

Toller Porcorum Parish Council  
**A Parish Council meeting was held on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2011  
in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Billen. Present: Cllrs Ennals, Miller, Rutherford, Knowles, Davies, Baker and Cllr Knox, (County), Cllr Haynes (District). Mr. Applebee (Clerk); Five members of the public were present.
2. **Comments from the Public:** S.O.S. wish to be informed of any correspondence made with Palmers Brewery or their agents. The Chairman suggested that the objectives of S.O.S should be made clear to the Parish Council. The role of the Parish Council was to reflect the wishes of the residents and having received the objectives, the Parish Council would hold a referendum to seek the wishes of residents.  
The Agenda for the last Parish Council did not specify that it was the AGM. The Clerk confirmed that a mistake had been made over arrangements for the AGM but this had not detracted from necessary business. DE
3. **Declarations of interest:** None.
4. **Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting** held on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May, were read and signed as a true record.
5. **Matters Arising:** Speed reducing gates; a vote at the recent Parish Meeting had shown that there was no interest in trying this form of traffic calming. Road signs; The two in the High Street were successfully refurbished which had helped to maintain the character of the village. Parish Meeting; This was deemed a success and thanks were made to all those involved including Mrs Ennals for arranging the refreshments. Some discussion was made regarding costs and payments in general and Cllr Haynes confirmed that payments of under £250 could be authorised by the Chairman - over this amount would necessitate the convening of a Council meeting.
6. **Highways update.** Cllr Ennals drew attention to the letter received from Mr Hansford regarding the request for resurfacing the road at the bottom of Toller Lane. Cllr Knox said that funds were now in place to start this work. The Chairman will monitor the situation and write to Mr. Hansford to ascertain when work was likely to begin, with copy to Cllr. Knox who offered her support. DE  
Toller Lane Junction Road marking; The poor condition of road markings had been noted by the District Council. Cllr Haynes said that it is on the list to be redrawn.  
The Track; It had been noted that the sides of The Track past The Manor were well overgrown. The Clerk will approach the owners of the hedges to arrange to have them back. NA  
Rights of Way with regard to the Railway Track; Fences had been cut and cattle had escaped from fields on to the railway track. This had caused local farmers a lot of trouble and a new boundary fence has been erected to prevent further problems. It is hoped that access for walkers will be taken into consideration.  
Discussion took place on the use of tractors in the winter and use of red diesel. This is permissible for gritting roads. It was pointed out by Cllr.Knox that Highways require a list of farmers willing to store dumpy bags of grit/salt. Clerk to compile list for WDDC as soon as possible. NA
7. **Update on the Old Swan:** The current situation was made clear by the Chairman. Summary notes of the meeting at WDDC held on 16<sup>th</sup> May were distributed and discussed. The most important outcome of the meeting was that if Palmers would not

negotiate with a potential purchaser the WDDC will begin a CPO provided the purchaser has proof of sufficient funds and that WDDC have the name and contact details of the purchaser. The Council regarded this as a step forward and we hope the potential purchaser will be in a position to proceed. S.O.S. were concerned that matters regarding The Old Swan were being directed to the Parish Council and not to them. Cllr Davies made it clear that if S.O.S. became a legally constituted organisation with a proper framework of Chairman, etc. the Parish Council would not need to be involved as WDDC could then deal directly with them.

8. **Grants to Village Organisations:** The following was voted for unanimously. Playing Fields to be given £125. The P.C.C. to be given £200. The Village Hall to be given £275, however it was agreed that this particular payment would be delayed until September's Parish Precept had been received.
9. **D.A.P.T.C. A.G.M.:** Cllr. Davies took note of the forthcoming programme and would represent the Parish Council.
10. **Sustrans/English Heritage:** This item had been covered earlier under Rights of Way but it may be necessary to have further discussions at the next meeting.
11. **Parish Development Plan (Related to Localism Bill):** Cllr. Haynes reported that Maiden Newton, being the largest Parish in the area would take the lead in this matter but wished to consult with other local Parish Council Chairmen to formulate and plan for the wider region. The survey document received from WDDC about this would be completed and submitted. PD
12. **Approval of Audit and Financial Statement:** The Audit Return was approved by the Council and the Financial Statement was distributed for the Councillors to see. Michael Boardman was thanked for his valuable and generous help as Internal Auditor.
13. **Village Maintenance:** The untidiness of the approach to the old railway bridge from Toller Lane, especially round the telephone box, was noted. Clerk to arrange for work to be done. NA
14. **Planning:** Nothing outstanding of any significance.
15. **Comments from the Public:** None.
16. **Bills to Pay:** Invoice for Street Lamp Adoption (upgrade) £2,416. Annual Parish Insurance Premium £265. DAPTC Subscription £120. Parish Meeting expenses £36. Clerk's salary and expenses £482.65p. Talktalk outstanding bill (disputed). NA
17. **Correspondence:** Notification of a new Bye-law for Good Rule and Government. On-line mapping for the Parish.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be **Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, at 7.30 p.m.** in the Village Hall Committee Room.

The meeting was closed at 9.45 p.m.

Nicholas Applebee (Clerk)