

TOLLESHUNT MAJOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 12.12.2023 in St Nicholas Hall Tolleshunt Major

Present: Chairing the meeting – Councillor K Neath
Councillors N Burrell, M Coster 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.

4723.23 To receive apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest in the Meeting's agenda items.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Deer, T Payne, J Sutton and M Thompson (Ward Member)

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4724.23 To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14.11.2023.

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

4725.23 Planning

Planning decisions from Maldon District Council – None had been received..

Latest planning applications

COU/MAL/23/00103 Building at junction of Braxted Road/Maldon Road Tiptree	Application for change of use of existing agricultural barn to farm shop and change of use of existing farm shop to café, resurfacing of existing car park commensurate with increased floor space.	This application has now been WITHDRAWN .
23/01145/HOUSE	Penny House Tolleshunt D'Arcy Road Tolleshunt Major	Increase ridge height of existing dwelling and construct dormer windows to provide rooms in the roof. Front and side extension. New porch and alterations to fenestration. It was RESOLVED to raise no objection but to comment as follows: The Parish Council has concerns about possible overlooking of neighbouring properties caused by the four dormer windows proposed on the rear elevation.

Planning Inspectorate decision: The following was noted.

APP/X1545/X/23/3323188 LDP/MAL/23/00334	Lyncroft Bakers Lane Tolleshunt Major The siting of a caravan for ancillary use – lawful use or development.	Appeal allowed Date of decision 5.12.2023
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Enforcement issues. No updates have been received.

Affordable housing – To consider the draft report by the RCCE following the recent housing survey. The RCCE was disappointed at the low response to the survey. There was only one request for affordable housing and it is unlikely that a housing provider would support such a low number.

The Council discussed this issue and **RESOLVED** that due to the number of Councillors not present, such an important decision should be postponed to the January meeting. Councillor Neath undertook to advise the RCCE.

To consider any other planning issues.

No issues were raised.

4726.23 Report from the Staffing Committee following a meeting to discuss the clerk’s appraisal.

The Council approved the recommendations of the Staffing Committee and it was **RESOLVED** to implement its decisions regarding a new NALC salary scale and back pay.

It was noted that new targets have been set for the clerk for the coming year.

4727.23 Finance

To receive the financial report, bank statement and bank reconciliation for December. The reports will be reissued due to some alteration in the amount charged by the Community Heartbeat Trust.

To authorise the following expenditure: It was **RESOLVED** to make the following payments:

1.	£	879.83	Miss V Banyard	Clerk’s salary and office allowance Dec
2.	£	215.45	HMRC	Clerk’s tax Dec
3.	£	405.00	Community Heartbeat Trust	Support deal – 3 years
4.	£	5.07	V Banyard	Internet charge

4728.23 To further consider the setting of the budget for the year 2024-2025.

Councillor Mr Deer is currently working on this and will bring the draft to the Council’s January meeting for approval. It is likely that the precept will increase, given the rise in inflation and the fact that it was not raised in the year 2022-2023.

4729.23 To consider any issues concerning the playing field and play area – including:

Proposed path from the playing field car park to St Nicholas Hall – update. Councillor Mr Coster and the PCC are continuing to look for grant funding for the path, and if sufficient grants are found the Parish Council may not need to contribute funds.

Any other issues concerning the playing field. It was noted that the field is very wet at present due the long period of inclement weather.

4730.23 To consider any Highways issues

Trucam report November – This has not yet been received.

Community Speedwatch report. As yet there has been no response to the call for a new coordinator to run the group.

Highways issues – including update on the bennett island outside St Nicholas Hall. As nothing has yet been heard from Councillor Mr Durham the Parish Council is considering taking the matter to Priti Patel MP at one of her local surgeries.

It was noted that the Parish Council needs to be aware of the extra lorry traffic going into units at Wicks Manor.

The street signs at the Loamy Hill Road/Plains Road junction have now been repaired.

Public rights of way. Councillor Mrs Taylor has spoken to the landowner on part of the path from Witham Road to Sawyers Road concerning goats on the path, and the matter has been resolved.

Speed camera. Possible grant funding sources – There was nothing to report at present.

Any other issues concerning Highways. No other issues were raised.

4731.23 To note any other issues or information which may be raised.

Councillor Mr Burrell will obtain a copy of the new electoral register for use by all members.

4732.23 To consider other items for information or for inclusion on future agendas.

No other issues were raised.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 8.32 pm.

The above Minutes were approved at the meeting dated 9.1.2024 and recorded at Min Ref 4734.23.