

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of Tingewick Parish Council held at Tingewick Village Hall on Thursday 6th February 2020 at 7.30pm.

Members of the public in attendance: 0

Apologies: Cllr Richard Fenemore, Cllr Martin Hornsey and County Cllr Charlie Clare.

481 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr MacGarvey declared an interest in item 489a due to involvement with Tingewick Football Club.

482 Minutes: To consider the approval of the minutes of the last meeting held 09-01-2020.

Proposed: Cllr Newman Seconded: Cllr MacGarvey APPROVED

OPEN FORUM – *No residents in attendance.*

483 County Councillor's Report

Not in attendance – apologies received – no updates.

484 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Fealey has been flat out in meetings recently, for the unitary council, he reminds that Thursday 7th May 2020 is election day and the count will be held on Saturday 8th May 2020 in Aylesbury. As well as the unitary elections, there are also the Town & Parish Council elections and Police & Crime Commissioner elections happening on May 7th. The counting will be done on the Friday and Monday, respectively.

In the interim period, until the beginning of April, the existing 149 councillors will continue in their duties, then at a later date the boundaries will be re-evaluated.

AVDC has been doing some work with rough sleepers and secured £267,000 of funding which helped about 90 clients to get off the streets and properly settled; this is the third year this has happened and the initiative will be taken forward into the new unitary council.

There has now been another six-week consultation period for the VALP; 850 individual representations were collated into 140 subject areas and each will have to be responded to before it goes back to the Inspector. It is anticipated this will be done by the first week in March 2020 which means it won't be completed by the time the new unitary council is created, so it will continue into the new unitary council; each district works towards their own Local Plan and at some stage in the future they will come to create a unitary Local Plan.

The VALP consists of two committees for Planning so they can focus on the VALP for this area with neighbourhood plans etc, while other districts only have one committee as the volume is lower. Because it already has strength to it, the VALP is being used to adjudicate plans.

One key issue this year: Planning. There has been a huge volume of applications and high staff turnover but AVDC has had a real push on it as there was a large backlog. They are catching up now and also recruiting, going to universities and taking apprentices on.

While they have always met government targets (70% of applications to be seen to within eight weeks) AVDC fell short of its own internal targets (Minor applications have a rate of only 55% being seen to within timescale)

There has been an overall reduction in complaints; in August 2019 there was 60 and in November 2019 there were only ten.

The Milton Keynes Draft Strategy 2050 has gone ahead, which included provision for 7,500 new homes in Winslow. When read, the draft strategy sounds like AVDC are in agreement with the strategy but they are not; the government provided funding for Local Authorities to work together to

look at areas for future growth, AVDC withdrew from the talks with MK and are contesting the documents that make it look as though they are still involved.

East West Rail next phase has been approved and will be going ahead.

Cllr Lightfoot asked advised that the PC is still waiting on a decision regarding the planning application for the rec ground but has been notified that one of the conditions from the Highways Team is for a footpath to be constructed on Water Stratford Road for access to the rec ground. This would be very costly and would result in there not being enough funding left to construct the MUGA. Cllr Fealey advised that it may be possible for the construction of the footpath to be moved to later in the build programme but permission would need to be gained for this to happen. Cllr Lightfoot asked Cllr Fealey for assistance in seeking this permission and asked if he was able to encourage the AVDC Planning department to look at the whole project in a rather more supportive way given it is a village project which is trying to offer more facilities for its residents; there is play equipment already in situ that we are trying to improve in the first phase.

485 Matters Arising:

- *Open Forum – December 2018: Pinch-Point*

Per the original agreement, Bovis will be removing the pinch-point from its current location and moving it closer to the entrance of the Village. TPC agreed to alter the agreement for it to be removed and not replaced in the proposed new location. The Tingewick Park Residents Association would like the pinch-pint to be moved to the new location and not removed altogether however they recognise that this may cause issues for larger vehicles to manoeuvre through, particularly if the bypass is closed and diversions are in place through the village.

