

Minutes of Tunstall Parish Council Meeting
Held on 12th September 2018 ~ 7.00pm
Tunstall Community Hall, Ashe Road, Tunstall

Present

Cllr. Steve Smith (Chair) Cllr. John Hazelton Cllr. Philip Noakes
Cllr. Kevin Ross

Judi Hallett (Clerk) Dist. Cllr. Ray Herring (from 8.20pm)

No members of the public were present

1. To receive Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllr. Caroline Meffan (Family commitments), Cllr. Kirsty Watson (Family Commitments), Cllr. Oliver Morgan (Family commitments), Cllr. Lucy Silovsky (unwell) and Cllr. Andrew Reid. These apologies were noted.

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Emma Johnson had resigned earlier in the day and that she would notify SCDC.

Action: Clerk

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest and any Applications for Dispensation on Agenda Items (either pecuniary or non-pecuniary):

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Participation - To receive:

a. Reports from County and District Councillors:

- Cllr Ray Herring reported on the following items:
 - Progress of the review of the Local Plan (Clerk asked to send TPC's letter to RH)
 - Boundary Commission Review – likely to be 2 Councillors in Tunstall's Ward
 - Elections in May 2019
 - East Suffolk Council – Shadow Cabinet now in place, new thinking and new constitution
 - Deben Leisure Centre now re-open and Leiston Leisure Centre closed for refurbishment
 - New leisure complex planned for Felixstowe
 - AOEP – taking stock of costs; questions ask if money spend on other projects such as creating wetland sites could be redirected to the sea defences
 - Sizewell C – Work on the highways and third consultation
- Cllr. Andrew Reid – Report had been circulated. Councillors queried why the report from Cllr. Reid always only reported on the positive aspects of Council life and perhaps did not show a balanced picture – Clerk to pass comments on to Cllr. Reid.

Chair's initials:

- b. Reports or comment from any member of the public – There were no members of the public present

4. To agree minutes of meeting dated 25th July 2018:

All Councillors agreed that these were an accurate record of the meeting. Cllr. Smith proposed and Cllr. Ross seconded that they should be signed; all Councillors agreed.

5. Planning:

- a) To discuss and agree response to the following Applications received:

There were no applications to discuss

6. Development at Street Farm – To discuss requesting a site visit to understand the drainage systems, following concerns raised by residents:

The Clerk explained that she had received two letters of concern regarding the old ponds close to Street Farm. A representative from Hopkins Homes had supplied an explanation for the new drainage system but there was still concern that three ponds have been lost. The three ponds were described as:

- a) Next to Number 2, Street Farm Close
- b) Opposite Tunstall Green (on the site of the old barns) and
- c) Opposite Pond B, in the garden of Pondsides Cottage

The Clerk was to write to Hopkins Homes to request a site visit to explain how the drainage works and to discover why Pond C was now dry.

Action: Clerk

7. Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership – To consider request from Cllr. Ross that TPC consider making a donation of 1 years' worth of payments from the Rural Payment Agency as a donation to the AOE:

Cllr. Ross explained that he felt there was lots of money for schemes such as clearing forests and creating wet-land sites but none for sea defences. He suggested all local organisations (such as the RSPB and SWT) should be asked to contribute one years' worth of payments received from the Rural Payment's Agency, to the Alde and Ore Estuary Trust to help pay for the sea defences. He also felt Tunstall PC should do this.

As the AOEP/T had recently notified TPC that costings and funding would be revealed in February at a public meeting, the Clerk asked to place this item back on the agenda at the March 2019 meeting. The Clerk was also asked to check with SALC if TPC were permitted to make grants for sea defences.

Action: Clerk

8. The Green Man - To finalise arrangements for Public Meeting on 15th September

The Clerk ran through the programme for the event on 15th and suggested that she was happy to host it. She indicated that it would be nice to have help setting up the room at around 9.40am

Action: Clerk

9. Highways/Flooding:

- a) To discuss the Village Gateway costs provided by SCC Highways:

Details of the total cost of the project (at £12,000) had previously been sent to Councillors. It was felt the prohibitive costs quoted by SCC made the project a 'Non-runner'.

- b) To discuss HGV traffic using Ashe Road to access Bentwaters Park:

After discussion Councillors felt there was very little they could do as Ashe Road did not have a width or Weight restriction and placing one on it would restrict farm vehicles. It was agreed however to continue to work with Campsea Ashe PC on this subject as they also had issues with Ivy Lodge Road.

As an aside, Cllr. Ross complained about the number of agents involved with simple roadworks (signage, traffic lights, road workmen, etc.) and also that often traffic lights were left up when no work was being carried out.

