

TACOLNESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Tacolneston Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall at 7.00pm on Wednesday 22nd March 2017

Present: Cllr B Spratt (in the Chair), Cllrs B McClenning, S Manning, D Maginn, M Holes, B Cleary, K Darrell

District Councillor, B Duffin and 7 Members of the public

Locum Clerk: Margaret Ridgwell standing in for Acting Clerk John Pennell who was unwell.

2016/166 Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.

2016/167 Declarations on Interest: Cllr Darrell declared an interest in item 7c of correspondence.

2016/168 Approval of Minutes: Due to the ill health of the Acting Clerk, John Pennell, these were not able to be presented and will therefore be signed at the next meeting.

2016/169 Matters arising from these Minutes: these will also be discussed at the next meeting.

2016/170

2016/171 Public Participation and reports from the Footpath Warden, Tree Warden and District Councillor:

It was reported that the Footpath Warden was pleased with the new equipment he had received from the Parish Council and this would enable him to keep the footpaths in the parish in a good state.

The Tree Warden reported that the recent storm has resulted in the fall of a 100ft Ash Tree which was estimated to be over 200 years old.

The District Councillor, Mr Barry Duffin, was pleased to report that South Norfolk had reached the last 6 out of 360 councils in the Best Council Award. Sevenoaks were the winners. He spoke about the recently published Final Recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for South Norfolk. There will be no change for Tacolneston. He stated that he would be pleased to hear from members of the public, either directly or through the Parish Council, on the kind of development which would be acceptable in the village. Concern was raised about the development at The Fields, but it was explained that as this was an allocated site no objections could be raised. However, at this stage the application was for outline permission and the Parish Council would be consulted when the detailed application was received.

2016/172 Items to be logged in the Parish Log Book:

Youngsters are using pallets to build tree houses and as these are unsafe Cllr Holes is doing his best to remove them. There is mud on the footpath where sheep had been moved. Horn blowing on a Sunday morning is still proving to be a nuisance.

2016/173 Correspondence

a) **Contact Care**, the Lifeline Alarm provider for South Norfolk wrote inviting volunteers to a free lunch as a thank you for their help and to provide an opportunity to learn about other services in South Norfolk. The event is on Thursday 20th April at Ogden Close, Wymondham, from 10.30-12.30.

Signed:



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b) **Norfolk ALC** announced that Russell Reeve had been appointed to the Executive Committee.

c) **A letter had been received from a visitor**, who used to reside in the village, saying that she was saddened to see that the pond next to the Woodmans Club had been filled in. Cllr Darrell said that the pond was on their land and that about 10 years ago it had been used as a site to dump waste spoil by the Highways contractors who had been clearing the adjacent culvert. She requested that the Parish Council write to Highways stating that a complaint had been received about the state of the pond and asking them to restore it to its previous condition.

d) Cllr Spratt stated that the Monitoring Officer had confirmed that there was no case to answer in the matter of a complaint against a councillor.

2016/174 General Maintenance around the Village

Cllr Darrell reported that the recent litter pick had resulted in fewer bags on rubbish than before so the clean-up campaign was working. She was thanked for her hard work in organising the litter-picks and the resulting impact on the state of the village. Cllr Manning offered to refurbish the noticeboard and her kind offer was accepted. There are still letters missing on road signs in the village.

2016/175 Tacolneston & Forncett Recreation Association:

Following a recent meeting which TAFRA and Parish Councillors attended, the legality of the parish council as custodian trustees needs to be resolved before TAFRA's AGM on the 5th April to enable the proposed new play equipment to be installed as soon as possible. TAFRA presented a letter to the Parish Council, dated 22 March 2017, as follows:

"The management committee for TAFRA hereby instructs you to transfer all land and buildings (situated on land under the registration number NK446446) which you currently hold as custodian trustee, to the Official Custodian for Charities Landholding Service and to do so as soon as possible. Doing this will discharge you of your custodianship as per the Deed of Appointment dated 8th March 2005 and will thus allow Tacolneston Parish Council to become the sole corporate trustee for TAFRA."

