reported on a Covid-19 meeting last week and the impact on health. Hospitals were struggling but residents were encouraged to seek healthcare if they were ill, and to be mindful of the “Hands, Face, Space” advice. If Track and Trace is unsuccessful SCDC will take over local tracing and training is taking place so that they are prepared if necessary.

PCSOs are to be reduced by 50%. The Chief Constable had accepted an invitation to a meeting with SCDC on 17 December and information was awaited from the Crime Commissioner as to what the impact would be.

1. Apologies for absence and declaration of interests

1.1 To approve written apologies and reasons for absence
Apologies were received from Cllrs Popat and Borrell.

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 dispensations
None.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 5 October and the extra-ordinary meeting on 20 October

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved by the Council. (Prop MY, 2nd PE, unanimous)

RESOLVED that the minutes are to be signed by the Chairman as soon as practically possible given the current pandemic.

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

3.1 (3.1) East West Rail – update including report on meeting with Barton Parish Council

RESOLVED to receive the the Chairman report on a meeting he and Cllr Tall had attended with East West Rail. Cllr Chamberlain was also in attendance. A route option for a station north of Cambourne was included in the proposals but there was no further information. A route into Cambridge North station was not being considered. The Chairman will attend a meeting of the Cambridge Approaches Group next week.

Route options from East West Rail are expected in the New Year.

RESOLVED to receive a report from Cllr Tall on a meeting of parishes north of the A603, hosted by Barton Parish Council to consider the proposed corridor and any variations, and the impact on them. There was no further information.

RESOLVED, having considered the letter from CamBed RailRoad, to respond that the Parish Council would be happy to receive a presentation and join their meeting when arranged.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was briefly suspended to enable Cllr Chamberlain to comment. The Northern route was difficult for port routes and freight trains, which are slow and noisy, may run at night from the Midlands freight depot. East West Rail had suggested that there would not be much freight.

A Community Hub had been launched as an engagement platform to collect data. Cambridge Approaches had a good website.

The meeting resumed.

3.2 (3.2) To consider report from the Play Inspection Company

RESOLVED to note that all equipment was low risk and there were no concerns about the curly climber but cleaning was required.

RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon will take a look, noting that the park is allowed to remain open during lockdown.

RESOLVED to ask Clive Blower to clean the equipment thoroughly and to make provision when budget setting in January for painting the equipment.

- 3.3 (4.1) Age UK Community Warden Scheme – update on meeting
RESOLVED having considered the Chairman's report the Chairman will place an advertisement in the Calendar and a poster on the notice board.

- 3.4 (3 of 20 October) Tyne Cottage working group - update
RESOLVED, noting that a cash offer had been accepted on the following day, not to proceed with any further action, but the Council's interest had been conveyed should there be any change in the circumstances.

4. To consider correspondence received since the last meeting requiring the Council's attention

- 4.1 SCDC – reopening high streets offer of mounted or freestanding hand sanitiser stations
RESOLVED noting that there was already one in the shop, not to take up the offer.

- 4.0.1 Covid-19 grant
RESOLVED, noting that the grant was £100 grant for PPE, shopping, and fuel for volunteers and that under Parish Council regulations, individuals are not allowed to benefit, that it would be better for the funding to be received by the volunteers so that it can be passed on to individuals, and that the Chairman should speak to the volunteers or apply on behalf of the group.

- 4.2 Resident – telephone kiosk
RESOLVED gratefully to accept a resident's kind offer of a seed exchange box in the telephone kiosk for 2021 and that the Chairman should send a letter of thanks. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

5. Finance, Procedure and risk assessment and use of delegated powers

- 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 Cambs ACRE (affiliation fee) £57.00. (Prop EM, 2nd MY, unanimous)

Salaries		£115.88
The Play Inspection Company	Play equipment inspection	£120.00
Shaw and Sons	Condolence book	£49.14
LGS Services	Admin support (October)	£455.63

Receipt of the precept was noted.

