



Toseland Parish Council Meeting
730pm Wednesday 12 February at
St Michael's Church, Toseland

Clerk: Sarah Keys
Clerk@toselandparishcouncil.gov.uk

All Welcome

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Apologies:** there were no apologies for absence.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** there were no disclosable pecuniary interests in relation to any agenda item
3. **Minutes** The Chair approved and signed the minutes of the meeting on 13 November 2024
4. **Matters Arising**

Newton Memorial Garden vote of thanks to Mr Dillon for continuing to maintain. TPC noted there may be funding available to enhance and this was covered in the RFO's report below.

Village Sign discussion on options and grant funding available covered in RFO's report.
5. **Traffic Calming** Mobile Traffic Speed Indicator - Councillor Cowles and the RFO gave an update on intention to purchase additional speed monitoring equipment and white village gates and this was covered in the RFO's report. Chair reported on conversations with Highways and A428 team acknowledging increase in traffic and speeding particularly when there are A428 closures in place. Data downloads are likely to be requested. Councillor Cowles reported on contact with Police speedwatch coordinator and Councillor Cowles has advised that a Police speedwatch officer is required. Additional signage will be in place for the upcoming closure(s).
6. **Appointments** No further progress. **Action: Chair and Councillor Cowles** will follow up with likely candidates ahead of May meeting.
7. **Future Events**

Litter pick - 23 March 2025 from 2pm onwards. **Action: Clerk** will follow up to arrange equipment with HDC and put a notice in the 6 Villages Newsletter. Dinky Drinky Box will host post event refreshments.

Bluebell Wood walk - subject to approval by landowners

8th May VE Day 80th Anniversary - agreed to erect the flag, request permission to ring the church bell, ask for suggestions in 6 Villages Newsletter. Buy "Tommy" figures if funding permits.

Village BBQ and Open Gardens - BBQ will be at Dinky Drinky in July or August. Agreed to do the events on separate dates / establish interest. Put a note in 6 Villages Newsletter.

8. **Planning:**

Felling Licence 017/2566/2023 L/TPO/140: TPOs on land adjacent to St Michael's church. **Action: Chair/ Councillor Reynolds** to follow up with HDC and Forestry Commission.

24/00938/FUL Proposed Traveller Site: TPC noted that comments and objections to be submitted by 25 Feb and it was agreed to object to the application. **Action: Clerk**

9. **Finance:**

RFO's report

Vote of thanks to Dr Dillon for making payments prior to signing rights being transferred to new RFO and for her continuing cooperation.

Current position / summary

Balances at 11th February 2025

- Current account - £4,068.02
- Deposit account - £643.31

Current year loss to date of £656. No current outstanding payments.
Income to come from VAT reclaim made of £349.

HDC's Vibrant Communities has awarded a grant of £200 (to be received this week) re Christmas party 2024 and litter pick 2025.

Invoice submitted to HDC for the Christmas party.

Invoices will also be needed for food and refreshments after the litter pick in March.

A second Speed sign ordered and paid for jointly from CIL monies and a grant from Cotton Wind Farm Fund. This should arrive by end March.

A balance of CIL monies held of £1,669.

Banking matters. The RFO and Chair have been added as signatories on the Barclays accounts, in addition to Councillor Reynolds. The previous Chair and Secretary have been removed as signatories. Barclays initially had the business address as 52 High Street, but this has been rectified online to the RFO's address and bank statements are now sent to the RFO.

Accounting records. The manual paper cash book is being run for the year ended 31st March 2025 alongside new excel based accounts. From 1st April 2025 the manual cash book will be retired (it will be completed on the last page in the current book) and only the excel s/s will be used. Councillor Reynolds checked and signed the cash book.

Precept for 2025/26 agreed by HDC at £1,260 (from £800 for 2024/25) – the increase is to cover cost of ongoing website management. TPC approved RFO to pay CloudyIT fees on a monthly basis and notify in advance of any irregular amounts.

TPC discussed the potential for further grant funding available from the Cotton Farm Fund which along with the balance of CIL monies could be used to further improve infrastructure in the village.

Subject to the receipt of monies, TPC discussed possible improvements to the Newton Memorial Garden and possible redesign., maybe also including a village sign. **Action: Chair and Councillor Reynolds** to get contact details / designers for quotes.

TPC approved the purchase of a battery for the church toilet and Mr Dillon kindly agreed to organise this.

Action: RFO to continue to attempt to speak to Cambridgeshire Highways re options for village entry gates.

10. **Website and Council email addresses**

Vote of thanks to Mrs Moffat for maintaining the website and vote of thanks to the Chair and Mr Mullan for arranging the new website and email addresses. It was agreed to target a launch date for the new website of 21 March 2025. **Action: Chair** to agree date with Aubergine.

Ask Aubergine to add MailChimp which will allow villagers to sign up to newsletters etc.

Action: Clerk/Chair

Request to Dr Dillon for permission to use information about History of Toseland on the website. **Action: Clerk**

Other ideas welcome and links required for the website.

Action: Clerk to follow up with Papworth Ministry re burial ground.

Action: Clerk to send photos used in 6V to Chair for website (Christmas dinner, coffee morning, polling station etc)

Action: Chair to organise photos of Councillors for the website.

11. **Biodiversity Policy**

Councillor Reynolds reported on requirements. Important to consider for the Newton Memorial Garden. TPC noted that the Council must be mindful of biodiversity considerations in decisions and have a process in place.

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Action: Clerk to share a draft policy with Councilors for comment and adoption at the May meeting and once approved for the TPC website.

12. **Consultation – East West Rail** TPC responded to the recent statutory and non statutory consultations. Concerns expressed about the proposed siting of the hub. **Action: Chair and Councilors** Follow up with Local Councillors and MP.

13. **Items for next meeting** to be tabled

14. **Future meeting dates** Date of next meeting 730pm on 14 May TPC and Annual Village meeting **Action Clerk** to check requirements about date of Annual Village meeting. Agenda for Annual Parish meeting must be shared by 1 May. (7 days notice required).