



TINGEWICK PARISH COUNCIL  
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**TINGEWICK PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
TINGEWICK VILLAGE HALL  
7.30pm, THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Present:	Richard Fenemore	Chairman
	Pat Swinburne	Parish Councillor
	Trisha Lightfoot	Parish Councillor
	Ed Maxwell	Parish Councillor
	Samantha Chandler	Parish Clerk
Apologies:	Martin Hornsey	Vice Chairman
	Sara Churchfield	Parish Councillor
	Andrew Jenkinson	Parish Councillor
	Charlie Clare	County Councillor

In Attendance: 2 Members of the Public

**1. To approve the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Proposed: Cllr Swinburne                      Seconded: Cllr Maxwell                      Approved

**2. Matters arising from the minutes.**

None

**3. To receive the Annual Report of the Parish Council.**

Report received by Chairman Richard Fenemore

I would like to welcome you all to this year's parish assembly.

This year we managed to win Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village. For this we must thank Councillor Pat Swinburne for all her hard work and Mr Styles and his team for all their work. Bovis homes have now started building, so we will have the first instalment of the S106 money which is going towards buying the Recreation field and that is in the final stages of being purchased. The rest of the money is going towards the improvement of the village hall. Councillor Hornsey has had the Wi Fi installed in the village hall after Councillor Lightfoot had negotiated with the Village Hall Committee.

We now have a Tingewick boys football club which started this last season.

Councillor Lightfoot has arranged for a defibrillator to be installed in the village.

Another advert has gone out seeking volunteers to help with the neighbourhood plan.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the Councillors and Samantha for all their work over the past year.

**4. To receive the Financial Report of the Parish Council.**

The Clerk presented the years financial accounts.

The internal auditor has approved the Annual Return and it will be submitted to the external auditor.

Proposed: Cllr Maxwell                      Seconded: Cllr Lightfoot                      Approved

**5. To receive a report by the County Councillor.**

Apologies Received

**6. To receive a report by the District Councillor.**

None

**7. To receive a report from St Mary Magdalene Church**

Report submitted by A & L Houghton-Brown.

The Churchwarden's have enjoyed the help and cooperation of a large number of people to maintain this beautiful church and to prepare for services. Refreshments are usually offered at services, before, during or after, and we are very grateful to the people who organise that. The flower rota has enabled us to present the church appropriately and beautifully. We are very grateful to the flower arrangers. In an old building the cleaning is never easy. So we are especially grateful to those who help with that. Our resident organist Barbara Hood must be thanked for her selfless playing week on week which adds much to our devotions. Through all this we have been very amply supported by our secretary Jean Bone and also to all those who read lessons, help with collections, and act as sidemen.

As from April 2016, the Church has been opened daily during British Summer Time thanks to a willing band of keyholders who open and close the Church.

We are also extremely grateful to our anonymous Benefactors for their continued very generous financial support. Without their help the church could face closure.

The Churchwarden's have taken about a dozen services in the last twelve months and are grateful for the opportunity to do so. One Churchwarden is usually at Messy Church and this is an important part of our mission.

Services during this year have consisted of a monthly Village Worship taken by the Churchwardens, and a monthly Sunday@10 , and a Holy Communion service taken by The Rev. Liz Simpson. We have had 35 of these services with a total of 268 people which averages at 7 per service. Congregations have been and are poor and we need to look at how we can continue with our small, loyal band, and how we are to encourage our community to join us.

Over Christmas we welcomed over 200 people to our Carol Service, Crib Service and Midnight Service. Very uplifting, but where are they now?

Over Easter we shall have a Maundy Thursday service taken by Rev Ron Bundock and a Holy Communion on Easter Day.

We would like to thank The Rev. Ron Bundock who has taken a number of services, and the churchwardens would particularly like to thank Eleanor and Sara for taking their Village Worship services whilst they were away.

