

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of TINGEWICK PARISH COUNCIL
held remotely on **Thursday 1st April 2021 at 7.30pm.**

Apologies: Cllr Charlie Clare, Cllr Pat Swinburne and Cllr Richard Fenemore.

653 Declarations of Interest: None

654 Minutes: To consider the approval of the minutes of the last meeting held 04-03-2021
Proposed: Cllr Newman Seconded: Cllr Maxwell **APPROVED**

OPEN FORUM:

Mr Martin Boyle joined the meeting to talk about the basketball hoops at the Recreation Ground, he explained that the main problem is the backboard for the hoop at the tarmac end of the pitch is damaged and making it unusable and that unfortunately the hoop that is usable is at the end of the pitch that does not have a tarmac ground; it is grassy and bumpy.

Cllr Lightfoot explained the plans for the new Rec Ground facilities.

All present agreed to replace the broken backboard.

Action: Clerk to contact Wickstead to ask why this was never raised during the annual playground inspections and arrange a quote for a replacement.

655 Unitary Authority Councillor's Reports

Cllr Fealey spoke of the planning application for Wood Lane, which he acknowledged everyone was aware of.

Cllr Fealey will be sending out information for HS2, particularly about the work at Finmere Bridge.

A lot of large, illuminated signs are going up in key places, cameras are also going up to make sure HS2 and EWR HGV's are not going down the wrong route, the vehicles have trackers as well.

Cllr Fealey noted that the next PC meeting is 13th May and the election will be in between, on 6th May. He said that he hopes to see everyone in the new year and it has been a pleasure working with the PC.

Cllr Stuchbury also spoke about the Wood Lane application and that he made officers aware it is a historical application; they said they were aware of the history.

Cllr Stuchbury has been corresponding with the chairman in matters relating to works undertaken to do with the flooding; there is still much to do.

Cllr Stuchbury feels that Tingewick fits in with the Greater Ouse Valley Scheme and will pass on contact details to Cllr Lightfoot as it may be appropriate for the Tingewick pond.

Regarding elements of planning; Cllr Stuchbury attended the audit committee where Legal Officer, Nick Graham, informed him that after they made the decision to support changes in constitution as a result of a motion he took to Buckinghamshire Council, where Parish Councils will have their right back to call applications in to Planning without relying on Buckinghamshire Councillors to do that. It will be on the Agenda on the 21st and hopefully receives support from a majority of Councillors.

Cllr Stuchbury will be going to Council with a couple of motions; one regarding Elderly Care and one regarding a concern he talked to Council Leader, Martin Tett about at Cabinet, regarding reservations about the Cambridge Arc. While the Government has reversed its decision on the expressway the Arc is still a threat as it is a large area and the way the scheme works is if Buckingham stayed in the scheme we could have been out-voted.

Cllr Stuchbury made a complaint about the way information was put together and feels that development should be sustainable.

The Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan is still going through stages of consultation. Cllr Stuchbury believes the fault with that plan is lack of affordability of houses, with only 25% being affordable homes where in Wycombe it is 40% but we have the most growth.

Looking seriously at how they look at Council Housing, affordable housing and other accommodation – this is an expensive area to live in.

Cllr Stuchbury reminded that the election is soon; you will have various leaflets etc through your door. Hopefully the new Council will be able to meet physically.

Cllr Stuchbury advised that the Fire authority is not financially resilient; they have no reserves now and if the Government does not act in a cooperative manner there will be a referendum for a council tax rise. He reminded that the Social Care precept is 9.6% of council tax, which was introduced as a temporary measure for austerity but has now become 10% of your council tax and is growing. He does not believe residents can sustain that.

656 Matters Arising:

- *Item 615 – Tree Planting Project.*

Cllr Lightfoot advised that tree numbers and locations were decided.

Action: Clerk to complete the Cultivation Licence application.

Clerk advised that the Cultivation Licence does not seem applicable to the PC and has asked Cllr Clare for help navigating this with the forms.

Cllr Lightfoot advised that planting will now take place possibly after Easter due to the charity being overwhelmed with requests and Covid restrictions meaning the number of volunteers is limited.

- *Item 635 Councillors Reports: Village Duck Pond.*

Cllr Fenemore has been in contact with a pumping engineer contact who has the necessary equipment and is coming to the village to have a look; we await his comments and quote.

The underground pipe from the pond to the grid and onto the culvert is also to be inspected and cleaned once the water level drops enough to allow safe access.

Action: Cllr Newman to create a leaflet to be distributed around the village, informing residents of the works that are needed and asking for help with the cost.

Cllr Lightfoot advised that there is a meeting with River Thame Conservation Trust next Friday 9th April who may be able to help and offer other alternatives to ideas about the reinstatement of the pond behind our existing duck pond. Although the land there is all privately owned by a local farming family, the same process in advising of any alteration intent and associated permissions still has to be observed. This then ensures everything is being done in the correct way.

Regarding the duck pond, given it has been in situ over 30 years with no cleaning or maintenance during that time, dredging was suggested. However, any extracted water and silt has to be taken away for disposal, this requires a licence and there is a cost for disposal. Plus, if any stones or rocks are disturbed during the silt removal process and the liner is damaged in any way a new replacement would be circa £10k.

So, another option suggested is to replace the underground outlet pipe from the pond to the culvert plus the addition of a grille pond side, to stop debris blocking the outlet and slowing down the waters exit flow. This would cost in the region of £2,500 plus any removal costs for the spoil removal.

Cllr Hornsey does not think a new pipe is necessary stating that the existing size of the pipe is more than adequate to cope with the normal movement of water. Adding even if the pond levels were a foot higher than they normally are, the water excess would still be able to reach the open grille in the grass and through that be able to flow down and away via the culvert.

