

TILLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, TILLINGTON ON THURSDAY 9TH MAY AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Mr T Compton (Chairman) Mrs A Lunt,
Mrs J Clevely, Mr R Morgan-Grenville.

Cllr J Duncton (County Councillor)
Cllr H Dessai (District Councillor)

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett.

The Chairman welcomed Sarah Francis and Gerald Gresham-Cooke to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were apologies from Mrs S Wickham, Mr C Drake, Ms M Connor, Mr R ter Haar and Mrs J Lowe.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr Compton was willing to continue as Chairman and, on a vote, he was unanimously elected.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr Morgan-Grenville was willing to continue as Vice-Chairman and, on a vote, he was unanimously elected.

4. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

(a) Cllr Duncton reported on the following.

Pot Holes: There are so many pot holes now that the time scale for repairing these is no longer achievable. Added to this are the slipped banks, fallen trees and blocked drains.

Grants: South Downs National Park has given out grants to Southdowns and to other transport groups.

Chief Executives: A new Chief Executive has been appointed by the County Council. Leigh Whitehouse is currently Deputy CEO at Surrey County Council and will start when he has completed his notice. South Downs National Park are now also in the process of appointing a new Chief Executive.

Trading Standards: The group who deal with trading standards has been busy and one trader, who had been previously fined for breaking regulations, has been caught for a second time.

Cemetery Lane Road Closure: The Chairman asked Cllr Duncton why a notice, with no prior communication, had been posted on the website incorrectly informing of the closure of Cemetery Lane. No work had been carried out and it had soon been removed. She said she knew nothing about it but will make inquiries. Mrs Francis raised the subject of the fallen wall, a discussion took place on the inconvenience this is causing residents and visitors alike and why this is taking so long to progress. Cllr Duncton will look into this further.

Barriers: Mrs Clevely asked Cllr Duncton if, as the work had been completed some time ago, she could arrange to have the barriers removed in River at Salmons Bridge. Cllr Duncton said she will do so.

(b) Cllr Dessai updated her report which had been previously circulated.

Clear Up Day: She will be there on Saturday to help and, while there, would very much like to be taken round the Parish.

Highways: In case anyone is interested, she has a new contact. The Chairman raised the Council's efforts to have a 30 mph limit on the A272 and, during the discussion that followed, Mr Morgan-Grenville spoke of the problems in getting any notices or speed restrictions in Upperton.

Petworth Library: She said to ensure Petworth library remains open she is asking residents of Tillington to join it, even if they won't use it very often. Mr Morgan-Grenville said he will ask Alex to send out his round robin email. Mrs Clevely asked how many hits there had been on the email, Mr Morgan-Grenville said he will find out.

5. TO ELECT COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

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 and Mrs Wickham Phone Boxes, Shelters, Seating Mr Drake Cart Shed The Chairman and Mr ter Haar

All to continue as at present.

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th March, having been circulated, it was proposed by Mr Morgan-Grenville, seconded by Mrs Clevely, that they be passed and signed.

7. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The subject raised had been covered under Item 4 (a)

9. FINANCE

(a) End of Year to 31st March 2024: The Clerk had previously circulated the accounts which included the Annual Audit Report. The Internal Auditor had picked up that she hadn't included the Post Office interest, this had increased the carry forward figure from £2,135 to £2,144. The Chairman went through the various papers, before signing the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statements. It was proposed by Mrs Lunt, seconded by the Chairman that the accounts be adopted. On a vote this was unanimously agreed. The Clerk will now send them to the External Auditor.

Balances at 31st March 2024

Current Account	469.23		
Deposit Account	<u>441.66</u>	910.89	
Post Office		<u>1,232.86</u>	£2,143.75

(b) Current Financial Situation: The Clerk had previously circulated the Current Financial situation. She said with a further £1,000 to go to TVHMC and £2,567.43 for the insurance, it was going to be tight until the second half of the Precept came in September, but there will some income from Pavilion bookings. There had also been £2,850 for the roller which had not been budgeted for.

Balances at 2nd May 2024

Current Account	279.99	
Deposit Account	<u>5,842.24</u>	£6,122.23

CHEQUES PAID FROM 1ST APRIL TO 9TH MAY 2024

SSE	19.98	Pavilion - Electricity
CDC	1,235.32	Emptying Dog and Waste Bins
AES	94.80	Pavilion - Fire Extinguishers
3 Parishes Magazine	300.00	Grant
All Hallows PCC	1,000	Grant
Mrs J Huggett	170.88	Salary, Expenses - Apr
Inland Revenue	438.00	PAYE - Jan/Feb/Mar
Bowling Baptist CC	3,280.00	Recreation Ground - Roller

SSE	5.82	Pavilion - Electricity
Parkfield Retail	53.56	Recreation Ground - cricket pitch
Business Stream	81.94	Recreation Ground - Water
Mrs H Cruickshank	100.00	Internal Audit
TVHMC	1,000.00	Loan Repayment

- (c) Insurance: The Clerk had contacted Zurich to see if the insurance premium could be paid by monthly installments but this was not possible. The Chairman said he had looked into alternative insurance, and asked the Clerk to renew with Zurich.

10. ENVIRONMENT AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Mr Morgan-Grenville reported on the following.

Phone Boxes: These will be left for the time being.

Benches: Most of these need sanding and sealing, he will see if he can get volunteers to carry this out.

Community Orchard: A sign, given by Mrs Lowe will be erected and rewilding will be carried out. The Chairman said he still has to sign the lease with the Leconfield Estates.

Cricket: With Petworth Cricket Club now using the ground there have been some double bookings which he is trying to sort out. A new roller is being purchased, the tractor has seen better days and is beyond servicing.

Recreation Ground: The yellow flowers which look like buttercups are, in areas, beginning to cover the ground and are need of spraying.

11. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mrs Lunt said there had been few plans of late. An application for The Larks in Westside had been withdrawn. Although the tree to be cut down at Tillington House had been agreed nothing had yet been done, she assumed this will need traffic lights and possibly a road closure.

12. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

- (a) Cricket match: The Chairman asked if the cricket match with the Horseguards is to take place. Mr Morgan-Grenville said he has to meet with Sam to discuss this. It's planned to hold it on the August Bank Holiday Monday. When confirmed he will go public.
- (b) Clerk: The Clerk said following her stay in hospital she is mindful of the fact she will not be as active as before and so will be standing down as Clerk. It is something she has thought about and feels, after 20 years, this is the right time for her to go. She will miss it very much but will stay on until her successor is appointed and, if required work with him/her during a change-over period. The

Chairman's said he was sorry to hear this and fully appreciated her reasons. He thanked her for all she done for the Council, this was endorsed by Councillors.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm.