

TOLLESHUNT KNIGHTS PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Remote Meeting held on 21.12.2020

PRESENT:

CHAIR – COUNCILLOR D TUNGATT

VICE CHAIR – COUNCILLOR M PORTER

COUNCILLORS MR COOK, MRS DENNIS, MR LONG AND MRS THOMPSON

The Parish Clerk Miss Banyard

Four members of the public were in attendance.

To receive questions/enquiries from members of the public, to receive an answer at an appropriate time in the agenda.

Members of the public raised concerns about the application for Ambergate Farm Blind Lane (below). It was reported that one caravan is already on site, and that works have been carried out without planning permission. Councillor Mrs Thompson advised that she has called the application in for consideration at the NW planning committee.

3095/01 To receive apologies for absence, other announcements and Declarations of Interest from Members on any of the agenda items set out below.

There were no apologies for absence.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3096/01 To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary remote meeting held on 16.11.2020.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above Minutes.

3098/01 To receive information on matters contained in the above Minutes.

No issues were raised.

3099/01 Planning

a. To receive decisions by Maldon District Council. The following were noted:

HOUSE/MAL/20/01004	Meadow View Brook Road Tiptree	Roof extension to existing hipped bungalow with new sliding doors Approved
FUL/MAL/20/01028	Community of St John the Baptist The Old Rectory Rectory Road Tolleshunt Knights	Extension to car park Approved

b. New planning applications. The following was considered:

20/01100FUL – Ambergate Farm Blind Lane Tolleshunt Knights

The use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes for 1no. traveller pitch together with the retention and addition of hard standing, utility/day room and use of existing buildings as ancillary stables

It was **RESOLVED** to object to this application on the following grounds:

- This is not a sustainable form of development as the site is remote from essential services and facilities and with poor connections to those services by way of sustainable

means of transport. The application seeks to show that there is access to local facilities via an unsurfaced public right of way to the nearest bus stop which has a very limited bus service, and that (very unrealistically) it is an 8 minute cycle ride to the centre of Tiptree. It is stated that the applicants wish to move to this site “due to their age” and they would find themselves socially isolated if they relied on public transport to access the nearest facilities.

- The site lies outside the settlement boundary of Tolleshunt Knights.
- The buildings previously on this site were in a ruinous state and in fact unrecognisable as such. The applicant has already carried out work on this site without planning permission – modifying the entrance into Blind Lane, erecting fencing and installing a large area of hard standing, and the Parish Council believes that this needs to be dealt with as an enforcement issue.
- The use of the site for a traveller pitch and mobile home would result in a detrimental visual impact on the intrinsic character and beauty of the site and the wider countryside.
- The Parish Council is aware that there are already two other traveller sites within a 3 miles of this site (Kelvedon Road Tiptree and Horseshoes Tolleshunt D’Arcy., and questions the need for a new site at Ambergate.
- The narrow lanes adjacent to this site would be unsuitable for access by large vehicles/caravans/mobile homes.

- c. To receive any updates on planning enforcement issues.
Meadow Nursery Park Lane – this is ongoing (19/00225/BC)
Caravan at 26 Top Road – this is ongoing (20/00131/CU)
No updates have been received.
- d. To consider any other planning issues.
Nothing was raised

3100/01 To consider any items of correspondence received or reports from the clerk
There was nothing to consider.

3102/01 To consider any highways issues including:
Trucam patrol report – no details have been received.
It was noted that Highways has marked out potholes in Tudwick Road for repair work.
Flooding in the area of Layer Brook. The recent flooding was due to the volume of water and faults in the pumping station. These have now been repaired and various drains have been jetted.

3103/01 To consider any issues concerning public rights of way.
No particular issues were reported but it was noted that the paths are very muddy, especially the one from Park Lane towards Factory Hill.

3104/01 Report of the Road Safety Officer.
No issues were raised.

3105/01 Report of the Press Officer.
No issues were raised.

3106/01 Report of the Village Hall Management Committee representative.

The VHMC remains concerned at the lack of volunteers to serve on the committee and it is intended to leaflet the village asking for support. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council will support this initiative.

3107/01 To receive the financial statements and to authorise accounts for payment.

- a. The financial statements were approved.
- b. It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the following payments:

V Banyard	Salary + expenses Dec	£ 250.40
HMRC	Clerk's tax Dec	£ 59.71
Zoom Video Communications	Monthly Zoom fee	£ 14.39
JRB Enterprises	Dog bin bags	£ 33.78
ICO	Data Protection Fee	£ 40.00

3108/01 To consider the setting of the budget for the year ending 31.3.2022

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the draft budget as set out by the budget working party.

- b. To set the precept for the year ending 31.3.2022. It was **RESOLVED** to set the precept at £10,000.

3109/01 To consider any issues concerning the playing field, Village Hall car park and CCTV system.

a. Repair work to the play area fence. Two quotes were considered and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote of £565 as given by Bonz. The Parish Council will ask that the work is completed in early March so that the Locality Fund grant can be claimed in the current financial year. Bonz will be asked to let the Council know when the work is to be done so that the Play Group can be advised.

b. To receive reports on the use of the playing field for football club practice/matches.

It appears that Tiptree Heath FC no longer requires use of the field for matches.

c. Nothing further has been heard from the VHMC concerning structural cracks in the building.

e. Any other issues.

Memorial bench and plaques for Mrs Sheila Hillen and Mr French. The cost of one bench with a ground anchor is £377.49 and the brass plaques are £34.50 each. Wording for the plaques was discussed and agreed. The VHMC will be asked if they intend to share the costs, and Councillor Mr Cook will lay the base for the bench.

3110/01 To set the date for the Council's January meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to set the date for the next meeting at 18.1.2021. It was noted that advice from the NALC continues to be that meetings should be held remotely for the immediate future.

3111/01 To consider other items of information for inclusion on a future agenda.

No issues were raised.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.48 pm.