A proposer and seconder put forward a motion to adopt this proposal and this was passed by a majority of councillors.

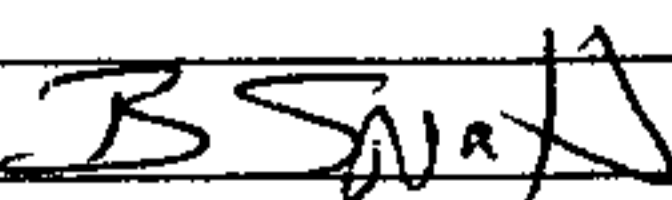
TAFRA reported that they had received a revised price for the equipment they wanted to install which amounted to £28,229. They had already raised £6,600 and South Norfolk grants would bring this total to approximately £11,000. The committee will present the Parish Council with the figure needed to fill the funding gap by the next meeting. They would appreciate the Parish Council applying for a Public Works Loan to cover this amount and the Council will look into whether CIL money can be used to pay off this loan. The installation will be carried out by a local company with a Project Manager to oversee the job from start to finish. Once the order is received, and the first invoice for the cost of equipment is paid, it will take 5-6 weeks for production and 2 weeks for installation. The remainder of the cost will be due then.

The matter of fencing the small play area for Diamond Care was considered and the majority of councillors were in favour of going ahead as per the proposal put forward by John Pennell.

2016/176 Tacolneston Conservation Area:

A report had not yet been received from the Conservation Officer, Mr Chris Bennett, on his recent visit. There was some confusion as to whether the Parish Council had sent out the invitations to attend this site meeting, but it appeared that Mr Bennett himself had contacted some councillors but not others. It was felt that this was unsatisfactory and that all councillors should have had the chance to attend.

Signed:



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2016/177 To consider the 'In Good Company' initiative: This will be raised at the next meeting.

2016/178 To consider how to consult residents on the upcoming South Norfolk Community Governance Review 2017-2018: This will be raised at the next meeting.

2016/179 To receive update on advice, training and website development from the Norfolk PTS: This will be raised at the next meeting.

2016/180 Finance: The Locum Clerk reported on the balance in hand as stated on the current band statement as being £10,690.51. All councillors agreed that the invoice from Baggleys of £388 for the strimmer be paid.

2016/181 Planning:

There were no planning applications to consider this month. The Locum Clerk explained that some Parish Councils found it useful to delegate to their Clerk and a Planning Committee for consideration, any plans received which needed to be returned to the Planning Authority before their next council meeting, thereby making a request for an extension unnecessary. Cllr Duffin stated that he felt it was important that all parishioners had the opportunity to review plans presented to the Parish Council and it was suggested that the use of a screen with a laptop might be used to ensure that plans are available for perusal by all at Parish meetings and an extension should be requested to enable parishioners to be consulted. The matter will be discussed further at the next meeting.

2016/182 Communication:

There is a possibility that the Parish Council can have its own website which would also link to the Tacolneston Matters website.

2016/183 To decide arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting:

It was agreed that this will be on the 24th May at 7.00pm.

2016/184 To decide the contents of an advertisement for a new clerk:


It was suggested that an advertisement be produced which would ask for applications either for a full Parish Clerk and RFO, or for an Assistant Parish Clerk and RFO, with John Pennell overseeing. It was felt that this widen the scope of possible applicants applying.

2016/185 To confirm date and time of next Parish Council Meeting and receive items for the next agenda: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th May at 7.00 p.m.

2016/186 Items for the next agenda include:

- a) Consideration of a Public Works Loan to enable TAFRA to go ahead with the installation of play equipment;
- b) To consider the 'In Good Company' initiative;
- c) To consider how to consult residents on the upcoming South Norfolk Community Governance Review 2017-2018;
- d) To receive update on advice, training and website development by the Norfolk PTS;
- e) Consideration of delegation of planning decisions to Clerk and Planning Committee, or possibility of enabling all planning proposals to be available for parishioners at council meetings;
- f) To decide on wording of advertisement for new Parish Clerk or Assistant Clerk.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed: 

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