

**Minutes of the 802nd meeting of Toft Parish Council  
Held on Monday 3 April 2023 at 7.00 pm in The People's Hall, Toft**

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

In attendance: 5 members of the public and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

**Cambridge Nature Network – Natural Cambridgeshire Recovery Toolkit – Natalie Lambert**  
The representative of Cambridge Nature Network was not present.

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

Three residents spoke regarding the application for 33 School Lane and expressed their preference for a bungalow. Although 1.5 storeys is a house the way the plans were drawn it looked lower but that is the ground level. It was deceptive and was not subservient to the other houses on School Lane.

A tree on the highway verge would be lost.

The Arbory Trust free standing seats were being stolen.

Russell Cowburn introduced himself as the tenant of the Old Horse Yard. The company, Durham Magneto Optics Ltd, was a high-tech business manufacturing scientific equipment. The Chairman explained that previous tenants had sponsored projects in the village. Mr Cowburn offered to do likewise, and offered an opportunity for visitors once settled.

**1. Apologies for absence and declaration of interests**

**1.1 To approve written apologies and reasons for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Watson (work commitment out of parish).

**1.2 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda**

Cllr Yeadon declared an interest in item 6.3.1 as it concerned his property.

**1.3 To receive written requests for dispensations and to grant any dispensations**

None.

**2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 6 March 2023**

RESOLVED that the minutes of 6 March 2023 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. (Prop EM, 2nd SC, unanimous)

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied to take item 6.1.1 next.

**6.1.1 23/01080/FUL – Lands adj to 33 School Lane – Single detached dwelling**

RESOLVED to object to the application with the following comments:

“The Parish Council’s main objection to this proposal is that the building is too large for this location. It is at the end of a row of bungalows adjacent to a footpath and attractive field and then more bungalows. Therefore the building is seen as being too high. The width of the building completely fills the plot width which is not in keeping with its location.

The glazed balcony will overlook adjacent properties which should not be permitted.

The single access to the two properties is not desirable. The access to the garage and the parking area in front of no33 seems too tight.

The proposal includes the removal of several trees including a mature horse chestnut. In addition to the undesirable loss of trees in the area the view from Pinfoldwell Lane will be of the rear of the house rather than the existing trees which will negatively impact this tree lined bridleway.

For these reasons the PC recommends refusal of this application.” (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

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

**3.1 (Open) To consider any matter arising from the public session**

None.

- 3.2 (3.3) Climate Change and Green issues – to consider revised Environmental Policy  
RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting.
- 3.3 (4.1) CCC 20 mph scheme (deadline 30 April)  
RESOLVED to apply for a 20 mph scheme for the whole village and that Cllr Darbyshire should complete and submit the application. (Prop MY, 2nd SC, unanimous)  
RESOLVED whilst support from County Cllr Michael Atkins had been given at the last meeting and is to be formally sought.  
RESOLVED to note the unanimous support from the residents present at the meeting for a 20mph scheme.  
RESOLVED there were no objections to the CCC proposal for a zebra crossing adjacent to Comberton Village College.
- 3.4 (5.1 of 6.2.23) To consider quotation for PCB Board for speed equipment  
RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Morelock for a PCB board, including delivery, at a cost of £99.00 plus VAT. (Prop MY, 2nd SC, unanimous)
- 4. To consider correspondence received since the last meeting requiring the Council's attention**
- 4.1 Resident – Speeding in School Lane  
RESOLVED, having considered the resident's concerns, that the MVAS will be moved to School Lane when the new PCB board has been received and installed. (Prop SC, 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. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)
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|--------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Salaries           |                        | £169.93 |
| LGS Services       | Admin support March 23 | £451.13 |
| Toft People's Hall | Room Hire – Feb        | £15.00  |
- Receipt of a VAT reclaim was noted.
- 5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required  
No issues were reported. The RoSPA inspection is due this month.
- 5.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety and relates to Council property  
None.
- 6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications or related items received**
- 6.1 Planning applications
- 6.1.1 23/01080/FUL – Lands adj to 33 School Lane – Single detached dwelling  
Taken earlier.
- 6.2 SCDC decisions for information  
None.
- 6.3 Tree works applications
- 6.3.1 23/0276/TTCA – 5 Brookside  
At 7.57 pm, having previously declared an interest in this item, Cllr Yeadon left the meeting. Cllr Miles, the Vice Chairman chaired the meeting for this item.  
RESOLVED to make no comments.  
Cllr Yeadon re-joined the meeting at 7.58 pm.
- 7. Members items and reports for information only unless otherwise stated**
- 7.1 Village Maintenance  
A proposal that the Parish Council consider the supply of three boulders at a maximum cost of £400.00 from Barnolds Supplies Ltd, Capability Barns in Fen Drayton and arrangements for their purchase is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.
- 7.2 Highways

Cllr Darbyshire had requested an update from CCC on the 20 mph limit and possible zebra crossing, and was awaiting a reply. A response was awaited from Simeon Carroll regarding road markings and potholes.

- 7.3 Toft People's Hall  
Nothing to report.
- 7.4 Footpaths  
Cllr Miles reported that she had heard from the Woodland Trust who will inspect the waymarker.
- 7.5 Defibrillator report  
Nothing to report.
- 7.6 Birdlings liaison  
Nothing to report.
- 7.7 Operation Orb update  
Cllr Miles provided an update on the tea party arrangements, with badges for children and a bouncy castle. There would be no molly dancers.
- 7.8 Update on the joint Parish Meeting  
Cllr Yeadon reported on his attendance at the joint Parish Meeting which had covered Neighbourhood Plans and chalk streams.
- 7.9 Update EWR Status report  
Cllr Yeadon reported that East West Rail was expected to come out with its preferred route in May, but they were not expecting any information on elevations yet. The Freight 21 group would like to see the northern route accepted and extended to Newmarket. The East West Rail working party appeared to be an opposition group. RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon should meet with Cambridge Approaches.
- 7.10 Proposal to change the lead Councillor for the grass cutting contract  
RESOLVED that Cllr Harris be appointed as lead member for the grass cutting contract. A copy of the contract is to be sent to her.
- 7.11 Update on environmental matters – CVC car chargers, SCDC  
The car chargers at Comberton Village College were not presently being used but the College may look at opening them up to the wider public in the future. Consideration of whether the Parish Council should explore public chargers is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.
8. Closure of meeting  
There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.26 pm.

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

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