

**Minutes of the 796th meeting of Toft Parish Council  
Held on Monday 5 September 2022 at 7.00 pm in The People's Hall, Toft**

Present: Councillors: M Yeadon (Chairman), E Miles, C Watson, E Darbyshire and S Collinson.

In attendance: 3 members of the public, District Cllr Lina Nieto 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 reported road markings becoming very worn at the entry to The Mount. Cllr Darbyshire will take a look.

District Cllr Lina Nieto reported on:

- The next full Council meeting will be on 22 September after which Cllr Nieto will send a written report. Meetings are every two months unless there is urgent business.
- A plan to trial a four-day week for staff.
- The £150 energy rebate for all A-D households.
- The Parish Council asked when a decision would be made about potential new sites for the Local Plan. Cllr Nieto undertook to find out. There were concerns about unsustainable growth and whether there would be sufficient infrastructure for increased development.

A resident reported brambles encroaching on the pavement in School Lane. Cllr Darbyshire will take a look. The Chairman reminded residents that it was the responsibility of all residents to report issues to CCC online.

Trees were overhanging the footpath at the High Street end of the Snicket. Cllr Miles will report these to CCC.

**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 interests 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 1 August 2022**

RESOLVED that the minutes of 1 August 2022 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman, after changing "should" to "could" under item 3.5, line 13. (Prop CW, 2nd MY, unanimous)

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

**3.1 (3.1) To consider any applications for co-option or how to fill any vacancies left either by insufficient candidates at election or casual vacancies**

No applications had been received.

RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon should place a post on Next Door and that members should speak to residents.

**3.2 (3.3.3) Climate Change and Green Issues – to consider Terms of Reference for the working group and any additional membership**

RESOLVED that Cllr Collinson should speak to a member of Hardwick Parish Council regarding the forthcoming Eco Event at the Cabin, and the possibility of working together on green initiatives.

Cllr Nieto suggested engagement with the Village College and providing water efficiency tips. Cllr Collinson will contact Cambridge Water.

The suggestion of a Warm Hub being provided in the village, and whether this might be possible at the People's Hall, was briefly discussed.

RESOLVED to ask residents for their views.

3.3 (7.2) Privately Funded Highway Project - Parking outside the Church – to consider response from CCC and whether to progress the project

Having considered the report and indication from Highways that the costs involved would not represent value for money, and given the concerns about the impact on the adjacent trees in the churchyard, a proposal that the project should not progress was made and seconded. <sup>(Prop MY, 2nd ED)</sup> However, following District Cllr Nieto's suggestion that other solutions, such as rubber matting, must be possible, and her offer to take the matter up with CCC Highways, RESOLVED to defer this to the next meeting.

3.4 (3.5) RoSPA report toddler multiplay equipment – to consider the quotation received to replace or fill the rotten wood and proposal that the Cllr Watson be appointed to seek grants towards replacement toddler climbing frame

RESOLVED, having considered the revised quotation obtained by Cllr Watson, that it would be more cost effective to purchase new equipment than modify the existing equipment.

Cllr Watson proposed that in the interim, any bolts in need of tightening should be tightened and said that she could do some painting herself.

A resident had suggested some musical play equipment.

RESOLVED that Cllr Watson, who gave her apologies for the next meeting, should bring a costed proposal and recommendation to a future meeting.

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

None.

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. RESOLVED that the payments, plus Canalbs (Internal Audit) £118.75, be considered after clarification had been provided on aspects of the financial report.

Salaries		£442.75
LGS Services	Admin support June 22	£465.19
LGS Services	Admin support July 22	£452.95
LGS Services	Admin support Aug 22	£466.39
Opus Energy	Street light energy	£19.93

Credits, including receipt of the verges grant, a refund from Playsafety, and allotment rents, were noted.

5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required

RESOLVED to receive Cllr Watson's verbal report that all was OK.

RESOLVED that the replacement sign should include the names of Cllrs Yeadon and Watson as the current keyholders.

RESOLVED that Cllr Watson should provide the details of what should appear on the sign, but should re-consider the requirement that children under 14 be supervised after residents had questioned the need for this.

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

None.

5.4 Insurance review and renewal

RESOLVED to delegate to the Chairman and Clerk together to accept a quotation subject to a comparison of the respective costs, if contents are or are not included. <sup>(Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)</sup>

5.5 Option to opt out of the SAAA Central External Auditor appointment arrangements

RESOLVED not to opt out of the SAAA Central External Auditor appointment arrangements. (Prop MY, 2nd CW, unanimous)

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

6.1 Planning applications

6.1.1 22/02436/CONDA – 12 Comberton Road – Submission of details required by condition 4 (Railings and gates) of consent 22/02436/LBC

Noted for information only.

6.1.2 22/02436/CONDB – 12 Comberton Road – Submission of details required by condition 5 (Roof details) of consent 22/02436/LBC

Noted for information only.

6.1.3 22/02436/CONDC – 12 Comberton Road – Submission of details required by condition 3 (Render details) of consent 22/02436/LBC

Noted for information only.

6.2 SCDC decisions for information

6.2.1 22/01743/FUL – Old Farm Business Centre, Church Road – To extend car park – Permission granted by SCDC.

6.2.2 22/01754/FUL – 55 High Street – Erection of a detached dwelling and associated works (amended scheme to refused application 21/04100/FUL – Permission granted by SCDC.

6.2.3 22/02958/HFUL – 9 Eversden Close – Single storey side extension – Permission granted by SCDC.

6.3 Tree works applications

6.3.1 22/0904/TTCA – 1 Beldams Close

RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no objections.

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

7.1 Village Maintenance

Nothing to report.

A suggestion was made that the posts on the green be offered to members of the public for their gardens.

7.2 Highways

Cllr Darbyshire reported on items reported to CCC including: damage to the road surface in Eversden Close, overgrowing trees at the School Lane end of Pinfold Well lane, and a hidden bridleway sign. Other issues raised recently included the water coming up through the road on the High Street, the cracked pavement at the lay-by on the road to Comberton, and a depression in the road on the High Street.

A resident had asked when the 20 mph signage would be introduced. This might take place later this year.

A complaint had been received that the speed camera on the High Street did not appear to be working. The Speedwatch team had declined to take on the MVAS equipment. RESOLVED that Cllr Collinson be appointed to take on responsibility for looking after the equipment, and that the Chairman should ask Andy Tall to meet him to discuss what is required.

A suggestion was made that the costs of replacing the equipment with a solar powered speed camera be investigated.

7.3 Toft People's Hall

Nothing to report.

7.4 Footpaths

Cllr Miles had reported a gate which was off its hinges, a loose post opposite the Church, and branches left behind in a field after tree work.

7.5 Defibrillator report

Cllr Watson had added her name to the VETS list. There were now ten members.

7.6 Birdlings liaison

Cllr Collinson's report included:

- Cllr Collinson will make enquiries at the site office on the possibility of a parish notice board being provided at the entrance to the development.
- A breast feeding initiative called "Free to Feed." RESOLVED that Cllr Watson should raise the provision of facilities with the People's Hall at their next meeting.
- Cllr Collinson indicated his willingness to distribute the Calendar to The Birdlings if required. RESOLVED that the Chairman should speak to the producer of the magazine.

**8. Closure of meeting**

The Chairman reported that East West Rail was holding a consultation meeting at Haslingfield on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September from 2 pm to 8 pm.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

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

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