

TOLLESHUNT MAJOR PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 5.4.2022 in St Nicholas Hall Tolleshunt Major

PRESENT:

Chair – Councillor T Payne
Vice Chair – Councillor T Deer
Councillors N Burrell, M Coster, K Neath and J Sutton.
Councillor M Thompson (Ward Member)
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.

4507.21 To receive apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest in the Meeting's agenda items

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Taylor.
No Declarations of Interest were made.

4508.21 To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 1.3.2022.

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

4509.21 Planning

a) Councillors noted the following planning decision from Maldon District Council:

FUL/MAL/ 21/01278	Heath Farm Grove Farm Road Tolleshunt Major Conversion of outbuilding to form annex incidental to main house	Refused Date of decision 15.3.2022
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- b) Latest planning applications – to comment on any planning applications received before the date of the meeting. No new applications had been received.
- c) Enforcement issues. Update.
To further consider the placing of containers at the Farm Shop junction of Maldon Road and Great Braxted Road. It was **RESOLVED** to take no further action on this issue.
- d) To note the following decision by the Planning Inspectorate:
Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/21/3276774 (erection of 13no. business and general industrial units, land south of Beckingham Business Park). **Appeal allowed** – date of decision 28.3.2022.
Councillors were greatly disappointed at this decision. It is felt that there appears to be no limitations as to the number of buildings and employees that will be allowed on the site of the Park or an acknowledgement by Highways that the road infrastructure is unsuitable for large numbers of HGVs and the amount of traffic generated by the Park. The Council will have an opportunity to raise these concerns at the consultation for the next Local Development Plan.
- e) To consider the Parish Council's response to the Maldon Nature Conservation Study consultation re potential local wildlife sites. It was **RESOLVED** not to put forward any new sites.
- f) To consider any other planning issues. No issues were raised.

4510.21 Finance

- a) Councillors received the financial report and bank reconciliation for April.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the following expenditure:

1.	£ 239.52	Miss V Banyard	Clerk's salary and office allowance April
2.	£ 55.38	HMRC	Clerk's tax April
3.	£ 5.07	Miss V Banyard	Clerk's expenses April– internet
	Total: £ 299.97		

The clerk reported that the issue of alleged underpayment of tax by the Council has now been investigated by HMRC and this was caused by a mistake on the HMRC RTI system. It is now recognised that no payment is in fact due.

4511.21 To consider any issues concerning the playing field and play area – including:

- a) Play area – rust proofing and painting work. It is hoped that all work will be completed before the ROSPA inspection in May. An accompanied inspection has been booked to allow a Councillor to attend the inspection.
- b) Sponsored replacement trees in the playing field – update. It was reported that the cost of the replacement trees will be £2,146 plus VAT and it was **RESOLVED** to approve this payment. Sponsorship money is now coming in, and a date for the planting of the trees will be made shortly. At the next meeting the Council will discuss a ceremony for putting up the plaques on each tree, with the public and press invited to attend.
- c) Any other issues concerning the playing field. No further matters were raised.

4512.21 To consider any Highways issues

- a) Trucam report. No report was available.
- b) Community Speedwatch report. There was nothing to report.
- c) Report on the provision of speed cameras and Speed Indicator Devices. This will be discussed further at the May meeting to allow Councillors to carry out more detailed work on possible locations for the cameras.
- d) To consider any issues on public rights of way. There was nothing to report.
- e) Highways Rangers service. Councillors to report back on what work they consider could be done by the Rangers within the parish. It was **RESOLVED** to remove this item from the agenda for the present.
- f) Any other issues concerning Highways. The direction sign outside St Nicholas Hall has now been completely demolished, leaving a large hole in the ground. It has again been reported to Highways.

4513.21 To review the Parish Council's Financial Regulations. It was agreed that Councillor Neath should look at the current regulations to see if any amendments are necessary.

4514.21 To further consider the purchase of a new Parish Council notice board and its possible relocation. There was nothing new to consider and it was agreed that this item should be deferred for a short while until the current year's precept is in. Councillors considered what items should be allowed on the notice board, and Councillor Neath agreed to draft a policy on this to bring to the next meeting.

4515.21 To discuss the forming of a working group to organise a street party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was agreed that the working party should be formally recognised as part of the Parish Council for insurance purposes. Arrangements are moving forwards and include a bouncy castle and face painting with a band and BBQ at The Bell in the evening.

4516.21 To discuss the forming of a working group for a response to the Ukraine situation. Some offers of accommodation for refugees have been received from local residents, and further advice from the government is awaited. Councillors Tony Payne, Julia Sutton and Karen Neath are involved in the working group.

4517.21 To note any other issues or information which may be raised. It was noted that a company offering Community Broadband would like to come to a Parish Council meeting to discuss what they can offer to the village. Some residents have shown an interest in this scheme and publicity letters will be going out shortly. It was agreed that the company could come to a meeting after the letters and costs arrangements have been made public. It was noted that the Council is to have a new e mail address for the clerk. The review of the clerk's salary is to go on a future agenda.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.09 pm.

The above Minutes were approved at the meeting held on 3rd May 2022 and recorded as Minute Reference 4523.22.