RESOLVED to send details of the condolence book to Cllrs Ellis-Evans, Miles and Wrycroft so they could assess if it was what was wanted.

- 5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required
RESOLVED to note that the second bag of bark had been received and spread.
- 5.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety
None.

6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications or related items received

- 6.1 Planning Applications
- 6.1.1 S/0351/19/NMA2 – Bennell Farm, West Street – Non-material amendment on application S/0351/VC for alteration of lighting plan for public open space
RESOLVED to make no recommendation but to express concerns regarding safety issues associated with darkness and whether lighting is adequate.
- 6.1.2 20/04051/FUL – 27 High Street – Installation of external wall insulation to front rear and gable end walls
RESOLVED to support the application.
- 6.1.3 20/03775/HFUL – 43 High Street – Dropped kerb

RESOLVED to make no recommendation.

- 6.1.4 20/02664/HFUL – 41 High Street – Amended – Two storey front gable extension and roof conversion including two dormer windows, two rooflights plus a two storey rear extension – to note response between meetings – The Parish Council was neutral but expressed concerns about the height of the building.
Noted.

6.2 SCDC decisions for information

- 6.2.1 20/03505/HFUL – 1 Warboys Close – Proposed first storey side, single storey rear and double storey front extension – Permission granted.

6.3 Tree works applications

- 6.3.1 20/2247/TTCA – Firs Farm, 64 High Street
RESOLVED to support the application.

Cllr Miles left the meeting briefly at 7.53 pm and returned a few seconds later.

- 6.4 To consider if policy for dealing with planning applications between meetings should be extended to include trees
RESOLVED, given the limited time now allowed by SCDC for responding to tree works applications, that tree applications should be circulated for comment to all members, so that a prompt response can be submitted by the Clerk using delegated powers.

- 6.5 To consider how long the Clerk should wait for a response to a request for an extension from the Planning Officer before circulating the application and using delegated powers
RESOLVED that if an application requires a response before the next meeting that an extension should be sought but if no response is received from the Planning Officer, to assume that the extension is approved and consider the application at the next meeting without circulating it to members for comment. If an extension is declined, an extraordinary meeting should be held.

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

7.1 Village Maintenance

Nothing to report.

7.2 Highways

RESOLVED to received Cllr Tall's report:

- Flooding in Beldams Close continued but the cause was unclear.
- The temporary traffic lights which were on green in both directions had now been fixed.
- Overhanging trees were in hand at CCC.
- Cllr Tall will report tree branches left on the side of the road between Toft and Bourn after a tree came down.

7.3 Toft People's Hall

Nothing to report.

7.4 Footpaths

RESOLVED to note that Cllr Miles will be meeting Clive Blower about the sign installation next week.

RESOLVED to write to a landowner regarding filling up hollows at the ends of two bridges on his land, to make them more passable as they are filling with water in wet weather.

Cllr Ellis-Evans left the meeting at 8.05 pm and rejoined a few minutes later.

RESOLVED to write to Kingston Parish Council to ask them to fix protruding wires adjacent to the kissing gate by the bridge on the footpath going north from the B1046, in their parish, due to concerns about safety. Cllr Miles had tied some red ribbon to the wire to alert users to the hazard.

7.5 Defibrillator report

RESOLVED that Cllr Ellis-Evans should look into whether there is a training video about the use of the defibrillator that could be published.

7.6 Climate Change Working Group report
None.

7.7 Lot Meadow
RESOLVED to note Cllr Ellis-Evans’s report that the house next to Lot Meadow was now back on the market and that she should speak to the new buyers in due course about access for the grass cutters.

7.0.8 Operation London Bridge – to clarify bell ringing procedure
RESOLVED to clarify that there should be no change to the plan and that the bell ringing should apply to Operation London Bridge only. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

8. Closure of meeting
There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.26 pm.

SignedChairmandate.

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