

TACOLNESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Tacolneston Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, At 7.00 p.m. Wednesday 18th January 2017

Present:- Cllr B Spratt (In the Chair), Cllrs B McClenning, S. Manning, D Maginn, M Holmes, B Cleary, K Darrell.

17 Members of the public

Acting Clerk: John Pennell

2016/140 Apologies

Apologies were received from the District Councillor who was recovering from an operation.

2016/141 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Manning in item 12b) & c) and Cllr Maginn in Item 12 c)

2016/142 Approval of Minutes : The minutes of 14th September 2016, having been circulated were taken as read and approved as a correct record. Cllrs Darrell and McClenning did however have a recollection that the budget meeting was to be a full parish council meeting. *no minutes of 12/2/16* BS

2016/143 Adjournment : The meeting was adjourned to allow the County Councillor, the Tree Warden and the Footpath warden to speak and for Members of the Public to raise matters of concern

The county Councillor reported that the County council tax increase was likely to be 5% and the District's 3%. No report from Tree Warden or Footpath warden.

Members of the public expressed concern over the change of date of the December meeting from 18th to 20th December which had been made to allow a larger number of the public to attend a meeting in the main hall rather than the upstairs room.

Some questioned why the meeting was to be closed to the public when the clerk's and RFO's appointment were to be discussed : Clerk stated that when individual staff matters were discussed the press and public were always excluded from such personal discussions and that one of the candidates for the post of clerk was in the room.

2016/144 Item to be logged in the Parish Log Book : RTA near School

2016/145 Correspondence Received

- a) Litter Pick : Cllr Darrell agreed to organize this.
- b) Speeding in Hall Road - contact to be made with police
- c) TAFRA : proposed to have a meeting between PC and TAFRA

2016/146 TAFRA *the parish council* BS

It was agreed that ~~he clerk and the chairman~~ would meet with TAFRA as no committee members were free to attend this meeting.

2016/147 Diamond Care

Mandy Shaw explained that she wanted to re-open the play group at the Village Hall as part of a not for profit business. She would like to take over the equipment left behind by the last play group and sought a grant from the Parish Council to help with that and the hall hire. The Council was supportive of this initiative. The Clerk was to liaise with Diamond Care to see what could be done to help.

2016/148 Finance

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- a) Payments to Tina Page (fees for work done as RFO – 148.25), Mazars (audit - £120), SNC (Dog Bin emptying - £234.11), The Information Commissioner (Annual fee : £35.00), Gardening Services (Grass Cutting : £810) were agreed.
- b) It was agreed to purchase a strimmer and proper protective equipment for the Footpath Warden. Free-Warden
- c) **Precept** : After discussion of the budget prepared by the working group, it was agreed that with only minor amendments the precept could be kept to last year's figure and it was resolved that the precept be set at £9,483.70 for 2017/18 which was £31.30 per band D property – the same as in 2016/17.

2016/149 Planning

- a) **1 Birkin Close** Application had been approved by SNC
- b) **2016/2635** Land West Of Norwich Road Tacolneston. *Clr Manning left the room for this discussion.* Concerns were expressed that it was outside the development boundary, that it was ribbon development and that it closed off views of the countryside; council was unable to recommend for or against the proposal.
- c) **2016/2642** Rear extension to provide Use Class C1 accommodation at The Pelican. After a presentation by Cllr Maginn's agent *Cllrs Manning and Maginn left the room for the rest of this discussion.* Concerns were expressed about drainage and that it was too large but that it could bring more employment to the village and could enable the Pelican to re-open. Council agreed to support the application.

2016/150 Parish Council Website

It was agreed to accept the Parish Training Partnership's offer to build a dedicated parish council web site to meet with modern requirements.

2016/151 Clerk and RFO

hro As the one applicant for the post had left the room early in the meeting and all but ~~one~~ *BS* members of the public had left, it was decided not to close the meeting to the public.

The Acting Clerk stated that he had agreed to act as clerk on a *pro bono publico* basis but had not agreed to act as RFO; he was disappointed that one Councillor had written an email copied to the person who had agreed to act as RFO in such terms that she had immediately resigned. As a result the time spent by her on the budget and getting up to speed had been completely wasted at a cost to the council of £148.

~~There were no further applicants for the post of Clerk but Ms Tina Page was prepared to act as RFO if an apology was forthcoming from the Councillor who had sent the email.~~ *BS*

2016/152 Items for next agenda : Neighbourhood plan and TAFRA

Next Meeting : February : Date to be confirmed

Meeting closed at about 9.15 p.m. 10.15 p.m.

BS with

Signed: *BS with*

Date : 22.2.2017

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