

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Tunstead and Sco-Ruston Parish Council held at Tunstead Village Hall on Tuesday 16th August 2022 at 7:30pm.

Present: Chris Oakes, Chairman
Rob Hetherington
Tim Place
Clive Rich
Gilly Foulds
Neil Coston
Jimmy Miller, Clerk

Also present: Nigel Dixon plus two members of the public

At the start of the meeting, it was announced that the order of the agenda would be changed so that finance and planning would be done after apologies and declarations and dispensations.

4) To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jones and Coward.

5) Declarations of interest for items and applications for dispensations

None.

10) Finance

a) To note Bank Reconciliation

b) To note Accounts

The bank reconciliation and accounts were approved. Cllr Place requested that future accounts include the date on them.

c) To approve items for payment:

J. Miller	Salary for July and August 2022	£458.28
J. Miller	Home office July and August 2022	£20.00
J. Miller	Mileage (meeting August 2022)	£14.40
J. Miller	250 envelopes	£10.85
Chris' toilet hire	Portable toilets for jubilee event	£393.60
CGM	Grass cutting	£183.60
BHIB	Annual insurance	£464.11

Cllr Hetherington proposed paying the above items; seconded by Cllr Place. Unanimous decision in favour.

d) To approve payment of invoices received since 11th August 2022

None.

8) Planning

i) PF/22/1864

(a) Applications received

Manor Farm Sco Ruston Road Tunstead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8ET
Two storey rear extension to dwelling

Cllr Place proposed supporting the application providing NNDC look at the application with regard to planning application PF/21/1171. Unanimous decision in favour.

(b) Applications received since 11th August 2022

None.

(c) Planning decisions

None.

(d) Planning Decisions received since 11th August 2022

None.

(e) Issues regarding construction of substantial sheds in the Parish

11) Online banking

Cllr Foulds said that with online banking at Barclays, one person inputs the payments and another person approves the payments. Cllr Foulds proposed moving to an online banking system; seconded by Cllr Place. Unanimous decision in favour.

1) Public forum

A member of the public asked what was happening regarding flooding issues in St Kews.

Cllr Foulds gave an update of the situation and asked the Clerk to contact Mark Ogden, Head of Flood Management at NCC, and Justin LeMay and to ask that they send him the report on drainage between St Kew to Watering Pit Lane and a survey of the pipe through to the pit in the Hollies. Cllr Hetherington suggested that TPC put a two-week deadline on getting the report back.

2) Report from Nigel Dixon NNDC

Nigel said that bin collection days will be changing from Wednesday to Friday.

He said that nutrient neutrality is holding up some planning applications and that this is an ongoing issue.

Nigel spoke about the dry weather and how this had increased the fire risk and led to some fires. He suggested that, in future, some thought should be given to preventative measures. Cllr Hetherington suggested that TPC could get advice from Norfolk Fire Service. The Clerk will contact them and try to arrange a meeting regarding reducing fire risk perhaps in the Autumn or Winter.

Nigel mentioned the NCC cost of living fund for those in hardship and also mentioned a much smaller scheme being run by NNDC.

Cllr Rich spoke about the B1150 and questioned why there was a 50mph limit at one part and not a 40mph limit as there didn't seem to be any logic in this. Nigel said he'd send the NCC strategy document on this for Cllr Rich to read and this topic will be put on the agenda for next month's meeting.

3) Report from Norfolk Constabulary

PC Matt Pritty introduced himself to TPC as the new Beat Manager in Tunstead. He said that his whole area had very low crime. He mentioned the children's summer camp, a supervised outing for about 70 children from London, which had caused some issues in the Parish with children blocking roads and going in people's gardens. He said he would visit the organisers of the camp to relay concerns and see how supervision of their activities could be improved in future.

Cllr Coston said that because of future visits being planned, better organisation was needed. The Clerk said he'd e-mail the organisers to express concerns and find out more about future plans.

Cllr Foulds asked Matt if he could use his speed gun in the Parish. He said yes.

6) Approve minutes of 21st June 2022

There was a unanimous decision in favour of approving the minutes.

7) To receive and note the Clerk's report

TPC asked PC Pritty to thank the two officers who turned up to the February meeting to remove a member of the public.

Clerk said that he had not received anything from NNDC regarding the removal of s106 on the property at Watering Pit Lane. It was suggested that the next step would be to contact Steve Blatch, the chief executive, at NNDC.

The Clerk contacted NNDC regarding unauthorised development in the Parish and had a phone call but then nothing further so Clerk will follow this up.

The Clerk said that an invoice for cutting in late May by CGM did not appear to be being chased after TPC complained about the cut. However, he had not heard what was happening regarding the complaint and whether the invoice had been waived.

Cllr Rich informed the Clerk that the fence which was damaged by CGM had still not been repaired. The Clerk will contact CGM regarding this.

Cllr Rich wanted Clerk to check that CGM if doing spraying to make sure they've registered with Defra for the regulations for the use of professional plant protection products. The Clerk will send CGM an e-mail.

PC Pritty left the meeting.

9) Correspondence – To consider and respond to the following correspondence:

Correspondence list to be issued

A brief discussion took place regarding vexatious Freedom of Information requests and it was agreed to send a letter to the member of public saying that TPC will ignore him.

Nigel Dixon left the meeting.

12) SAM2 batteries also defib batteries

Clerk received nothing back from NCC Parish Partnership regarding what is happening. Clerk will go on website and check timings. Clerk will also contact NCC to see what is happening.

13)Purchase of defibrillator

Cllr Foulds asked if it is worth having a defibrillator up the other end of the village. It was agreed that TPC needs to do a bit more investigation on this and this will be put on the agenda of next month's meeting.

14) Helping parishioners regarding loss due to fires, etc

Cllr Foulds said that a recent do at the Horse and Groom raised approximately £3,000 for the people in Ashmanhough who lost their houses and that another approximately £11,000 had been raised. The meeting was informed that losses as a result of the fires, and the resultant assistance that may be required, was on the agenda for the Tunstead Combined Charities meeting on 17th August.

15) TPC letterhead

It was agreed that the village sign for Tunstead, which is on the TPC website, was acceptable as a letterhead.

16) Ditch at the edge of Tunstead recreation ground

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the individual whose property borders the playing field and has put his fence in the middle of the ditch which means that the ditch cannot be dug out.

17) Parish plan

Nothing was said on this.

18) Recruitment of councillors

The Clerk said that elections will be held in May 2023 and that it's now time to start thing about attracting candidates to become councillors. It was agreed that the Clerk could put together some information on this and promote it using the TPC website. This agenda item will be revisited due to the upcoming elections.

19) Flood and drainage committee

Nothing more was added on this item.

20) Tunstead Queen's Jubilee Celebrations & Fete

Cllr Rich said that Cllr Coward would be invited to the next village hall committee meeting so that they could look at the profit & loss accounts and make sure everything can be explained and agreed.

21) Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS)

Cllr Hetherington was concerned that TPC attempting to gain LCAS accreditation could add too much work for the Clerk. The Clerk said that moving towards LCAS accreditation would help TPC improve as a council and could also be used in the future as a recruitment tool when recruiting councillors. The Clerk also said that BHIB offer discounted insurance when a council has LCAS accreditation. The Clerk said he'd find out from BHIB what the discount is.

22) Village Hall

Cllr Rich said that the architect was due to meet the building control officer to discuss the structural aspects of the village hall particularly access to the upper floor.

23) Agenda items for meeting in September 2022

Parish plan

Speed limit on B1150

The meeting closed at 9:35pm.

Date of next Parish Council meeting: 20th September 2022