

TILLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, TILLINGTON ON THURSDAY 11TH MAY AT 7.00 PM

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

Cllr J Duncton (County Councillor)

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett.

The Clerk gave Councillors the Declaration of Acceptance form, which they all signed. She then took the chair for the election of the Chairman.

1. There were apologies from Mrs S Wickham and Mr C Drake.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr Morgan-Grenville said he would like to propose Mr Compton as Chairman, his nomination was seconded by Mrs Clevely. There being no other nominations and as Mr Compton was willing to stand for re-election, on a vote, he was unanimously elected.

Mr Compton took the chair.

4. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr Morgan-Grenville was proposed by Ms Connor, seconded by Mrs Lunt and there being no other nominations, on a vote, Mr Morgan-Grenville was unanimously elected.

5. CO-OPTION OF ONE COUNCILLOR

The Clerk referred to the co-option notice she had previously circulated. It was agreed the closing date for applications will be Wednesday 31st May.

6. REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Duncton reported on the following.

Childrens' Services: OFSTED have given us a good report on our Childrens' Services. We have now worked hard for about 3 years to get to this stage, there are

still improvements to two areas to bring all parts of the Service up to good, but we're getting there.

The Angel Inn, Midhurst: Until the facade of the Angel Hotel is made safe we cannot on safety grounds have the through road open for traffic. The South Downs National Park Authority has taken the responsibility to make it safe enough to open up the road again and is working with English Heritage, the Insurance Companies for the owners and anyone else involved. Once secure, County has plans in place to open up the road but I am afraid we are talking weeks not days. The Chairman said there's appalling economic damage being done to the town, Cllr Dunton agreed, but said unfortunately where safety to the public is a priority these things take time.

Rotherlea: The Care Home has just celebrated its 15th anniversary with a party which she was invited to. There is a big improvement there and standards have risen.

Elections: National issue were in the result, the swing away from the Conservatives was especially strong in all Sussex constituencies, they now hold none, and Brighton is held by Labour.

The Chairman said he would like thanks minuted to the retiring District Councillor, Eileen Lintill, who had been a very effective communicator. Councillors concurred.

The Chairman said he would like to bring 14 (a) forward and ask Mr Pollard to speak now.

14. CART SHED

Referring to the £10,000 loan, Mr Pollard said he has received a positive verbal response from the Charity Commission and the three Committee members were also in favour. He has agreed the contract with the Chairman, which all will sign. They have also agreed the repayment schedule.

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Committees

Finance: The Chairman, Mrs Clevely and Ms Connor

Planning: Mrs Clevely, Mrs Lunt and Mr ter Haar

Environment

Physical Infrastructure: Recreation Ground, Pavilion, Sheds and Community Orchard

Mrs Clevely, Mr Morgan-Grenville, Mrs Wickham

Phone Boxes, Shelters, Seating

Mr Drake

Cart Shed

The Chairman and Mr ter Haar

(b) Representatives:

South Downs National Park: The Chairman referred to the letter from the South Downs National Park about forthcoming elections to elect two

Councillor representatives for West Sussex, nominated by their Town or Parish Council, to serve on the Board. Mr Morgan-Grenville said he would like to put his name forward. His nomination was unanimously agreed, the Clerk said she will send him the nomination form.

8. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th April, having been circulated, it was proposed by Ms Connor, seconded by Mrs Lunt, that they be passed and signed.

9. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Coronation: The Chairman said the fence had been a great achievement. About 25 people came to help, the wood had been his gift, it looked really good and he thanked Nick Blunt for his work. Mrs Lunt said it was a great pity there was a lack of enthusiasm from the Horseguards. The food at the pavilion had gone down really well and there had been plenty of it. Th Chairman thanked Mrs Clevely and Mrs Lunt for organising such a great spread.

(b) Parish Magazine: Mr Morgan-Grenville said the Parish magazine's printing cost have increased and the Council has been asked if it will increase it's annual £300 contribution. Ms Connor suggested the cost could be reduced if the magazine was only produced every two months or quarterly, and Mrs Clevely wanted to know how much activity there is on the website. Mr Morgan-Grenville said he will find out. After further discussion it was agreed that the Chairman write to the Editors.

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(a) Gate on Cemetery Lane: Mrs Young referred to the previous meeting when she had asked if a gate could be put up where the footpath from the Glebe Field meets Cemetery Lane and asked Ms Connor if she had made contact with Gillian Harwood. Ms Connor said she had been there twice but there had been no one in, she will follow this up.

(b) Community Orchard: The Clerk said Fiona Gourd had asked her if anyone is needed to clear the Community Orchard. If so, she would like to be considered. It was agreed that at the present time no help is needed, the area should be designated a wild flower orchard and a notice be put up accordingly.

