

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN TOFT PEOPLES' HALL ON  
MONDAY 10th MAY 2010**

**PRESENT: Councillors P Hercus (Chairman); E Dolman; J McCarten; J Betson; & M Yeadon. District Councillor Tumi Hawkins; there were eight electors in attendance: M Coppin, S Roberts, G Norgett, C Sinclair, D Arrowsmith, L Hollow, K Collett & P Gouldstone. Jane Reed, representing the governors of the Meridian Primary School.**

Item	Content	Action
1.	<p><b>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND ACTIONS OUTSTANDING</b> Copies of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on May 11th 2009 were available for reference and in response to the Chairman's proposal that these were a correct record the meeting <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the minutes. There were no actions outstanding.</p>	
2.	<p><b>APOLOGIES</b> These were received from Lucy Jayne, Derek Bilsland, Peter Johnson &amp; Fiona Whelan.</p>	
3.	<p><b>LOCAL PRIMARY &amp; SECONDARY EDUCATION</b> The Chairman introduced Mrs Jane Reed, Governor at the Meridian County Primary School, to address the meeting. A new Head Teacher, Glenys Fergo, in post since September 2008 had settled in well and there had been measurable improvement since 2006, when an Ofsted Report had identified a number of shortcomings. The School was working with other schools in the area to share good practice. Pupils were undergoing SAT tests, though this system of assessment was under review and subject to change. The school had participated in Science Week and pupils had developed an Eco Action Plan. The former swimming pool had been developed as a habitats garden and links with a school in the Gambia were proving mutually beneficial. Finally, pupils were being presented with the works of Shakespeare across subjects to aid learning. Mrs Reed was thanked for her report.</p>	
4.	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b> Newly elected Tumi Hawkins told the meeting that she had set up a website to inform residents about what she was doing, with opportunities for contact and feedback for visitors. The address was <a href="http://www.tumihawkins.org.uk">www.tumihawkins.org.uk</a>.</p>	
5	<p><b>COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT</b> The County Councillor, Fiona Whelan, had sent a report in her absence, a copy of which is attached to the minutes of this meeting. On Cllr Whelan's behalf, the District Councillor asked for help drafting an inventory of potholes requiring repair.</p>	
6.	<p><b>PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2009-10</b> Former Chairman, Sally Roberts presented a report, a copy of which is bound with the original minutes of this meeting. The Chairman thanked and congratulated Mrs Roberts on her twenty years of service to the Parish Council in Toft and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that thanks and appreciation be recorded in respect of Mrs Roberts service to the community, with good wishes for her retirement.</p>	
7	<p><b>TOFT PARISH PLAN</b> Mr G Norgett reported. Progress had been slow, but he hoped that the plan would be finally approved for printing in the near future. Asked about plans for distribution, Mr Norgett told the meeting that a pdf would be published on the website; that 300 copies would be produced allowing one per household in the village; and that a number of around 50 additional copies would be</p>	

	<p>available for provision to local interested stakeholder groups and individuals. It was therefore  <b>RESOLVED</b> to note the report with thanks.</p>	
8.	<p><b>FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR END 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2009</b>  The Clerk reported that the Council had received an income of £14,438 and that expenditure was £12,046 for the year, resulting in reserves carried forward in the amount of £22,505. The value of the Council's assets was £29,363 and the Council's loan outstanding to the Public Works Loan Board used to improve the People's Hall in the 1990s was £12,905.  There were no questions and it was  <b>RESOLVED</b> to note the report with thanks.</p>	
9.	<p><b>TOFT CHARITIES</b>  Cllr S Roberts gave a report, a copy of which is bound with the original minutes of this meeting.  The meeting heard that the term of the existing Trustees was at an end and that the Board consisted of the Chairman of the Parish Council, plus two Trustees elected by this meeting, who were K Collett and P Gouldstone. Since P Gouldstone declared her intention to step down, it was proposed, seconded and  <b>RESOLVED</b> to appoint Cllr P Hercus, Cllr E Dolman and Mr K Collett as Trustees for the Toft Charities for the following term.</p>	
10.	<p><b>TOFT PEOPLE'S HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</b>  IN the absence of the Chairman, the meeting heard that the AGM of the Committee would take place on Monday 14th June at 8.00pm and all were welcome. It was therefore  <b>RESOLVED</b> to note the report with thanks.</p>	
11.	<p><b>CAMBRIDGESHIRE CONSTABULARY</b>  There was no report</p>	
12.	<p><b>OPEN SESSION</b></p> <p><b>Mrs Dinah Arrowsmith</b> asked Councillors to introduce themselves, which Members were pleased to do.</p> <p><b>Mrs Linda Hollow</b> asked whether the Council had any plans for investment of what were now considered very healthy financial reserves and suggested that publication of the Parish Plan might present some initiatives requiring expenditure on the Council's behalf. She also mentioned that road markings and signage at the Hardwick Road/Comberton Road junction were in need of replacement. Finally, Mrs Hollow proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Roberts and other Parish Councillors for their hard work and service to the parish.</p> <p><b>Mrs Roberts</b> reminded the Councillors that the Highways Officer had recommended that signage be installed altering drivers to two dangerous corners at which there were junctions in the village, at the green and at Brookside.</p> <p><b>Mr Norgett</b> referred to the Parish Plan, saying that speeding traffic in the village was an issue that a majority of residents wished to see reduced. He encouraged the Council to proceed with any measures to achieve this, saying that action need not wait for publication of the plan.</p>	

**The District Councillor**, Tumi Hawkins advised that she was looking into the history of discussions relating to traffic calming in the village.

**Mr Collett** told the meeting that the hazardous bends in the road through Toft and parked cars on the High Street had been considered natural speed reduction measures by the Highways Officer in the past.

**Mr C Sinclair** asked whether training had been administered for the Speedwatch Volunteers. This was confirmed and the meeting heard that the equipment had been used 2-3 times and more frequently than it had in Hardwick.

There being no further questions or discussion, the Chairman closed the meeting.