

**Minutes of the 811th meeting of Toft Parish Council
Held on Monday 5 February 2024 in The People's Hall, Toft at 7.00 pm**

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

In attendance: 1 member 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 commented on the Community Governance item. The Chairman explained that this item was simply to give consideration to the matter and gauge views.

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

Cllr Darbyshire declared an interest in the planning application for land adjacent to 33 School Lane, as she lived opposite.

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

None.

1.4 To note the resignation of Cllr Collinson and to reassign any roles

RESOLVED to note the resignation of Cllr Collinson.

RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon should take over the monitoring of the speed cameras. Cllrs Darbyshire and Harris offered assistance.

RESOLVED that the notice boards delivery should be changed to Cllr Yeadon.

RESOLVED that Cllr Harris should be the Council's lead member for Climate Change and Environmental issues.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 8 January 2024

RESOLVED that the minutes of 8 January 2024 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)

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

3.1 (3.2.1) Proposal for new climbing frame – to consider any quotations received

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Broxap for £16,830.00 for the supply and installation of the climbing frame, the installation of black wet pour surfacing, and delivery. (Prop CW, 2nd MY, unanimous)

RESOLVED that the Parish Council does not wish to proceed with the site survey and post installation inspection. (Prop CW, 2nd EM, unanimous)

RESOLVED that Cllr Watson should notify Dean Missen that the Parish Council would like the percussion play equipment to be installed in March. Cllr Yeadon offered assistance with moving the equipment.

3.2 (3.3) Application for village-wide 20 mph zone – update and survey responses

RESOLVED to note that of the responses received, 66 were in favour and 26 were not.

RESOLVED to proceed with the application.

RESOLVED to check the FOI position regarding the responses.

RESOLVED that Cllr Darbyshire should write an article for the Calendar and for the website informing residents about the outcome of the consultation, and draft the application.

3.3 (3.4) Queen's Platinum Jubilee area – to consider quotation for fencing

RESOLVED to note that the work to remove the stumps will be carried out on 18 March, after which a quotation for fencing will be sought. The replacement of the tree on the Green will be carried out at the same time.

- 3.4 (3.5) Wildlife survey – to consider survey responses
RESOLVED that Cllr Miles should study the responses and liaise with Jake Tebbit regarding the production of an A3 map showing biodiversity features in the village.
- 3.5 (7.4) Horses on footpaths – update
RESOLVED not to purchase a new sign, given Cllr Miles's report that a rider had undertaken not to ride on the footpath, but to re-install the old sign at the entrance to Toft Wood to replace one which was cracked.
RESOLVED that a wooden post by the iron bridge, which had been knocked over, should be reported to CCC by Cllr Miles.
- 3.6 (7.7) Community Governance Review
RESOLVED that Cllr Yeadon should speak to the Planning Department and Rates Department at SCDC to seek information on the implications and potential advantages and disadvantages of moving the boundary, and to defer this item to the next meeting.
- 4. To consider correspondence received since the last meeting requiring the Council's attention**
- 4.1 Bourn Parish Council - Proposal for South Cambridgeshire Parish Councils to deliver a vote of no confidence in the SCDC Planning Department and Committee
RESOLVED having considered the correspondence from Bourn Parish Council and the response from SCDC, to write to both parties confirming that having discussed the correspondence at a meeting, the Parish Council shares some concerns at the lack of influence of Parish Councils but Toft Parish Council does not consider it should take the matter any further at this stage.
- 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 The Calendar (newsletter) £193.43. (Prop MY, 2nd EM, unanimous)
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|------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Salaries | | £169.93 |
| Hedgehogs R Us | Hedgehog Highway box | £157.50 |
| Cam Valley Forum | Membership Annual Fee | £10.00 |
| LGS Services | Admin support Dec | £446.15 |
- 5.2 To receive play inspection reports and consider any work required
Nothing further to report.
- 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 arrangements for the annual Assets Walk
RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next meeting.
- 6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications or related items received**
- 6.1 Planning applications
- 6.1.1 24/00167/ADV – Land adj 80 West Street, Comberton – 1 no. internally illuminated fascia sign, 2 no. non-illuminated fascia signs, 1 no. double-sided internally illuminated totem sign, 2 no. non-illuminated post mounted signs and 2 no. banner frames
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no comments.
- 6.2 SCDC decisions for information
None.
- 6.3 Tree works applications
- 6.3.1 24/0076/TTCA – 2 Old Farm Court
RESOLVED that the Parish Council makes no response.
- 6.1.2 23/01080/FUL - Lands Adjacent to 33 School Lane Toft - Single detached dwelling
Cllr Darbyshire, having previously declared an interest in this item, left the meeting at 8.05 pm.

RESOLVED to object to the amended application with the following comments: (Prop MY, 2nd BH, unanimous)

“The Toft Parish Council considered the planning application 23/01080/FUL at its meeting on 5 February 2024.

It reached the following conclusions which led the Parish Council to recommend refusal of the application.

First of all it is not entirely clear what the proposal is, some drawings show a different building than others, some show a garage in front of the bungalow and the bathroom appears to have a bed in it, for example.

- *The adjacent houses are all bungalows and it is not appropriate to have a two-storey building in their midst.*
- *The removal of the garage and parking from the adjacent bungalow (33 School Lane) and the small amount of area in front of the proposed property will result in it looking like a public car park. The Parish Council also questions whether it is possible to drive in and out of the garage onto the road without several attempts.*
- *There will be a shared drive and unclear ownership of the drive and entrance areas; this is not desirable.*
- *The house will be clearly visible from the public footpath adjacent to the property and will detract from its very rural nature.*
- *The Parish Council is very concerned about the possible damage to the hedge and trees during construction.*
- *The Parish Council cannot see how this development will achieve a 20% biodiversity net gain as required by South Cambridgeshire Planning Policy.”*

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

7.1 Village Maintenance

Cllr Yeadon reported that he was purchasing materials to repair the bus shelter. Bird mess on the bench will be considered when the Assets Walk takes place.

7.2 Highways

Cllr Darbyshire reported that she had chased CCC about the white lining and pruning the bushes on the corner of Church Lane.

7.3 Toft People’s Hall

Cllr Watson reported that there was a meeting on 14 February to discuss the possible improvements.

7.4 Footpaths

Cllr Miles reported that the Snicket was still very overgrown at the High Street end, despite having reported this to CCC. CCC had confirmed that this was the residents’ responsibility and had written to them.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council should write to CCC asking them to follow up the matter.

7.5 Defibrillator report

Nothing to report.

7.6 Birdlings liaison

Nothing to report.

RESOLVED that members should continue to approach potentially interested people about applying to join the Parish Council.

8. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

SignedChairmandate.