

**Minutes of the 784th meeting of Toft Parish Council
Held on Monday 7 June 2021 at 7.00 pm in The People's Hall, Toft at 7.35 pm**

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

In attendance: 2 members of the public and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Public participation on agenda items and matters of mutual interest (includes reports from County and District Councillors and representation by members of the public)

Steve Pugh, Chairman of the Toft People's Hall Management Committee, spoke to the item 7.3. The proposals had been welcomed by residents and volunteers had come forward. A working party had been set up and it was hoped to open the café between 1-3 days a week. Quotations had not yet been obtained. Sponsorship had been offered by a local business.

The Parish Council explained that it would need to see a breakdown of costs. Mr Pugh emphasised that the closure of the Hall for the last 15 months had resulted in a lack of income from its normal sources, and the District Council grant had been into only income during the pandemic.

1. Apologies for absence, declaration of interests and application for co-option

1.1 To approve written apologies and reasons for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Borrell (Work commitment) and from County Cllr Michael Atkins.

1.2 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda
None.

1.3 To receive written requests for dispensations and to grant any dispensations
None.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 4 May

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
(Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied.

7.3 Toft People's Hall request for funding for alterations, décor, furnishings and equipment for a community café

The Parish Council having considered its budget and noted that £2800 was available from S106 monies for indoor community facilities, as well as funding from reserves, concluded that funds were available in principle, but that clearer supporting figures should be provided.

A proposal ^(JW) that the proposal be approved in principle and an extra-ordinary meeting held next week for formal approval, was not seconded.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council was in principle willing to support the application with funding of up to £7000, subject to a formal proposal supported by financial information. (Prop MY, 2nd PEE, unanimous)

RESOLVED that the funding could, in principle, be drawn down in phases and that £2800 could be made available in the short term for indoor expenditure but in order to satisfy due diligence, before this could be released the Committee should submit a formal written proposal setting out their plans and aspirations and more detailed information on costings, along with a phased timetable if required. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

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

3.1 (7.1) East-West Rail – to consider draft response to the consultation

RESOLVED, having considered the draft response prepared by Cllr Tall, to submit this as the Parish Council's formal response to the Consultation and to clearly show on the response that this is the Response of Toft Parish Council (Statutory Consultee) dated 8 June 2021. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

- 3.2 (9.4) To consider the RoSPA report and any action necessary
RESOLVED, having considered the report, that Cllr Yeadon should attend to the latch on the gate, clearance of the twigs debris from under the toddler multiplay, and the loose bolt on the rocker.
RESOLVED that the missing cap on the multiplay and the wooden edges required no action at this time. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)
- 3.3 (12) To consider the Parish Council's requirements for the website
RESOLVED, having noted the Parish Council's requirements for a website that allows more space and that the Clerk is able to access, to inform the webmaster. (Prop PEE, 2nd MY, unanimous)
- 3.4 (3.4 of 12.4.21) Horses on footpaths – Proposal to erect signage by the allotments and write to all horse owners in Toft
RESOLVED, having received Cllr Miles's verbal report that there had been no further evidence of horses using the footpaths, to hold the matter in abeyance and to continue to monitor the situation.
- 3.0.5 Refurbishment of notice boards
RESOLVED having noted Mr Blower's response that Cllr Wrycroft should look into this to see what can be arranged.
- 4. To consider correspondence received since the last meeting requiring the Council's attention**
- 4.1 Bennell Farm S106 requests
RESOLVED to respond to Tam Parry of CCC that the Parish Council accepts the offer of solar stud lighting for the footway between Toft and Comberton and the installation of two new bus shelters outside Comberton Village College, along with the sum of £10,000 per shelter for their maintenance.
RESOLVED to write to James Fisher, SCDC S106 Officer, seeking clarification as to what the final proposed S106 money for Bennell Farm will be.
- 4.2 Resident – Request that the Parish Council considers changes to the mowing schedule to protect biodiversity
RESOLVED noting that a landowner had cut the right hand side of Church Road all the way down to the entrance to Priory Cottage, leaving approximately 1 metre from the edge for visibility and pedestrians, to write to the landowner asking them to leave the verge uncut in future as this is included in the Parish Council's grass cutting contract.
RESOLVED, with regard to requests for "No Mow May" that when the grass cutting contract is due for review at the end of the year, to consider leaving certain areas of the village uncut such as the Pinfold Lane and Green Lane.
RESOLVED, noting that areas of Pinfold Lane had been cut back by residents, that Cllr Ellis-Evans should make an informal approach.
RESOLVED to respond to the resident that the Parish Council has over the years kept a certain level of uncut verges and intend to do more. The Parish Council was not responsible for the cutting of the verge in Church Road but will be raising this with the person who did so in order that this does not occur again.
- 4.3 CCC – 20's Plenty for Cambridgeshire
RESOLVED that "This Parish supports 20's Plenty for Cambridgeshire's aim for wide-area, default signed 20mph limits with public engagement for this Parish and across Cambridgeshire's urban and village settlements," and to inform "20's Plenty" and the County and District Councillors, commenting that it would be useful to know what other villages are doing. (Prop AT, 2nd EM, carried with 5 in favour and 1 abstention)
- 4.4 CCC – Advance notification of disposal of property – Former Social Services Office, Comberton Road, Toft
RESOLVED having considered the correspondence that the Parish Council does not wish to purchase the property.

- 4.5 SCDC – Application for Premises licence – Bathing Under the Sky Ltd, PAUS, Toft Road, Bourn
RESOLVED, given that the premises are in Bourn Parish, to note the application and the planning application 21/01514/FUL for change of use from agricultural to F2 development for two cabins, six hot tubs and a portable sauna, portable showers and toilets for outdoor spa use, access and parking, and to make no response.
- 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 RoSPA (Play Inspection) £94.80. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)
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|---------------|---------------------|---------|
| Salaries | | £202.68 |
| LGS Services | Admin support (May) | £461.36 |
| RH Landscapes | Grass cutting | £180.00 |
- Reimbursement from a resident for the Toft book was noted.
- 5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required
Taken earlier.
- 5.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety
RESOLVED, having considered Cllr Wrycroft's verbal report that the bank around the foundations of the bridge over the brook at the bottom of the meadow was becoming eroded, to monitor the situation.
RESOLVED, having considered Cllr Miles's verbal report that a branch had fallen down but the location was not known, that all members should take a look.
- 6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications or related items received**
- 6.1.1 21/01919/FUL – Land rear of Hardwick Road – Part demolition of industrial building and conversion of remaining into a detached private dwelling and associated works
RESOLVED to seek a time extension and defer this item to the next meeting.
- 6.1.2 21/02155/HFUL – 5 School Lane – Single storey rear extension
RESOLVED to seek a time extension and defer this item to the next meeting.
- 6.2 SCDC decisions for information
- 6.2.1 21/00555/HFUL – 58 School Lane – Partial removal of roof construction to front elevation and addition of first floor extension over the ground floor – Resubmission of 20/02919/HFUL – Permission granted.
- 6.3 Tree works applications
- 6.3.1 21/0601/TTCA – 3 High Street
Noted.
- 7. Members items and reports for information only unless otherwise stated**
- 7.1 Village Maintenance
Cllr Tall reported that there was some graffiti on the shed in the playground but it was not getting worse.
Cllr Tall has reported an overhanging hedge in Church Road which is obstructing the footpath, as well as hedges in School Lane.
Concerns were expressed about a cherry tree on the small green between the Chinese restaurant and the shop, which was in poor condition. RESOLVED to ask Oakes and Watson to take a look.
RESOLVED to ask Clive Blower to reinstate a missing post from the green which is currently lying under the benches, and to take a look at the post on the first road sign on the bend which looks rotten.
- 7.2 Highways
Cllr Tall reported that he was working with SCDC for permission to attach the MVAS to a SCDC lighting column in School Lane, for which there would be no charge, and would be submitting a risk assessment and a method statement.

Cllr Tall reported that the mesh suggested by the Church for the verge did not meet the CCC standard for verges and CCC would not give permission. Any works would need to use a different material and be funded by an independent body but funding through the LHI scheme would not be available for some 18 months, even if approved. The cost was expected to be several thousand pounds.

RESOLVED having considered Cllr Tall’s verbal report that Cllr Tall should seek a quotation for the works and report back to a future meeting.

7.3 Toft People’s Hall request for funding for alterations, décor, furnishings and equipment for a community cafe

Taken earlier.

7.4 Footpaths

Nothing to report.

7.5 Defibrillator report

Nothing to report.

7.6 Climate Change Working Group report

Cllr Popat reported that an article would be in the June issue of Calendar and another meeting of the group would take place in the next couple of weeks.

8. **Closure of meeting**

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

SignedChairmandate.
