

TOLLESHUNT MAJOR PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 2nd November 2021 in St Nicholas Hall Tolleshunt Major

Present:

Chair – Councillor T Payne
Councillors M Coster, K Neath and A Taylor
V Banyard – parish clerk
No members of the public were in attendance

Prior to the commencement of the meeting- Public session.

To allow members of the public to ask or answer questions or give evidence or information on matters relevant to the business of the Council.
No issues were raised.

4448.21 To receive apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest in the Meeting's agenda items

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Deer and M Thompson (Ward Member)
No Declarations of Interest were made.

4449.21 To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12.10.2021.

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

4450.21 To consider applications from candidates for the two vacancies on the Council and to make any co-options if required.

To date no letters of application to join the Council have been received.

4451.21 Planning

a) The following decision from Maldon District Council was noted:

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| 21/00641/COUPA Wicks Manor Witham Road Tolleshunt | Change of use of agricultural buildings to a flexible use under Class R – storage or distribution (Class B8) | Prior approval is required and granted Decision date 4.8.2021 |
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b) Latest planning applications – the following was considered:

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 21/00754/FUL | Greengates Tudwick Road Tiptree | Proposed car port and annex It was RESOLVED to make the following comments: The Parish Council does not have any problems with the principle of an annex but is concerned at the size of the proposal in relation to the size of the existing dwelling. There is also concern at the number of trees which are to be felled, and whether there is a requirement for replacement trees to be planted. Furthermore the Council asks whether the necessary investigation on the impact of wildlife on the site has been carried out rigorously. |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|---|

c) Appeal to the Planning Inspectorate – land south of Beckingham Business Park Beckingham Street. The Parish Council has sent a letter to most houses in the village concerning this appeal, and it is known that a number of residents have responded to the planning inspector. The date of the hearing is yet to be set.

d) Enforcement issues.

Two Acres Bickleigh Lane. Enforcement will be advised that there are now two mobile homes and a wooden building on this site. The mobile home previously reported by the Parish Council has not been used to replace the previous home (as allowed under planning conditions).

e) To consider any other planning issues. No issues were raised.

4452.21 Finance

a) The financial report and bank reconciliation for November were noted.

b) It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the following expenditure:

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|----|----------|-------------------------|--|
| 1. | £ 239.52 | Miss V Banyard | Clerk's salary and office allowance November |
| 2. | £ 55.38 | HMRC | Clerk's tax November |
| 3. | £ 5.07 | Miss V Banyard | Clerk's expenses November – internet |
| 4. | £ 17.00 | Royal British Legion | Poppy wreath |
| 5. | £ 61.56 | Maldon District Council | Trucam patrols Feb and Mar 2021 |
| 6. | £ 126.22 | Maldon District Council | Trucam patrols Apr, May, June 2021 |
| 7. | £ 41.99 | Etsy.com | Lest We Forget sign for Solitary Soldier |
| 8. | £ 302.69 | Mr T Payne | Post Covid party expenses |
| 9. | £ 50.00 | St Nicholas Hall | Use of Hall for Post Covid party |

4453.21 Update on the insurance claims from the owners of The Old School House and Oak House Tolleshunt D'Arcy Road alleging that cracks in the walls of the property are due to oak trees in the control of the Parish Council. Four trees have now been felled, with four more to be pollarded shortly. The quote from Maldon District Council specified seven trees but in fact there are eight (two were classed as one) and the quote for the eighth tree is another £700 plus VAT. This tree will be left for now but one branch will need to be removed.

The remedial work on the two houses can now go ahead, and the Parish Council's intention is to plant some replacement trees in the spring of next year. This will be included in the budget and grants for tree planting will be sought.

4454.21 To consider any issues concerning the playing field and play area – including:

a) Play area – rust proofing and painting work. This is ongoing.

b) Installation of new equipment in the play area and playing field – update. Installation is now scheduled for 3.11.2021 and the equipment can then be used prior to a formal opening ceremony in the summer. Councillor Mr Coster was thanked for all his work in carrying out this scheme.

It was reported that residents enjoy the play area and find it attractive and safe to use.

c) Any other issues concerning the playing field.

Councillors Mr Coster, Mr Deer and Mr Payne will put in a new post to prevent cars going onto the field from the car park.

4555.21 To consider any Highways issues

a) Trucam report – over a period of one hour in October three captures of speeding vehicles were made.

- b) Update on resumption of Community Speedwatch. One session has been held with new members and a second will be arranged. It was noted that the group's presence does slow vehicles down.
- c) To consider further information on speed cameras and Speed Indicator Devices. Nothing further has been heard but Councillor Durham (ECC) has advised Councils that they can obtain their own cameras without recourse to the County Council. The way to do this will be investigated.
- d) To consider any issues on rights of way. No issues were raised.
- e) Proposal by Anglian Water to close Factory Hill Tiptree for a period of 6 weeks between November 2021 and February 2022 to allow works to improve the water network in Tiptree. Anglian Water will shortly bore trial holes at Factory Hill before finalising details of the closure which should now take four weeks instead of six. The official diversion route goes through Birch but as it is likely that traffic will increase in Tolleshunt Major the Speed Watch group will need to be active at that time.
- f) Any other issues concerning Highways. Highways has advised that the damaged speed limit sign outside Beckingham Court Care Home and the direction sign outside St Nicholas Hall are not priorities for repair work.
The clerk is to find out if Maldon District Council still has the Highways Rangers service and if so whether the Parish Council could pay for some of their time on a regular basis to maintain highways signs and verges in the parish.
The hole in the verge in Witham Road (Min 4443.21) has still not been filled in.
Consideration was given to Little Totham Parish Council's 20 is Plenty scheme to try and keep traffic within a 20mph speed limit. Councillor Mr Payne will find out further details from Little Totham Parish Council.

4456.21 To note any other issues which may be raised.

It was **RESOLVED** to reimburse the clerk for secure shredding of defunct Parish Council paper work.

4457.21 To further consider the purchase of a new Parish Council notice board and its possible relocation.

The provision of a new notice board will be included in the budget for next year, and Councillor Mr Coster will try to find out why the board was relocated from its original position on Beckingham Green. Councillor Neath has drawn up a plan of all the house numbers and names in the village and this could be included on the new board.

4458.21 To consider arrangements for the setting of the budget for the year 2022-2023.

Councillor Mr Payne will draw up a draft budget for consideration at the December meeting. Any suggestions for new works should be sent to him.

4459.20 To consider other items for information or for inclusion on future agendas

The Council will shortly need to consider appointing a new internal auditor as Mrs Powell Davies has left the district.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9 pm.