Action: Clerk to contact Steve Essam from BCC about the location and again request what would be required for a small roundabout instead at the junction of Toll Gate Street.

Clerk advised that the response is still a firm “No” for a roundabout due to planning and funding however Cllr Clare will be arranging for assessors from the Highways Department to visit the site and then advise whether the new position is viable as per the concerns raised.

- *Item 413 – Councillors Reports, Cllr Newman: Buckingham Street footpath*

Cllr Hornsey advised that he was stopped in the street by a resident recently who reported that a lady was injured due to a fall in Buckingham Street caused by the uneven footpath surface.

Clerk advised that this was reported and a response was received from TfB claiming the footpath surface was reviewed and deemed to pose no obvious hazard.

Clerk has already re-reported the footpath and it is now awaiting further review.

Clerk advised that she has not had any further contact from TfB about the footpath but will continue to chase them for a response.

Clerk advised that TfB have said that repairs will be carried out “when capital funds are made available” but that they will be keeping an eye on dangerous defects via reports on the Fix My Street portal; www.fixmystreet.com

The Road Surface of Buckingham Street has been assigned to the Asset Management Team at BCC for resurfacing and this has been scheduled for 2023, being monitored in the interim for dangerous defects via the Fix My street portal.

Stockleys Lane footpaths were recently repaired / patched.

The Structures Team at BCC will be carrying out some further investigatory work on Gorrell Lane following which we should be provided with an actual date for the repair works to be carried out.

- *Item 444 – Tingewick Park Border*

BCC has said the area around the entrance of Tingewick Park near the ditch / drainage was devolved to PC responsibility but the PC has no record of this and has not maintained the area previously. AVDC believe the area to be the responsibility of BCC.

The Chair of the Tingewick Park Residents Association has helped with this by liaising with BCC and the Tingewick Park Management Company. It has been clarified that the area of land on the Tingewick Park side of the ditch is the responsibility of the Management Company however the

area of land on the road side of the ditch is still unknown whose responsibility that is; the PC argue that despite BCC claiming it was devolved to the PC, the PC has not done anything to maintain the area, yet it has still been maintained, therefore BCC must still have it on their schedule for grass cutting etc.

Cllr MacGarvey advised that he had spoken with the gardeners; he approached them as they were trimming the hedge on the right hand side of Tingewick Park, which is not included in their contract as that area is the responsibility of BCC. They explained that they were doing it due to being scratched by the overgrown hedges when they were moving the grass in that location. Clerk to pass this information to Cllr Clare to make sure that BCC is aware of the health and safety risk to others when they do not maintain the area they are responsible for.

Cllr Fenemore advised that the ditch is full on the other side of Gawcott Road. As it is the responsibility of BCC to maintain it, Clerk will report it.

Clerk advised the ditch was checked and reported, when checked again it was clear and running. Clerk has contacted Cllr Clare about the land ownership and health and safety risk to the gardeners and is awaiting a response.

- *Item 453: Councillors Reports – Roads*

Cllr Maxwell advised the salt bin at the top of Strangers Lane has been badly damaged and will need to be replaced.

Action: Clerk to contact AVDC about whether this will be replaced by them or if the PC will need to purchase a replacement.

Clerk was advised by AVDC that all requests must be received in writing and was provided a postal address. A letter has been sent requesting the salt bin be replaced.

Still no update at this time, though it was noted that the existing service providers contract is expiring and AVDC are taking the service “in-house” in April, so it may not be actioned until then.

- *Item 477: Councillors Reports – Street Furniture*

It was agreed that planter boxes will be made for the entrances to the village in place of the tyre that was removed – Cllr Hornsey to source materials.

Cllr Lightfoot to contact the supplier of Bee Bombs to enquire about the possibility of a discount for a bulk purchase of the wildflower seed bombs.