The Churchwarden's have organised two work parties in the churchyard during the year, with wonderful help from villagers, who have given of their time clearing sycamore and ash saplings, clearing ivy from graves and tombs to reveal ' a secret churchyard'! Special thanks to Richard and Alastair Fenemore for providing a trailer and helping to remove greenery etc. Another work party will take place this Saturday 8th April.

Additions to the church this year include a new front mat for the porch and a new inner mat. The church noticeboard has been replaced by a new smarter board and is in memory of Malcolm and Elsie Gasson whose legacy to the church enabled this to happen.

Mrs Woodward has paid for a bench to be installed in the churchyard in memory of her husband Wilf and son Brian. She can see it from her window and it brings her much joy.

Thank you to Jean Bone for chairing and hosting the fundraising meetings during the year, and to those on the committee and helpers who work so hard to raise money for the church. Now we need new blood, new energy and new ideas, for instance one New Forest church has a jigsaw puzzle day and raised over £3000!!

We are hoping to host an exhibition of Buckinghamshire clocks in the church to coincide with the National Heritage weekend in September. It will include a book launch for Tim Marshall's book on Buckinghamshire Clock and Watch Makers, and also help to establish the church as a community asset and not just a place of worship.

After an excessively long and expensive period of correspondence, a faculty has been granted to remove pews at the west end of the church and to level the floor there, by removing pew plinths. This will enable us to make greater use of the space in many ways. It seems likely that money for this will be granted by the County Council using S106 funds from the current Tingewick Park development by Bovis. These funds may also include a sum of money to purchase new stacking chairs. However, development of the site has been very slow and is way behind schedule.

The faculty also includes permission to repair the ceiling in the north west aisle.

AHB has met with Martin Hornsey who will manage the project, and who hopes to start after Easter with very kind offers of free timber and labour!

We asked John Collins to give a quote for upgrading our lighting, and all being well this will be done shortly.

Chris Carter is investigating new speakers for the organ as the present speakers are very loud for the back of the church.

LHB is also investigating the sound system that Turweston have with a view to having the same in Tingewick.

We hope during the year to ask for help in clearing the clock room in the Tower of accumulated rubbish.

Recently a letter from the Churchwardens was sent to members of the congregation and our helpers expressing thanks for all their help and support, but asking for help with regular jobs that need doing in and out of Church. We have been encouraged by the response and grateful to everybody for their continued support.

A welcome pack continues to be delivered to each family who moves into the village, and we pray that we may be able to serve at least a proportion of the new population. Thank you to Tricia Lightfoot who coordinates this.

Looking to the future, the pointing of the tower will have to be carried out and the remaining wooden pew plinths put in good order or removed.

Finally we would like to express our thanks to Chris Parsons, as Treasurer, Rev. Chris Carter whose experience and wisdom as a co-opted member of the PCC has been invaluable, and of course we cannot conclude without offering our grateful thanks to Rev. Liz Simpson for her services, encouragement and support.

### **8. To receive a report from the Tingewick Diamonds**

Report received by Rev C Carter

The group started 10yrs ago and is run by Carol Thurlby and Chris Carter. Membership is holding up and now comprises members from surrounding villages. There was an excursion yesterday where the group went to Bath and the next trip will be to Winchester.

### **9. To receive a report from the Civil Charities Commission**

Report received by Rev C Carter

Small local charity available to help Tingewick residents in time of need. It was created 1979 by the amalgamation of 3 smaller charities. Trustees invite written applications for assistance. The charity advertises once a year, usually before Christmas, in the Tingewick and District News and in The Links.

### **10. To receive a report from the Tingewick and District News.**

Report submitted by Maria Street

As everyone knows I took over from John Clucas in November 2016 and since then my main goal was to improve the appealing and readability of the magazine. By converting the printing in colour version I thought I could attract to more advertisers so I could include more pages and more information in the magazine. I am also trying to cover the interest of the villagers adding different articles and themes in the mag. Though I haven't had any feedback from anybody in the village I hope everyone appreciate the effort put into editing and organising the printing of the mag. I hope the Parish Council also supports the magazine with the annual contribution as budget it for, so I can allow more free space to non-for profit organisations in the village, without this financial contribution this won't be possible. Thank you everyone who has supported the magazine.

### **11. To receive a report from the Neighbourhood Watch.**

Report received by Mr E Maxwell

It's a low key organization with no formal no meetings. Mr Maxwell receives police alerts and submits them in the Tingewick and District News.

Crime stats for 2016-2017 are overall quite low with no antisocial behavior, bicycle theft, drug related offences, possession of weapons, public order, robbery or shoplifting. Only 21 cases in total, categorized as either violence and sexual offences, burglary, vehicle crime, theft or criminal damage and arson.

### **12. To receive a report from Roundwood School.**

Report submitted by Head Teacher, Mrs K Eales

Roundwood School continues to flourish. It is situated on two sites in Gawcott (Juniors 7-11 year olds) and Tingewick (Infants 4-6 year olds)

At present there are 167 on roll of which 71 are at the Tingewick site and 96 at the Gawcott site. This is an increase from the 2007 amalgamation number of 96 for both sites. The numbers of children at the school who are resident in the Tingewick & Westbury areas: 61

We continue to play an active part in village life taking part in the following:

- Harvest Festival – held at the school and then delivering the harvest boxes to residents of the village
- Entering the Horticultural Show
- Attending Tanders night, which followed the first Christmas Fair held at the school
- Visiting the church as part of the curriculum
- Liaising and working alongside Tingewick village pre-school and Manor Grove Montessori Nursery

Some of the activities the children have taken part in at school include:

- Mother's day tea party
- Hosting the Christmas fair
- Open day – open to all members of the community and beyond to continue to attract numbers for school places
- Visits to the library van when it is in the village
- Pirate day
- Remembrance day memories
- Regular assemblies led by Rev. Liz
- Supporting charitable events such as Children in Need and Sports Relief
- Demonstrations by Gawcott Bell Ringers
- Regular stay and play sessions for Foundation parents
- Safer internet day – awareness of cyber safety

**13. To receive a report from Tingewick Pre-School.**

None

**14. To receive a report from the Tingewick Village Hall Committee.**

Report submitted by Mr E. Maxwell. *Available for viewing on the Tingewick Village Hall website <http://www.tingewickvillagehall.org/>*

**15. To receive a report from the Tingewick Community Café**

Report submitted by Mrs F Marsden

The café has been extremely busy in the twelve months since the last AGM.

We are selling more cakes and drinks than ever before and as well as our loyal, regular customer base we seem to be attracting many people from the surrounding area and even the odd passer-by from other areas of the country.

Our take away trade has also increased considerably.

The new addition of wi-fi in the village hall has enabled a few customers to check their business emails at the café rather than leaving early and has, of course, been a boon for social media.

The café has stipulated that it was never the intention for the café to become an internet café, nor will it be. Our customers are too fond of chat and laughter for that to ever be the case!

The café also now hosts the monthly Village Hall Improvement Fund Draw.

This makes the draw more transparent, lends an air of excitement to the proceedings and self-advertises the fund resulting in people asking to join the draw rather than it having to be sold to them. A win-win situation!

Our support of the Village Hall continues with £5407 being donated since the last AGM and a total of £7641 since its inception in September 2015.

The café has also supplied a new microwave oven in the village hall kitchen for the use of hirers.

Our fundraising for the national charities has totalled £912, an increase on our first year of 60% (£572 LY) The individual charities received as follows:

£416 to Macmillan

£197 to Children in Need

£249 to Comic Relief

£50 towards the Parkinson's Awareness Day total of £209

We are still holding Spring and Christmas Craft Fair mornings, our next one being on the 19th of this month, the monthly 'Exchange Stage' providing second hand items, and regular seasonal themed mornings.

We are looking forward to the warmer weather when we can extend our tables into the car park as we did last summer with great success.

We are thrilled that the café has become such an important and appreciated part of Tingewick life and hope it continues well into the future.

#### **16. To receive a report from the Tingewick Historical Society.**

Report received by Mrs P Swinburne

The society has had a good year, with well attended, illustrated talks on a variety of historical subjects which will be continued through the coming year.

The events organizer has resigned due to her moving away from the Village.

3 new members have joined who have agreed to continue with the various functions which help the society run so efficiently.

The society has an excellent archival record of Tingewick Village and is happy to accept donations of any items that residents feel would be worth placing in the record books, many of which are on display at their meetings.

The society has a healthy bank balance due to the highly supportive membership.

The aims for the coming year are to maintain and possibly increase membership, to continue booking interesting speakers and talks and to preserve, if not improve on the bank balance.

Lastly, thanks went to all members of the committee.

#### **17. To receive a report from the Tingewick and Water Stratford Horticultural Society.**

Report received by Mrs P Swinburne

Over 2016 the society organised 12 events. Our regular Quiz and Supper night in February was so popular we had to stop taking bookings when we reached 80 people. Our annual Spring Show that year was well supported with a good number of entries and new exhibitors. Our annual Summer Show was also successful in that we had more entries than the previous year and again new exhibitors but wet weather meant fewer visitors. The Spring & Summer Garden competitions were reasonably well supported with 10 and 12 entries, respectively. We had a full coach of 50 for our trip to the Malvern Spring Show in May. We held our second Gardeners Swap Day in September which was well attended and as a consequence is likely to become an annual event. Around a dozen people went to Preston Bissett Nurseries for a winter basket workshop in October and our ever-popular Christmas Wreath Workshop in December was fully booked. All in all, the events we organized were generally well supported by members and non-members alike. The 2017 events list is printed on the reverse of the membership cards for ease of reference.

The membership in 2016 stood at 114, very similar to the figures for 2014 and 2015 however prior to that, membership had been around 130-140 and it would be good to return to that level again. We have given information about the society to Tingewick Parish Council for inclusion in the Welcome Pack to be given to residents of the new housing estate, which may help to attract some new members.

We have a good relationship with the three local gardening businesses, Twiggs Nurseries, Preston Bissett Nurseries and Buckingham Garden Centre, who are always willing to advertise our shows, offer discounts to members and provide garden competition judges when requested. We also display information about their events in return. We advertise our two annual shows for several weeks on screen at the Film Place and the Buckingham Garden Centre. We are presently discussing ways of consistently getting information about our events to those members with no access to email or who live outside of Tingewick and Water Stratford.

The society has managed to retain a healthy bank balance to date but from this year we will incur substantial extra costs for marquees at our Summer Show as we will have to pay the

full rate to an external company rather than the well discounted rate kindly offered previously by a local company.

To date in 2017 we have held a very successful Curry Night in February and a very popular Cheese and Wine Tasting following on from our AGM in March. We held our annual Spring Show in April which had a reasonable number of entries. However, many of our older, long standing exhibitors are sadly no longer able to exhibit so we need to find ways of attracting new exhibitors. We had 10 entries in this year's Spring Garden competition.

Our aims for this year are: To at least maintain but endeavor to increase our membership. To ensure all members are kept fully informed of our events. To maintain a workable bank balance despite various extra costs we are incurring.

Thanks must go to all our members and helpers at our events whose continued support is very much appreciated.

#### **18. To receive a report from the Whist Drive**

Report submitted by Mr H Taylor

During 2016 we averaged 5 tables (20 people) at our monthly Whist Drives. The price to play is still £3 which includes £1 for a raffle ticket and tea and biscuits in the interval. New players are always welcome. Only one player lives in Tingewick. From the proceeds we were able to give £50 to Tingewick Village Hall and £50 to the League of Friends on Buckingham Hospital.

#### **19. To receive a report from the Tingewick Patchers**

Report submitted by Mrs R Stuchbury

We have 33 members and are a very active group. We made £1,300 at the exhibition on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017, giving £650 to Great Ormans Hospital for Children, £162 each to Bucks Carers, Car Ambulance, Young Carers, North Bucks Carers and The Moving On Group.

#### **20. To receive a report from the Tingewick Bell Ringers**

None

#### **21. To receive a report from the Tingewick Line Dancers**

None

#### **22. To receive a report from the Tingewick Rainbows**

None

#### **23. To receive a report from the Tingewick Scouts.**

None

#### **24. To receive a report from the Tingewick Football Club**

None

#### **25. To receive a report from the Tingewick Walkers**

Report submitted by H. Kewish

Over the past year the group has walked an average five miles a month, making an approximate total of sixty miles. They have covered interesting parts of the local countryside, in Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire. In January 2016, and in cold, wet and windy conditions, they went to Caldecott Lake and found lots of amusement on the exercise machines that were set at intervals on the footpaths. Again, in February, the wet conditions prevailed and someone's boot was almost swallowed up in the mud in a walk that took place around Akeley and Maids Moreton. However, by March, things were looking up. Deddington was the destination and leaving the town to the west the footpath first of all gave spectacular views across a valley, descended to an ancient wood and continued along a circular route back to The beginning. In April there was a walk round the Tusmore Estate

to admire the bluebells. In May, unfortunately, another walk was done in torrential rain and strong winds. Setting out from The Three Locks Pub in Stoke Hammond, the path led through fields of buttercups and long grass, over small streams and spinneys and through the Rushmore Country Park on the edge of Leighton Buzzard.

In June the walk was at Bugbroke in Northamptonshire, going along the Grand Union Canal for a short distance before turning up on to fields and spending the rest of the time scything through long grass, which was at its most prolific due to the time of year. Gentle hills were climbed and then a descent to a welcome meal in the local pub.

There was one walk, starting off from Hethe and taking in part of the Tusmore Estate, that was particularly enjoyable with the warm July weather, the gentle terrain and the excellent food at The Muddy Duck afterwards.

In August the walk took place along the canal at Lower Heyford before venturing out on to open fields and a hill. Reaching the summit, suddenly in view was a mammoth structure right on the brow of the hill. This was an amazing folly and a ready-made photo shoot. Lunch was at Kizzie's Bistro, Heyford Lock.

In September it was time to go south to Quanton, parking on the green and setting forth from there on a circular walk. This proved to be a challenge, hills to be climbed and eventually cattle to be encountered. The leader that day proved to be a hero, holding the cattle back while the group walked on unmolested.

October was at Beachampton, an easy and enjoyable route with distant views of the outskirts of Milton Keynes. Lunch was at The Bell.

In November, on a frosty and bright sunny day, the chosen paths were taken from the Great Ouse car park near Wolverton. The walk went over fields to the Buckingham Arm of the Grand Union Canal. From there it skirted a nature reserve, with a brief visit inside to see the wildlife in the wetland areas. There was a Motte and Bailey settlement to look at, which was an interesting focal point.

The last Tuesday in December was left free because of the proximity of Christmas and the New Year. This now brings us up to January 2017, where another visit was made to Stoke Hammond and the Rushmore Country Park. In February a walk was arranged from the village of Gayton in Northamptonshire, a combination of field and canal footpaths. In March the group was organised to go from Bugbroke to Bladon in Oxfordshire, taking in a view of Blenheim Palace on the way and passing through the churchyard where Winston Churchill is buried. Lastly, the April walk went from Winslow to Addington for a distance of four and a half miles, a relatively easy and cattle-free meander.

The walks are organised by volunteers within the group and transport is provided.

**26. To receive a report from any other local organisations.**

None

Meeting officially closed at 20:45