

**Minutes of the 791st meeting of Toft Parish Council
Held on Monday 7 February 2022 at 7.00 pm in The People's Hall, Toft**

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

In attendance: 3 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)

A resident asked about the whereabouts of the notice for the fire assembly point at the People's Hall. The Parish Council explained that this was the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee. A member of the public asked whether there was any further news from East West Rail. Another resident commented that the workmen laying the cables on behalf of County Broadband had called to explain what they were doing and had been very polite and courteous.

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

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 and to grant any dispensations
None.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 10 January 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes of 10 January 2022 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman, after amendments under item 3.2, change "starting" to "yet;" under item 5.5, bullet point 1, change "spend" to spent;" and under item 5.6, to read "£200 for the defibrillator." (Prop MY, 2nd PE-E, unanimous)

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

3.1 (5.4) To consider tenders for Grass Cutting and Village Maintenance contract 2022-2024 and to appoint a contractor

RESOLVED to consider the two tenders received out of nine invited.

RESOLVED given queries raised about both tenders, and the fact that the prices were higher than the sum budgeted by the Council, to return to both contractors to clarify the queries relating to the tenders, and to defer further consideration of this item to the next meeting.

RESOLVED that Cllr Ellis-Evans should forward a list of the queries and concerns to the Clerk to follow up.

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

4.1 East West Rail – invitation to join the Local Representatives Group for South Cambridgeshire West – one representative to be appointed

RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon should attend the Local Representatives Group on behalf of Toft Parish Council, and continue to attend the meetings of Cambridge Approaches, the next of which is on Thursday. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

4.2 SCDC Community Champions and request for communications and alerts to be published on the Parish Council's website

RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon should take on the role.

4.3 Cam Valley Forum – membership

RESOLVED to renew the membership of Cam Valley Forum at a cost of £10 per annum. (Prop MY, 2nd PEE, 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. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

Salaries		£115.88
LGS Services	Admin support Jan	£502.37

5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required
Nothing to report.

5.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety
Cllr Miles reported that fly tipping on the Hardwick Road had been reported and had been promptly cleared.

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

6.1 Planning applications

6.1.1 Notification of a Planning Appeal APP/W0530/W/21/3282482 for 20/03339/FUL – Land west of 80 West Street – Erection of a convenience food retail store with associated car parking – representations to be received by 22.2.22

RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon should draft a response on behalf of the Parish Council, standing by its recommendation for refusal and supporting the District Council Planning Committee's decision to refuse, on the grounds of:

- the impact on the Toft shop and its importance to the village;
- the safety implications for children attending Comberton Village College;
- due to the Parish Council's concerns about the Planning Officer's recommendation and statement that there would not be a detrimental effect on the shop, the Parish Council wishes to correct this comment as it is inaccurate.

RESOLVED to request request that the appeal is refused.

RESOLVED to check that the Parish Council's original response appeared in the correct place on the SCDC website.

RESOLVED to consider later in the year the suggestion of having a Bennell Farm representative on the Parish Council.

6.2 SCDC decisions for information
None.

6.3 Tree works applications

6.3.1 22/0137/TTCA – The Gig House, Old Horse Yard, Comberton Road

RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no comments.

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

7.1 Village Maintenance

Nothing to report.

RESOLVED the report on the Assets Walk is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

7.2 Highways

Cllr Tall reported:

- Issues from the last meeting – 4 relating to footpaths had been resolved, but the 16 Highways issues remained open. Cllr Tall has reported the hedge outside The Old Rectory to CCC.
- Cllr Tall had given a presentation on the LHI application. CCC will review the applications in March and it is not expected to hear anything until March or April.
- A date is to be set for a meeting with Highways regarding the area by the Church.
- The MVAS is now located on the High Street.

7.3 Toft People's Hall

Cllr Borrell reported on the AGM. Receipt of the Government Covid grant had enabled the Hall to have a good financial year. Improvements were proceeding and painting had been done.

7.4 Footpaths

Nothing to report.

7.5 Defibrillator report including update on training session

There will be a Zoom meeting tomorrow at 7 pm. The defibrillator is still being checked.

7.6 Climate Change Working Group report

The meeting last month covered articles for the next few issues of Calendar. A fortnight of SCDC events, similar to last year, will be held, with Zoom talks on topics such as Electric Vehicle Charging Points.

8. Closure of meeting

Cllr Ellis-Evans raised aspects of the arrangements for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee:

- A meeting of the Committee had now taken place, with a further meeting on Thursday. Matters for consideration were:
- Lighting of the beacon - RESOLVED to check that the Council had registered to light the beacon and that Martin Sebborn had been asked to arrange for the building of the beacon, and asked to light the fire.
- An inscription on the flagpole, similar to the one added at the Millennium. The Committee had been in touch with an artist regarding a design on copper, which would take some time and the costs were not yet known. Children could be asked to submit a design. Cllr Ellis-Evans asked whether the Parish Council would be willing to fund this or whether there were any other avenues of funding.
- Plans for planting a commemorative oak tree. The southern side of Lot Meadow had been considered but this would cast shade in years to come. Cllr Ellis-Evans reported that a tree planted on a patch of land behind the village green for the Silver Jubilee had not done well in that location RESOLVED to ask Oakes and Watson to look at the tree and make recommendation so that any necessary work could be carried out with a view to moving this tree. The new oak tree could be planted in this location on Parish Council land after the existing tree had been moved.
- Funding for the arrangements – RESOLVED to investigate possible sources of funding. Cllr Ellis-Evans will raise the suggestion at the Committee meeting on Thursday.
- A suggestion for refurbishing the bus shelter, erected to commemorate the Coronation in 1953, is to be considered next year and provision made in next year's budget.
- A street lunch party, RESOLVED the street lunch party be the Parish Council's contribution, to take place on the Friday. Cllr Ellis-Evans was willing to chair the lunch party committee, and sought two volunteers from the Parish Council. Cllrs Miles and Howells came forward and Cllr Borrell offered assistance on the day.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.42 pm.

SignedChairmandate.
