

**Minutes of the (806th) meeting of Toft Parish Council
Held on Monday 2 October 2023 at 7.15 pm in The People's Hall, Toft
following the William Eversden's Charity Meeting**

Present: Councillors: M Yeadon (Chairman), S Collinson, E Darbyshire, R Harris and C Watson.
In attendance: 2 members of the public and Mrs C Newton (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)

Following a complaint last year about smoke on Bonfire Night, a resident asked whether there were any rules on private bonfires. It was suggested that the resident contact the District Council if there was a problem.

It was reported that a green bin in School Lane had not been emptied last Thursday. The telephone number for SCDC Waste Management shown on the bin was no longer in use.

Overgrown hedges between the People's Hall and Stoney Lane were obstructing the pavement and pedestrians had to walk on the road. This should be reported to CCC online. Cllr Darbyshire agreed to look into the matter.

A tree in Pinfold Well Lane had fallen and had been moved.

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 4 September 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes of 4 September 2023 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

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

3.1 (3.1) Proposal to purchase owl/bat boxes – to consider report and recommendations

RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting as it was believed that Tricia Ellis-Evans may have some boxes. Prior permission to erect them would also be required.

3.2 (3.3) RoSPA report works – to consider report and recommendation on toddler swing

RESOLVED to receive the Chairman's verbal report that he had fixed the chain and tightened the bar on the toddler swing.

3.3 (5.3) Resident offer of replacement bench – update

RESOLVED to receive the Chairman's report that he had ordered a bench and delivery was due on 6 October. The resident was happy with the cost and will transfer the funds to the Parish Council, whereupon Cllr Yeadon will be reimbursed for the costs, including the plaque.

3.4 (7.0.8) Proposal for new play equipment – to consider recommendations and quotes

Cllr Watson's previously circulated report was noted.

RESOLVED to approve the purchase of the musical equipment at a price of over £6,000, but to establish the total cost including installation before ordering.

Cllr Watson should seek quotations for installation from a local contractor. and that Cllr Collinson should find and pass on the names of other contractors to Cllr Watson.

RESOLVED that all members should look for a suitable replacement climbing frame and that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

- 3.5 (8) Proposal to consider purchase of a new music system for the People's Hall
RESOLVED to purchase a new music system for the People's Hall at the price of £3,120.00 or up to 10% higher.
- 3.6 (3.5 of 5.6.23 and 3.4 of 6.2.23) To consider revised quotations for the purchase of a notice board at the Birdlings and a replacement Parish Council notice board
RESOLVED to purchase two notice boards from JAKK for the cost of £2,118.00, subject to a 5% discount if paid by BACS.
The notice boards should be engraved with the wording "Toft Parish Council" in black and that they should be lockable.
Cllr Collinson will take delivery of the notice boards. The order will be placed once the installation costs are known.

Cllr Collinson left the meeting briefly at 8.00 pm and returned at 8.01 pm.
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 before the payments were approved, plus Zurich (Insurance) £396.00. (Prop MY, 2nd CW, unanimous)
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|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Salaries | August and September | £169.93 |
| M Yeadon | Church bench | £382.50 |
| Buchans | Grass cutting August | £715.07 |
| Morelock | MVAS battery | £163.20 |
| PKF Littlejohn | External audit | £378.00 |
| Community Heartbeat Trust | VETS session defibrillator | £210.00 |
| LGS Services | Admin support | £454.76 |
- Credits, including allotment rents and receipt of the precept, were noted.
- 5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required
Cllr Watson reported that weeds had been pulled out and the wood needed repainting and cleaning, the benches needed repair/refurbishment and the goal post was loose and rusty.
RESOLVED to seek quotations for the works.
- 5.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety and relates to Council property
None.
- 5.4 To consider insurance renewal
RESOLVED to approve renewal of the insurance cover with Zurich at a premium of £396.00 per annum.
- 5.5 To consider recommendation from the External Auditors regarding a separate bank account for the William Eversden's Charity (allotments) funds
RESOLVED to follow the advice of the RFO as to what course of action is best and complies with the concerns.
- 5.6 To note the conclusion of the External Audit
RESOLVED to note the conclusion of the External Audit.
6. **To consider any Planning or Tree works applications or related items received**
- 6.1 Planning applications
- 6.1.1 21/01919/CONDC – Land rear of 6 Hardwick Road – Submission of details requested by Condition 7 (Contamination) of planning permission 21/01919/FUL.
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no comments.

6.1.2 20/03757/CONDC – Land adjacent to 6 Hardwick Road – Submission of details required by condition 3 (Contamination and remediation) of planning permission 20/03757/FUL
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no comments

6.2 SCDC decisions for information
None.

6.3 Tree works applications

6.3.1 23/1054/TTCA – 6 Glebe Close (new application)
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no comments.

6.3.2 23/1055/TTCA – Priory Cottage
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no comments.

6.3.3 23/0985/TTCA – 26 High Street
RESOLVED to note the response made by the Clerk under delegated powers. The Parish Council had no comments.

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

7.1 Village Maintenance

It was noted that a tree that had come down in Green Lane had been reported and cleared.

7.2 Highways

Overhanging vegetation at the corner of Toft and Bourn had been reported to CCC. Re-lining of the main road will take place this financial year. A pedestrian crossing is to be installed by the Comberton Co-op.

7.3 Toft People's Hall

Cllr Watson reported that a planning application had been drawn up for the extension but this is likely to be revised and will be brought back to the next meeting.

7.4 Footpaths

Nothing to report.
RESOLVED that Cllr Miles should again report the footpath gates at the end of Millers Road, Long Field, and opposite the Church to CCC.

7.5 Defibrillator report

Cllr Watson reported that the defibrillator training had been publicised in the Calendar and on the Social Club's Facebook page.

7.6 Birdlings liaison

Nothing to report.

There is a consultation on the Woodland Trust 5 year plan. Comments should be made by 26 October if so wished.

7.0.7 Website

RESOLVED that Cllr Miles should ask for the Parish Council website to be added to the Calendar.
REOSLVED that Cllr Darbyshire should keep the website up to date.
RESOLVED to change the photograph on the website.

8. Closure of meeting

Nextdoor/Instagram is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.37 pm.

SignedChairmandate.