Action: Clerk

10. Tunstall Common/Forest:

- a) To discuss responses received to questions sent to the Forestry Commission – Cllr. Smith read a letter from the Forestry Commission in reply to ours. Councillors felt mixed in that it was positive that a reply had been received and we now held written confirmation of some resolutions but that this was no guarantee that these actions would be taken. There was concern that a new 25-year plan was about to be put in to place and then a new Forest Design Plan. In addition, Councillors felt it was positive that TPC would be invited to comment on the new FDP, albeit with only 28 days' notice.

Cllr. Ross requested that a Freedom of Information Request was made to the Rural Payments Agency, asking for details of payments made to organisations operating in and around Tunstall Forest. The justification for this was to allow TPC to advise residents, and others, how much public money was being spent on deforestation.

- b) To receive update on the 5/10/20 Year Plan for Tunstall Common – The Clerk reported that she had started the draft document and would be speaking to Cllr. Ross about the content. It was agreed to purchase a copy of the official entry in the SCC Commons Register (£6.00 total cost).

Cllr. Ross reported that Neil Lister would be bringing a BT Working Party to the common in November and he would look to set up another date in February 2019.

- c) To discuss information boards v's Notice Boards at the Common – The merits of both options for displaying information about the common were debated. As numbers were reduced it was agreed to discuss this item at the November meeting.

Action: Clerk

11. Community Council – To receive update from Cllr. Watson:

The Clerk notified Council that an initial meeting had been arranged for 1st October, 7.00pm in the Hall Committee Room. Cllr. Watson was congratulated on organising the Picnic and Rounders event in the summer.

Action: Cllr. Watson

12. Recreation Ground:

- a) To receive update from Clerk as to Statements of Truth regarding use of Duck Lane and registration of Council land

The Clerk notified Council that the land had now been registered with the Land Registry.

With reference to the Statements of Truth; it was agreed to ask Mrs Maureen Burman and Mr Richard Ledger to complete these

- b) To receive update on the Solar Panels for the roof of the Community Centre:

Cllr. Smith reported that he had spoken to a local firm but that due to the low usage of electricity in the hall, fitting solar panels would not be economic.

Action: Clerk

13. To receive update from Cllr. Silovsky on an event to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1:

It was agreed that the Clerk should speak to Cllr. Silovsky about this project. It was also agreed to investigate if it would be appropriate for the Parish Council to purchase the silhouettes in order that it could reclaim the VAT.

Action: Clerk and Cllr. Silovsky

14. Finance Matters:

- a) To review accounts for July and August 2018:

The accounts had been passed to all Councillors and there were no questions. Cllr. Noakes checked figures against the bank statements and B/S Books.

- b) To consider request from Coastal Accessible Transport Service for a Grant:

After discussion it was unanimously agreed not to give a grant to the Coastal Accessible Transport Service.

- c) To authorise the following Invoices for Payment:

i. J Hallett (Clerk) – Office + mileage expenses	£209.10
ii. Local Council Public Advisory Service (Common Land Training)	£40.00
iii. Suffolk County Council (Copy of Tunstall Common Register)	£6.00
iv. HMRC Cumbernauld (Clerk’s PAYE)	£184.00
v. Gary Button (Maintenance)	£265.00

The above payments were agreed, and the cheques were signed by Cllr. Smith and Cllr. Hazelton.

Chair’s initials:

The Clerk was asked to check with SALC if it was acceptable for her travel expenses to be paid as a monthly amount (*based on the last two years figures*) rather than having to calculate every individual journey.

- f) To note Payments made since last meeting:
 - i. J Hallett (3 Month's Salary) £736.05

- g) To note Payments received since last meeting:
 - i. None

- h) To note Bank Balances as at 31st August 2018:
 - i. Barclays Bank (Current Account) £2,366.72
 - ii. IBS (Tunstall Parish Council) £10,884.40
 - iii. IBS (Tunstall Common Fund) £37,996.46

Action: Clerk

15. Documentation – To adopt the following proposed documentation:

- a) Standing Orders (September 2018) – Councillors confirmed they had read the revised version. Its adoption was proposed by Cllr. Noakes, seconded by Cllr. Ross and all Councillors were in agreement. The Clerk was asked to publish.

Action: Clerk

16. To receive agenda items for next meeting and agree date of Next Meeting:

Items to add to the next agenda:

- Items carried forward from this meeting
- Refurbishment and Tidying of the Play Park
- Grass Cutting at the Recreation Ground (Clerk to obtain quotes)
- Grants
- Budget for 2019/20
- Retarmacking of the entrance section of the Car Park (at the end of Duck Lane)

The date of the next meeting was set for Wednesday 14th November 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed:
Cllr. Steve Smith, Chair

Date:

Judi Hallett
Clerk to Tunstall Parish Council

Chair's initials: