

# Toller Porcorum Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 At Toller Porcorum Village Hall

### Present:

Cllr D Ennals (Chair)

Cllr A Carstairs (Vice Chair)

Cllr J Miller

Cllr J Stavenhagen

In attendance:

Mrs K Sheehan (Clerk)

Cllr C Baker

Cllr D Billen

Cllr J Knowles

7 members of the public

### 453. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Haynes (WDDC).

### 454. Declarations of interest and grants of dispensations

No new declarations of interest were made but it was noted that as budget discussions were ongoing, this item would be covered by the existing dispensation in respect of this matter.

### 455. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and sign the same

The minutes of the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> November were **proposed** by Cllr Carstairs, **seconded** by Cllr Stavenhagen and duly **signed** as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 456. Matters Arising

Cllrs Stavenhagen and Carstairs reported they had not received any responses from the CCG to their Freedom of Information requests. Cllrs Stavenhagen stated that he would be reporting this to the Information Commissioner as the CCG was breaching guidelines on response times. Cllr Ennals voiced concerns about the non-attendance of the County Councillor. It was noted that a short report had been sent after the last TPPC meeting but that this issue was being monitored. Cllr Baker reported that he had attended the DAPTC Central Committee meeting which had reported on the Clinical Services Review ongoing until the end of February. Documents for reference were now available in the Post Office. The Clerk reported that she had invited Andrew Martin, Head of DCC Highways to address the Annual Parish Assembly. He was unable to make the date of 10<sup>th</sup> May but had suggested he could attend on 9<sup>th</sup> May instead. It was therefore agreed, subject to village hall availability, to move the APA to Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May and hold the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May in the Committee room.

**Action: Clerk to establish availability of VH, and book meetings as agreed.**

### 457. County Matters

None.

### 458. District Matters

Apologies and a short, written report from Cllr Haynes were noted.

### 459. Finance and Procedure

#### i. To consider the receipts and payments due

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<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Dec/Jan</b>
None	0.00
	<b>0.00</b>

  

<b>Payments</b>	Voucher	Chq No	Vat
K Sheehan	Salary Dec/Jan & exp	162	bacs 299.49
D Billen	Toller Times print run	163	bacs 5.90
			<b>305.39    0.00</b>

The receipts and payments were duly **AGREED**.

**ii. To consider the Precept and Budget 2017/18**

The members considered the previously circulated draft budget. Some concerns were raised over whether the £500 earmarked for the highways devolved services budget would be sufficient, given the cost of the DCC work team. Cllr Carstairs emphasised that the November meeting had prioritised avoiding putting up the precept if at all possible. Cllr Stavenhagen agreed that the situation should be monitored for one year and then look at increasing the precept if work has been necessary. The proposed budget 17/18 and proposal to raise the precept at £5,500 (no change) was **proposed** by Cllr Carstairs, **seconded** by Cllr Stavenhagen and duly **RESOLVED**.

**Action: Clerk to raise precept as agreed.**

**iii. Use of a .gov email address for Council business**

The Clerk reported that the Council had now been registered for a .gov email address. The Chair asked if members were happy to see this used for all council business and it was agreed that this should be the main contact email for the Parish Council going forward.

**Action: Clerk to make necessary changes to website etc.**

**iv. To review the Asset Register**

Members reviewed the updated Asset Register. Cllr Ennals confirmed that there are actually 6 cones and 2 signs and that he would make arrangements to collect and store them.

**Action: Cllr Baker to contact Martin Wilson about the cones and signs. Clerk to table document storage and archiving for next meeting's agenda.**

**460. Planning**

**i. To consider any planning applications in circulation**

Cllr Carstairs reported that the planned site for the solar park at Rampisham has now moved to the opposite side of the road. The agreement covers arrangements made with Natural England to accommodate bat boxes etc. Dorset Wildlife Trust would be ensuring the proper management of the land.

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Members also noted that the Middle Farm application at Higher Kingcombe, which had been outstanding for a year, had now been approved.

### **461. Highways**

#### **i. To consider the usage of Frogmore Lane**

Discussion took place around the issue of large vehicles using Frogmore Lane. Cllr Carstairs stated that it was important to balance the needs of the working rural village users with other residents. Cllr Ennals stated that he had asked the Clerk to research some options to inform the meeting but that the results had not been so positive – the County Council was unwilling to move the triangle and further alterations to the beech hedge seemed unlikely. Cllr Ennals invited Mrs R Gower and Mr B Gower to speak. Mrs Gower stated that a number of larger vehicles, including electricity board and emergency vehicles, needed clear access through the Lane. Mr Gower stated that the hedge had moved over a number of years, causing the rotation of the road to change. Mr Gower repeated his offer of £500 to have the tree on the triangle removed and another tree replanted elsewhere. Some discussion took place around the proposed removal of the tree, one member of the public present objected to its removal. The possibility of replanting at the other end of the triangle was agreed to be worth pursuing further as Mr Gower felt this would allow the vehicles room to get through. It was therefore proposed that the Council, through the Clerk, should contact DCC to establish what permissions and procedures were necessary for effecting this, and report back to the next meeting.

Councillor Ennals stated that the Parish Council's approach to this matter was to find a workable compromise that all parties could live with, and that the Council would always guard against taking sides in any neighbourhood disputes. He went on to thank Mr and Mrs Gower and Mr Chris Wardle for attending and for their constructive comments.

**Action: Clerk to contact DCC to establish what permission might be required for removing the tree/replanting elsewhere.**

#### **ii. To receive an update on the fingerpost sign opposite the former Swan Inn**

Cllr Stavenhagen reported that he had found a company from Chard who had quoted 2-3 hours for sandblasting. He was also looking at the cost of paints. It was noted that the sign at the entrance to Frogmore Lane needed attention, as well as the one removed from Kingcombe crossroads.

**Action: Cllr Stavenhagen to liaise with Robin Masters re removed fingerpost and obtain full quotes for the work for the March meeting of council.**

### **462. Library Service**

Cllr Baker reported that replacement services are being investigated. Cllr Carstairs provided a copy of the Home Library Policy which he thought might be of service.

### **463. Playing Fields Association update**

Cllr Billen reported that a meeting of the PFA was scheduled for the following week to gauge interest in supporting the existing arrangements moving forward or potentially using the Parish Council to run and maintain it as an asset. Cllr Billen stated that she would report back to the next PC meeting.

### **464. Correspondence**

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Members noted the correspondence list. No queries were raised.

## **465. Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Items for business to include:

- Play Fields Association update

**The meeting closed at 20.40.**

## **Democratic Forum.**

Mr M Almond of Church Mead asked what could be done to help reinstate the 213 bus service as the current arrangements with the Community Bus were not suitable for wheelchair users. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Dorset Community Transport about provision for wheelchair users and report back to Mr Almond and the PC.