

TOLLESHUNT MAJOR PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 3.10.2023 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
 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.

4704.23 To receive apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest in the Meeting’s agenda items.
 There were no apologies for absence and no declarations of interest were made.

4705.23 To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12.9.2023.
 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above Minutes.

4706.23 Planning

a) To receive any planning decisions from Maldon District Council – including:

FUL/MAL/23/00673 Land opposite St Nicholas Village Hall Witham Road Tolleshunt Major	Change of use of land to car park for the use of St Nicholas Village Hall	Refused Date of decision: 8.9.2023 The Parish Council considered how it might help the PCC to obtain better parking for the Hall. The option of a path from Hall to the playing field car park was discussed and the route that this could take. It was RESOLVED to give the PCC permission to investigate a path using the ideas originally put forward at the time of the renovation of the Hall.
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b) Latest planning applications – including:

23/00928/HRN	End of Langford Waterpipe Hatfield Road Langford	Sections of 34 hedgerows to be removed in order to install a new water main. It was RESOLVED to make no comment on this application.
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c) Enforcement issues. To consider the list of enforcement issues reported over the last 7 years to Maldon District Council and any action taken by the officers to date.

The Council considered the list of various outstanding enforcement issues and will ask Maldon District Council what action it is taking with regard to Bakers

Nursery Bakers Lane, Oak Farm Loamy Hill Road, Wicks Manor, Two Acres Bickleigh Lane, Chapel Cottage Beckingham Street and the containers at the farm shop at the junction of Maldon Road and Great Braxted Road.

d) Affordable housing – Progress report on Housing Survey. To date 220 questionnaires have been sent out, with only two comments from members of the public.

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

4707.23 Finance

a) The financial report, bank statement and bank reconciliation for October were received.

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

1.	£	252.63	Miss V Banyard	Clerk's salary and office allowance Oct
2.	£	58.65	HMRC	Clerk's tax Oct
3.	£	5.07	Miss V Banyard	Clerk's expenses Oct -internet
4.	£	42.18	Mr A Payne	Meet the Neighbours event – catering expenses (costs shared with St Nicholas Hall)

Change of bank mandate to include Councillor Deer as a signatory. As nothing further has been heard from Barclays Bank the clerk will try to find out if the change has been made.

4708.23 To consider any issues concerning the playing field and play area – including:

- a) Play area – rust proofing and painting work. This item will now be removed from the agenda until next spring.
- b) Replacement sponsored tree and new tree – update. Councillor Mr Coster reported that the cost of the replacement trees could be a maximum of £395 including delivery but could be less. The trees will need to be planted by the end of the month and in a different location to the previous trees. Councillor Neath advised that the closing balance of the Garden Club account will now go into the Parish Council's funds.
- c) Any other issues concerning the playing field. A rope swing which appeared in the field is now out of reach and will be cut down if it is used again.
Bonz has put in new bollards and the cheque approved at the last meeting can now be paid.
The ditch at the bottom of the playing field has not yet been cleared.
All the work suggested by ROSPA after the play area inspection has now been carried out. The loose post on the climbing frame will be checked again in the spring.

4709.23 To consider any Highways issues

- a) Trucam report September – if available. No report available.
- b) Community Speedwatch report. There was nothing to report.
- c) Reported Highways faults – update. The bennett island outside St Nicholas Hall was brought to the attention of Councillor Durham (ECC) and is being inspected. It was noted that School Lane in Little Totha will shortly be closed and it is therefore likely that lorries will use Witham Road instead. Photos of the bennett island (before and after the closure) will be sent to Councillor Durham to show the extent of the problem of the erosion of the island.
It was noted that a road sign is further obscured by the overgrown hedge at Brook House in Plains Road.
- d) To consider any issues on public rights of way. There are two unstable stiles on the path between Sawyers Road and Witham Road and these will be reported. Fingerpost repair will be carried out in the winter season.
- e) Speed camera. Report on possible grant funding sources. This work is ongoing.
- f) Any other issues concerning Highways. No matters were raised.

4710.23 To consider any arrangements for Remembrance Sunday (12.11.2023). To discuss tidying up the area around the Solitary Soldier. Work will be carried out at the site of the soldier. With planting taking place next year. Councillor Neath will investigate purchasing large poppies from the Royal British Legion to go out for Remembrance Sunday.

4711.23 To note any other issues or information which may be raised.

A work party will take place on the 15th October to tidy up around the bus shelter.

4712.23 To consider other items for information or for inclusion on future agendas.

Budget preparations will be discussed at the November meeting.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 8.47 pm.

The above Minutes were approved at the meeting dated 14.11.2023 and recorded as Minute Reference 4714.23.