Cllr Lightfoot was keen to record that as a PC we must make some remedial actions to the pond given how it flooded on the 23rd Dec, and asked that we still have a metal grille fitted to the pond side outlet pipe to prevent any future blockages from happening underground. The water reeds are to be removed as their leaves may cause those blockages and 2 sets of waders are to be purchased for 2 willing PC volunteers to clear it all out ...this will become an annual maintenance job.

All agreed .

Action: Cllr Lightfoot to obtain a quote for the metal grill only.

Action: Cllrs Lightfoot, Hornsey and Newman to meet at the pond Friday and check the water level and the inlet pipe for signs of debris and order the waders

- *Item 635 Councillors Reports: School Clock.*

Cllr Maxwell advised that the clock was repaired, however it stopped again overnight. Further repairs have been arranged for tomorrow.

Cllr Maxwell that despite getting the clock going for a second time, it then stopped again overnight. He believes an electrician will need to look at it as it has an electric motor.

Action: Cllr Maxwell to pass on the Clerks details to the repairer so they can directly coordinate this.

- *Item 648 Councillors Reports: Street Lighting*

A suggestion has been made to replace three old lights: Corner West Well & Back Lane / Old Bakery / Inside West Well Close. Action: Cllr Lightfoot to obtain prices.

Cllr Lightfoot advised that the lighting column at the top of the footpath on Gorrell Lane is not working; a technician attended but the lamp's motor has burnt out so it also needs a new head. The new heads are £220 each plus VAT.

Proposed: Cllr Newman Cllr Hornsey APPROVED

Action: Cllr Lightfoot to check with nearby residents that they are happy with a new lamp being fitted, which will be brighter than the old ones currently in situ.

- *Item 648 Councillors Reports: Roads*

Action: Cllr Maxwell to chase TfB about the manhole cover in front of the school that has been reported for repair.

Cllr Maxwell advised that the repairs have been completed.

- *Item 648 Councillors Reports: Footpaths*

Cllr Newman advised that some of the slabs along Gorrell Lane, further up from the area recently repaired, have started slipping; though they have been sandbagged the earth is sliding from above the sandbags. Photos of the area of concern have been sent to TfB

Action: Cllr Maxwell to raise with TfB the unsafe slabs along Gorrell Lane.

Cllr Maxwell advised that there is currently no funding available for these repairs as the funds for the other repair works carried out recently came from Cllr Clare's discretionary pot which he no longer has.

Cllr Maxwell advised that Paul Foot, from TfB was going to come out to inspect the area.

Action: Cllr Maxwell to follow up with Paul Foot / TfB.

- *Item 648 Councillors Reports: Footpaths*

A resident reported a broken gate at the junction of Tin22, 23, 24 and 25.

The PC noted that gates and styles on Public Rights of Way are the responsibility of the landowner to maintain. Action: Cllr Newman to ascertain the details of the landowner and advise them that the gate needs to be repaired.

Action: Cllr Hornsey to take a look at the gate to ascertain how it is broken.

- *Item 648 Councillors Reports: Footpaths*

A resident reported multiple footpaths that are overgrown and in need of maintenance.

Action: Cllr Newman to check all the footpaths listed and explore what works need to be carried out.

Tin25 – Cllr Hornsey advised that this footpath has always been a bit tricky in places but that it is due to the lie of the land; it is a rural footpath, not a pavement.

Action: Cllr Hornsey to check the footpath again.

Tin38 – will be checked again at the weekend.

Tin6 – being an issue with the styles, the landowner will need to be notified.

Action: Cllr Lightfoot will ask Cllr Fenemore if he knows who the landowner is.

657 Planning

21/00887/PIP - TINGEWICK, Land At Wood Lane Cottage Upper Street

Permission in Principle - erection of three dwellings. – PC objection was submitted on 26-03-2021

21/00731/APP – TINGEWICK, 22 St Marys Court
Single storey rear extension. – NO OBJECTION

658 Accounts

To consider the list of payments as presented to the meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Lightfoot Seconded: Cllr Hornsey APPROVED

659 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 & Defibrillator.

Nothing new to report apart from the matters discussed above.

All in order with the defibrillator.

- Cllr Hornsey – Playgrounds, Footways and Street Furniture.

Nothing new to report apart from the matters discussed above.

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

Clerk advised that a request for information has been received from the Valuation Office Agency of HM Revenue & Customs, which will be completed when the Annual Return has been completed.

- Cllr Fenemore – Recreation Ground.

Cllr Lightfoot spoke with Cllr Fenemore prior to the meeting for an update; the hedges at the rec have been cut, Cllr Hornsey has fixed the roof of the changing rooms and installed a heater to keep the frost off, the track has been sprayed for weeds and widened and the trim trail equipment is all in good working order.

- Cllr Maxwell – Roads.

It was good to see the Buckinghamshire Council tarmac crew in the village today; potholes have been patched at the big roundabout, near the pond and toward Water Stratford. The crew also went through Water Stratford village as well and up to Finmere.

A light out on the roundabout at the pond was reported and fixed within the week.

- Cllr Newman – Footpaths and Pond.

Nothing new to report apart from the matters discussed above.

660 Correspondence

- A)** Upper Street pavement.

Cllr Maxwell will go and visit the resident and talk to them about their letter.

- B)** Recreation Ground basketball hoop

Discussed in Open Forum.

661 Tingewick Community Park Trust Update (standing item)

Nothing new to report at this time.

662 Date of next Meeting:

The next Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 29th April 2021 at 7.30pm.

The next Annual Parish Council Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for Thursday 13th May 2021 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed: 21:40