11. FINANCE

(a) Current Financial Situation: The Clerk referred to the accounts to the 30h April, previously circulated. With the addition of the invoices to be pad today, listed below, the VAT to be reclaimed is now over £2,000. She said the £6,000 for roofing did not include VAT and asked the Chairman if this is correct. He said he will find out.

(Clerk's Note: The Company is not registered for VAT.)

Balances at 30th April 2023

Current Account	132.98		
Deposit Account	<u>13,126.53</u>	13,259.51	
Post Office		<u>1,232.86</u>	£14,492.37

CHEQUES PAID FROM 1ST TO 30TH APRIL 2023

WSALC	177.10	Council Affiliation Fee
Manorwood Construction	712.20	Cart Shed - Structural Consultancy
Manorwood Construction	183.96	Cart Shed - Materials
Business Stream	51.19	Recreation Ground - Water
Choun China	584.40	Coronation - Mugs
Noah's Oak	6,000.00	Cart Shed - Carpentry Works
Mrs J Huggett	172.80	Salary, Expenses, Postage - Apr

CHEQUES PAID ON 11TH MAY 2023

Harding Roofing	9,582.00	Cart Shed
TimeWeb	360.00	Website Hosting
Gerald Gresham Cooke	22.49	Gen Maintenance - Shed Padlock
Mrs H Cruikshank	100.00	Internal Audit
Manorwood Construction	192.00	Cart Shed
Nick Blunt Fencing	1,428.00	Coronation - Fencing
Bruce Wickham	800.00	Mowing (April/Sep)
Noah's Oak	6,000.00	Cart Shed - Carpentry Works

- (b) Tennis Club: The Clerk said she has still not heard back from the Tennis Club about payment. After a discussion it was agreed this will be £500. Mr Morgan-Grenville said if the Clerk sends him an invoice he will give it to Mr Bamber.

12. ENVIRONMENT AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Mr Morgan-Grenville reported on the following.

Mowers and Tractor: He has spoken with Bruce Wickham, the mowers are in need of a service which will cost about £600 and the tractor, which is old, requires a new battery. The Clerk said the tractor is not owned by the Parish Council, but by Ben Bryder, whose father loaned it to the Parish Council many years ago.

Sheds: Both sheds have been broken to, nothing taken but the padlocks broken. It was questioned who own the sheds, the Clerk to check the insurance.

(Clerk's Note: Both sheds are covered under the Parish Council's insurance.)

Cricket Square: There are two cricket matches booked this summer, Mr & Mrs Simon Knight have been very good in looking after it. Weed killer has not been used.

Swift and Martin boxes: There are none in Tillington or Upperton. Billingshurst and Wisborough Green are getting together to put some in gardens with the support of the Sussex Wildlife Trust and the South Downs National Park.

13. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mr ter Haar said there have been none of late. At Westbrook House he had noticed that the hedge had been cut back during the breeding season.

14. CART SHED

(a) Update on works: The Chairman said the skylights are in and the work on the roof is almost finished. They will be back on site today to carry out the cladding. There is about 3 further days of work, then the scaffolding will be down. As it was found the structure had moved an inspection had to be carried out by a Structural Engineer which had increased the cost.

(b) Future Use: Mr Morgan Grenville said it was felt it was best to continue as a parking place for cars rather than try to find an alternative use. The Chairman said he is working with Mr Morgan-Grenville and Mr ter Haar on a letter to send to those who park there, and a contract will be drawn up to run from 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2024. Councillors had previously been asked for ideas on how much to charge for a space, currently £129, a discussion took place, and it was finally agreed on £300 which will be increased by RPI each year. It was also suggested, until the take up is known, that there only be one car per household, but it was decided to wait and see who applies.

15. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

(a) Scanning and Archiving: Referring to the Council's papers and accounts Ms Connor said she had looked into the cost of Scanning and Archiving and she circulated details of two companies she had been in touch with. Once she has seen the Council papers and knows what is involved it was agreed she look into this further.

(b) Gym Equipment: Ms Connor says she has yet to look at the gym equipment in Brighton, Mr Morgan-Grenville suggested she also look at Easebourne, he understood there could be Trust funding available. The Chairman asked Ms Connor to look into potential external funding possibilities.

(c) Cemetery Lane: Ms Connor asked if, when there is a wedding in church, something could be done about parking in Cemetery Lane. It is chaos around Hill Top and extremely dangerous, more signs are needed. The Chairman said perhaps this is something our new District Councillor could be asked to look into, and also suggested that, when weddings are booked, the PCC be asked, as one of the conditions, to include where and when to park. It could also be asked to provide marshalls.

(d) Date of next Meeting: The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish. This will be held on Thursday 13th July on the Recreation Ground.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.