

# Toller Porcorum Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 At Toller Porcorum Village Hall

### Present:

Cllr D Ennals (Chairman)

Cllr C Baker

Cllr J Miller (Vice Chairman)

Cllr D Billen

Cllr J Stavenhagen

Cllr A Carstairs

Mrs K Sheehan (Clerk)

Cllr J Haynes (WDDC)

### 346. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Janet Knowles. Apologies were also accepted from Cllr Rebecca Knox (DCC), but Cllrs noted that a County report had not been received for some time.

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

The following Cllrs declared an interest in Item 8iii) To consider the Precept and Budget 2016-17 by virtue of holding positions in organisations potentially receiving donations:

Cllr Alex Carstairs: Chair, Village Association

Cllr Debbie Billen: Chair, Recreation Ground Committee and member of both the Village Hall Committee and Village Association

Cllr David Ennals: Member of the PCC

Cllr Judy Miller: Member of the PCC and Village Hall Association

Cllr Colin Baker: Director, Village Association

A dispensation was granted in order that the Council's business would not be impeded in relation to this item. Councillors were permitted to take part in discussion around the donations but would be prevented on voting on any decision relating to their above positions.

### 348. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September and sign the same

The minutes of the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

**Proposed: Cllr J Stavenhagen**

**Seconded: Cllr C Baker**

**RESOLVED**

### 349. Matters Arising

335 Cllrs noted that the hedge had now been cut but that visibility remained poor.

340 The response from Oliver Letwin MP regarding Right to Buy exemption was noted, in particular that the draft legislation would mean that the properties in Toller Porcorum would remain as rental properties at up to 80% of market value.

341 Cllrs heard that major road repairs will be carried out in 2016. This would present an opportunity to highlight the need for other 'Slow' signs in the village. Cllr Ennals thanked Cllr Stavenhagen for his efforts on behalf of the Council.

342 Cllr Haynes highlighted that areas with higher numbers of people signed up to the waiting list for superfast broadband were being prioritised.

344 It was noted that Cllr Ennals had completed the strimming around the telephone kiosk.

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**Action: JM and DB to submit article on superfast broadband sign ups to Toller Times.  
Clerk to chase Joe Garner, BT Openreach for a response.**

**350. Democratic Forum**

None.

**351. County Matters**

None.

**352. District Matters**

Cllr Haynes reported that the bids to become combined authorities were gathering momentum and that some money had been granted for an initial exploration into this possibility. By rationalising management structures it was hoped that savings could be realised and it was looking likely that, following the example of Cornwall, and now potentially Gloucestershire, Dorset would utilise the LGA to come and evaluate the bid to become a unitary authority.

Cllr Haynes left the meeting at 19.30.

**353. Finance**

**i. To confirm conclusion of 2014/15 Annual Return and audit**

Members noted the conclusion of the Annual Return and audit which was accepted by Council.

**Proposed: Cllr A Carstairs      Seconded: Cllr C Baker      RESOLVED**

**ii. To consider the receipts and payments due**

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Detail</b>		<b>Amount</b>
WDDC	Precept		£2700.00
WDDC	LCTS Grant		£50.00
			<b>£2750</b>
<b>Payments</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Voucher</b>	<b>Amount</b>
HMRC	PAYE (none due to change in Clerk's tax code – refund of £25.20 to Clerk)	n/a	£0.00
DAPTC	Bring your own Chair	132	£30.00
DAPTC	Budgets and Precepts	133	£30.00
Cllr D Ennals	Mileage for course	134	£13.50
Mrs K Sheehan	Salary/exp	135	£384.43
Cllr D Billen	Toller Times	136	14.40
			<b>£472.33</b>

**Proposed Cllr D Billen      Seconded Cllr J Stavenhagen      Resolved for payment**

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## iii. To consider the Precept and Budget 2016-17

The Clerk had prepared a Budget and the Council considered each expenditure item individually and the following changes were made:

- Donation to Churchyard to be increased to £320
- Donation to Recreation Ground to be increased to £165
- Donation designated 'Post Office' to be increased to £165 and given to the Village Association for the benefit of the Post Office
- No donation to the Air Ambulance

The Budget was agreed and the precept was agreed to be raised at **£5500.00** which is the same as the current year.

**Proposed: Cllr A Carstairs**

**Seconded: Cllr J Miller**

**RESOLVED**

The Clerk provided a summary of the current account balances, stating that as of 8<sup>th</sup> November 2015 the account balance stood at £8747.10. After payments agreed at the meeting this would stand at £8228.77. Of this, £1700 was the working reserve, £808 earmarked for the Parish Plan, £1000 for future projects and a General Reserve of £4720.77.

**Action: Cllr Billen to check store of grit currently held at Barton Farm  
Clerk to check when first grit bin fill is due  
Clerk to ask Michele about the earmarked funds for 'Parish Plan'**

## iv. Refreshments at Parish Council meetings

Cllrs agreed not to provide refreshments at Parish Council meetings

## v. CiLCA

Cllrs noted that the Clerk's other Parish Council had agreed to meet 50% of the cost of CiLCA, which she would be undertaking in early 2016.

## vi. Pensions auto-enrolment

Cllrs noted that the staging date for the pension auto-enrolment was 2017 and that under the new rules the Council would have an obligation to provide a pension scheme if requested. However, on current salary levels the threshold for employer contributions was unlikely to be met.

## 354. Planning

### i. To consider any applications in circulation

#### a. WD/D/15/001554 Middle Farm, Higher Kingcombe

Cllr Carstairs provided some background information on the application. Cllrs noted that this was improving an existing building and that nearby conversions had already been undertaken. In deciding not to offer any objections to this application, Cllrs resolved to add comments stating their strong support for it.

**Action: Cllr A Carstairs to submit comments to WDDC in relation to the application.**

### ii. Report of the Post Office and Affordable Housing

No further updates.

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## **355. Highways**

Cllr Stavenhagen reported that he had highlighted issues with the Kingcombe Road to Blair Turner at DCC. Cllr Ennals reported that he had received concerns about felled trees blocking the bridleway between Frogmore Farm and Manor Farm (CHECK). Cllr Stavenhagen agreed to visit the site and report any issues to Tara Hansford at DCC. A letter from Mr Gower regarding access to Frogmore Farm was read and further consultation would be sought from DCC Highways Department.

**Action: Cllr J Stavenhagen to visit site and contact DDC Rights of Way Officer  
Cllr J Stavenhagen to seek advice from Blair Turner regarding use of Frogmore Lane/access to Frogmore Farm**

## **356. Use of Dog Waste bins**

Cllr Miller raised concerns that the dog waste bin was being used for household waste.

**Action: Clerk to design 'Please no household waste – Toller Porcorum Parish Council' and send to Cllr Billen to put on bin**

## **357. Memorial at Toller Hill**

Cllrs discussed the sensitive issue of the memorial at the T-junction on Toller Hill.

**Action: Clerk to contact Family Liaison Officer to ask for suggestions and feedback from family about arranging a permanent memorial**

## **358. Working Together Report from DAPTC & DCC**

Cllrs noted the Working Together report from DAPTC and DCC.

## **359. Broadband issues in the Parish**

Clerk to chase up response from BT Openreach, as noted previously.

## **360. Correspondence (attached)**

No comments.

## **361. Items for the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

- New dog waste bin
- Confirmation of precept?
- Appointment of internal auditor? (Check with Michele)

## **362. Democratic Forum**

None.

**The meeting closed at 20.58.**

# Toller Porcorum Parish Council