

# TOLLESHUNT MAJOR PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12.9.2023 in St Nicholas Hall Tolleshunt Major

### Present:

Chair – Councillor T Deer

Vice Chair – Councillor K Neath

Councillors N Burrell, M Coster, T Payne, J Sutton and A Taylor

Councillor M Thompson (Ward Membe

Parish clerk – V Banyard

No members of the public were present.

### 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.

### 4694.23 To receive apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest in the Meeting's agenda items.

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were made.

### 4695.23 To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8.8.2023.

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

### 4696.23 Planning

- a) To receive any planning decisions from Maldon District Council – none had been received.
- b) Latest planning applications. The following were considered:

23/00808WTPO	Toucan Rest Beckingham Street Tolleshunt Major	TPO 9/80 – T1 – Oak tree – crown lift by 2m to provide 4m clearance. Crown thin by 30%. Lateral reduction to branches by 2m and removal of deadwood. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to make no comment on this application.
23/00854/HOUSE	Brookview Plains Road Tolleshunt Major	Addition of roof lights to roof slope of existing detached garage to provide home office to first floor. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to make no comment on this application.

- c) Enforcement issues. Councillor Mrs Thompson reported that Maldon District Council enforcement officers are working to complete outstanding issues in the parish.

The clerk will compile a list of all these cases for discussion at the next meeting.

- d) Affordable housing – Progress report on Housing Survey. The survey questionnaires will be delivered with the Major News within the coming fortnight, with a return date of 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

- e) To consider any other planning issues. Although no official notice has been received to date it was noted that the application to convert land opposite St Nicholas Hall into a car park has been refused by Maldon District Council.

### 4697.23 Finance

- a) The financial report, bank statement and bank reconciliation for September were received.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the following expenditure:

1.	£	252.63	Miss V Banyard	Clerk's salary and office allowance Sept
2.	£	58.65	HMRC	Clerk's tax Sept

3.	£	9.82	Miss V Banyard	Clerk's expenses Sept -internet, printer paper
4.	£	720.00	Bonz Cairey Ltd	Work carried out on playing field – cheque to be paid on completion of the work to replace bollards from the car park into the field.

**4698.23 To consider any issues concerning the playing field and play area – including:**

- a) Play area – rust proofing and painting work. Some work remains to be done. Councillor Mr Deer reported that he had inspected the loose post on the climbing frame and considers that a steel wedge would make it more stable. Councillor Mr Coster will look into this.
- b) Purchase of a further tree using money left over from the sponsored trees – update. Report on the condition of the sponsored trees and to consider any action to be taken. One of the trees is definitely dead and will be replaced, but it is hoped that the remainder will be established by next summer. Councillor Neath suggested that the Garden Club could be closed and its funds transferred to the Parish Council for use for horticultural purposes. This will be investigated. A new weeping willow will be purchased and the new trees planted at the end of October.
- c) Any other issues concerning the playing field. A local farmer is clearing ditches at the bottom of the playing field and has offered to do those on Parish Council land. It was **RESOLVED** that this is accepted.

**4699.23 To consider any Highways issues**

- a) It was noted that the Trucam patrol in July made 2 captures over a period of half an hour.
- b) Community Speedwatch report. There was nothing to report.
- c) Reported Highways faults – update. There has still been no response from Councillor Durham (Essex County Council) concerning the state of the Bennett Island opposite St Nicholas Hall. Councillor Mrs Thompson undertook to contact him to try and get things moving. Crossroads sign at the Loamy Hill Road/Plains Road junction. The hedge has been cut back to improve visibility but the sign remains unclear. The damaged HGV sign at this location and a 40mph sign showing in the wrong direction will also be reported to Highways by Councillor Mrs Taylor.
- d) To consider any issues on public rights of way. There are no issues but a damaged bridge on the Scraley Road path (Little Totham parish) has been reported.
- e) Speed camera. The Council considered quotes obtained for the purchase of a camera, with the cost estimated to be four to five thousand pounds. Councillor Neath undertook to look at sources of grant funding, and she was thanked for her work on this project.
- f) Any other issues concerning Highways. It was noted that Tudwick Road will be closed for five days in early October for waterworks to be carried out (details on the Parish Council website).

At this point Councillor Mrs Thompson left the meeting.

**4700.23 To arrange a date for the clerk's appraisal.**

The National Association of Local Councils is due to publish the new pay scales for 2023-2024 in November. It was therefore **RESOLVED** to defer the clerk's appraisal until these have been issued.

**4701.23 To review the Council's Financial Regulations.**

The National Association of Local Councils is currently reviewing the Financial Regulations. It was therefore **RESOLVED** to approve the Parish Council's current Regulations and carry out a review when the new model is issued.

**4702.23 To note any other issues or information which may be raised.**

No issues were raised.

**4703.23 To consider other items for information or for inclusion on future agendas.**

No issues were raised.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.35 pm.

**The above Minutes were approved at the meeting dated 3.10.2023 and recorded as Minute Ref: 4695.23**