

TILLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILALGE HALL ON THURSDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Mr T Compton (Chairman) Mr R ter Haar,
Mrs J Clevely, Ms M Connor, Mrs A Lunt
and Mrs J Lowe.

Cllr J Duncton (County Councillor)

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were received from Mrs S Wickham, Mr C Drake, Cllr E Lintill (District Councillor) and subsequently from Mr R Morgan-Grenville.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

(a) District Council

The Clerk said Cllr Lintill has another meeting tonight but if Councillors have anything they would like to ask her, she's asked they let her know.

(b) County Council

Cllr Duncton reported on the following.

Budget: Both County and District Councils are looking at the budget for next year, the County have some statutory functions that have to be carried out, but workshops are being held to discuss if savings can be made on other services.

Children's Services: Our Children's Services are continuing to improve and this has been validated by a recent OFSTED visit to check on us. We still have some areas that need our attention but I am confident that this Service is going in the right direction.

Fire and Rescue: A new Fire Station is being built at Broadbridge Heath which will also be used as a training station.

Housing: Natural England have halted all new building applications in West Sussex, where the water is supplied by Southern Water. The exception is the Crawley area which they don't supply. This doesn't apply to applications that have been agreed, but any future applications will be automatically refused. Ms Connor asked why they don't use empty commercial buildings on brown sites.

Cllr Duncton said they do wherever possible, several have been converted in Chichester.

Mrs Clevely asked what the Council is doing about the refugee situation. Cllr Duncton said the County Council doesn't own any accommodation but are working with the District Council who are finding housing for them. The Clerk said Cllr Alan Sutton is the District Councillor looking after this. She will send her the article he has written for the Petworth magazine.

The Chairman asked Cllr Duncton if she knows when the work to the road on the A272 through the village is likely to be carried out. She said it's in the schedule but doesn't know when it will happen. He then asked her about the pavement, the vegetation has been cut back but nothing has been done about the mud and grass which protrudes on to the path and makes it impossible for buggies and wheelchairs to use, surely this is Highways' responsibility. People often have to walk in the road, which is extremely dangerous. Cllr Duncton said she has already mentioned this to Highways but was told there is no money available to do the work. She will contact them again.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on Thursday 9th September, having been circulated, it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mrs Clevely, that they be passed and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matter arising.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no members of the public present.

6. FINANCE

(a) Current Financial Situation: The Chairman said the Clerk had previously circulated copies of the accounts to 9th October. There were no questions.

Restricted Fund	Recreational Ground Trust	£5,052.31
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Balances at 9th October 2021

Current Account	201.25		
Deposit Account	<u>17,880.70</u>	18,081.95	
Post Office		<u>1,231.59</u>	£19,313.54

CHEQUES PAID FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER TO 9TH OCTOBER 2021

Mr P Wadey	46.30	Pavilion - Repair to Shower
Mrs K Knight	75.00	Pavilion - Cleaning - Aug
Austens	8.75	Pavilion - Cleaning Materials
Fire Risk UK	145.08	Pavilion - Fire Extinguisher Maintenance

7. ENVIRONMENT AND MAINTENANCE

The Chairman took Councillors through the various headings.

Footpath on A272: It was agreed Mr ter Harr will draft a letter for the Parish Council to send to the County Council complaining about the overgrowth on the footpath, and the urgent need for it to be removed to allow wheelchair and buggy access.

Pavilion: The kitchen is long overdue for a face lift and it's been agreed to install a new one. The Clerk will arrange a meeting with Kate Knight, Mrs Wickham, Mrs Clevely and herself. Mrs Lowe said she would also like to be involved. This was agreed.

(Clerk's Note: A meeting as been arranged for Wednesday 20th October, but Kate will not be there as she's not well.)

Recreation Ground: The hedge behind the tennis courts is due to be cut back this year, one quote has been obtained, a second one is awaited. Mrs Lowe said there are weeds around the tennis courts, the Chairman said Bruce Wickham deals with this.

Cart Shed: Mr ter Harr said he'd been to see the Cart Shed, the work certainly needs to be done. The Chairman said as yet he hasn't received a price, he still has to find someone to carry it out, but planning permission has been agreed and work has to commence before May 2022. Mr ter Har said the back elevation is in bad state, and the roof will have to come off, he thought it could cost in the region of £20/£30,000 but felt the Council has a moral obligation to repair it. The Chairman said he and Mr Morgan-Grenville have discussed ways of raising the money, it was agreed to see if Upperton residents, if they want the Cart Shed retained, would contribute towards the cost. He hopes the Council will be able to retain it, it's a genuine ancient building and part of our heritage.

Footpaths: Mr Gresham-Cook is the parish's Footpath Warden, walks all footpaths at least once a year and makes sure the landowners keep their paths in order. The area by the path along the road by the Horseguards is in need of cutting back, Sam Perry usually does this.

Speeding on the A272: As Mrs Allison is moving away Mr Warwick Gee has been looking into different speed indictors to be installed at either end of the village. He has produced details of one at a cost of £2,200 each. A discussion took place, it was noted that this one is manufactured in France, and it was agreed it must be cheaper to purchase one made in the UK. Mrs Lowe will speak to Mr Warwick Gee to progress this.

Fibre Broadband: A final offer has been received from Open Reach for the work in Tillington.

Village Hall: The Chairman and Mrs Lunt will liaise with the Chairman, and Management Committee of the Village Hall to work more closely with them.

8. PLANNING

Mrs Lunt said there were few applications recently, mainly for tree work. The Clerk said the application to build in a field at Leggats Hill had been refused. The Chairman said he and the Clerk had received an email from Mrs Anstruther, who has just bought Westbrook House, Upperton, inviting them to see the building as at present, prior to putting in a planning application for restoration work.

9. WIDER PARISH INVOLVEMENT

The Chairman said he didn't propose to discuss this tonight, the Council is looking at how to inform the parish about what it does and to involve them more.

10. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

The Chairman said bonfires are to be lit at 9.15 pm on Thursday 2nd June 2022 with a piper playing at 9.09 pm and he asked if the Council wished to participate. The Clerk said Mr Gresham-Cook still has the beacon from last time, is willing to be part of any organising group, but not to take the lead. She has reserved the Recreation Ground for celebrations on Saturday 4th. A discussion took place and it was decided that this should take place on the Thursday prior to lighting the beacon. Mrs Clevely agreed to write an article for the Parish magazine outlining the plans and asking for ideas and help with the organisation. It was agreed this should be led by the village rather than Parish Council. Mrs Clevely and Mrs Lowe will represent the Council. The Chairman said there are free trees available for planting, he will source one that can be planted on the Recreation Ground.

11. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Next Meeting: The Chairman suggested that, as an extra meeting has been held tonight, the one on 11th November be moved to Thursday 2nd December. This was agreed.

COP26: The Chairman referred to Mr Drake's e-mail attaching the COP26 letter asking churches to ring their bells on Saturday 30th October as part of a national weekend to raise awareness to the UN Climate Change Conference. It was agreed this was not a Council matter and it was up to All Hallows PCC if they wished to participate.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.