Cllr Newman has sourced a local craftsman who can build the planter boxes at a lower price than the PC has previously been quoted – it was unanimously agreed to commission two boxes to start. Clerk advised that she has been in contact with Twigs Nurseries and they will be generously donating some flowers for the PC to plant in the boxes.

Cllr Lightfoot advised she has had some difficulty in sourcing the wildflower seeds that were agreed but has received a quote from the Bee-Bomb company for £200 for 900 bombs which will cover a 30sqm area. Proposed: Cllr Newman Seconded: Cllr MacGarvey APPROVED
Cllr Lightfoot to order the Bee-Bombs.

486 Planning

20/00304/APP – TINGEWICK, Wood Cottage Barton Road: Single storey link extension between main house and existing outbuilding and detached garage with office and gym over, single storey link - **No Objection**

487 Accounts

To consider list of payments as presented to the meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Swinburne Seconded: Cllr Maxwell APPROVED

488 Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda

For each Councillor to report matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda, to agree urgent actions and to raise items for future agendas.

- Cllr Lightfoot – Street Lighting.

All in order – replaced the lamp head on the light at Hickmans Close recently.

- Cllr Hornsey – Playgrounds, Footways and Street Furniture.

Not in attendance – apologies received – no updates.

Cllr Maxwell advised that he has reported the Westwell Close road sign to AVDC as it is tilted and rotting and noted that several others around the village are also in need of attention including the Water Stratford Road sign that is covered in lichen, the Stockleys Lane sign that is almost unreadable and some that have been hit by cars – he will report these also.

Cllr Lightfoot advised that there is a load of fly tipping on Gawcott Road past the Clarks' farm – Cllr Maxwell will report this to AVDC.

- Cllr Swinburne – Cemetery, Grass Cutting and Special Projects.

All in order; the grass at the Cemetery is beginning to grow will need a haircut soon.

- Cllr Fenemore – Recreation Ground.

Not in attendance – apologies received – no updates.

- Cllr Maxwell – Roads

A couple of potholes that were reported have been repaired.

A pothole on West Well Close was reported however residents filled it with gravel and it was then rejected by the Fix My Street assessors for not meeting criteria. Can residents please not fill potholes; while it may be a short-term solution it is not ideal and can prevent proper repair work from being done.

In general, the roads are bad with edges breaking up. Cllr Maxwell feels there are some merits to reporting defects regularly to highlight the problem areas and invites other residents to do the same via the Fix My Street portal; www.fixmystreet.com

- Cllr Newman – Footpaths and Pond

Nothing new to report.

Cllr Maxwell advised that the pond outlet grill is blocked with reeds – Cllr Lightfoot will instruct the grounds maintenance contractor to clear it.

- Cllr MacGarvey – Planning.

Nothing new to report.

489 Correspondence

- a) Donation Request

Tingewick Football Club have contacted the PC / Fete Committee with a request for a donation of £400 toward equipment required due to the expanding club.

Unanimously agreed.

490 Tingewick Community Park Trust Update (standing item)

Still waiting for planning.

Green tokens at Waitrose – after quite a few discussions and a bit of a wait, the scheme will be up and running in Waitrose Buckingham for the month of February 2020. So, if you are shopping in town and get a green token please put it into the appropriate box at check out and help support your local village's Recreation Fund.

491 Tingewick Civil Charities

Clerk presented information from the Tingewick Civic Charities about how it was founded and is run with a request for the PC to take it onboard and relieve the current trustees.

It was agreed that further discussions will need to take place before a decision can be made.

Clerk to contact trustees to arrange a time to meet and discuss.

492 Emergency Plan Phase Two

It was agreed that Cllr Newman and Cllr Hornsey will meet to collate and draft the second phase of the Emergency Plan before presenting to the PC.

Clerk to follow up with Mr Shaw from BCC who offered to advise, for feedback on the first phase of the Emergency Plan.

493 Date of next Meeting:

The next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed for Thursday 5th March 2020 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed: 21:05