

Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21.2.2017 in the Village Hall Tolleshunt D'Arcy

PRESENT: Chairing the Meeting – Councillor J Smith (Acting Vice Chair)
 Councillor L Barwick, D Cook, G Munson and R Scott
 Miss V Banyard (Interim clerk) and one member of the public.

1. Chairman's welcome
 Councillor J Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. To receive apologies for absence
 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Dent and J Birkin.
3. To receive Declarations of Interest
 To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests relating to items on the agenda.
 Councillors J Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in the first item of section 9 as the applicants were known to him and R Scott declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6 below as Mr Aldridge was known to him.
4. Public Participation Session
 No issues were raised.
5. To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 31.1.2017.
 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above Minutes.
6. To discuss any items of information arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 31.1.2017.
 It was pointed out that Councillor Mr Munson's name had been spelt incorrectly in the Minutes.
 It was **RESOLVED** that Lenny Aldridge should be appointed to carry out the gardening work outside the village shop and around the bench and notice board (work previously carried out by Bonz). He has the necessary insurance cover and licence to remove rubbish. Councillor Mr Munson undertook to explain to him what is required.
7. To discuss any items of information arising from the meeting held on 24.1.2017
 No issues were raised.
8. Planning Applications:
 Councillors noted the following decision made by Maldon District Council.

TCA/MAL/17/00108 2 North Street Tolleshunt D'Arcy	T1 Ash – fell **5 DAY NOTICE**	Allowed to proceed
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9. The following new applications were considered:

HOUSE/MAL/17/00082	Longfield Tudwick Road Tolleshunt Major	Proposed rear orangery It was RESOLVED to support this application.
FUL/MAL/17/00070 PP-05779123	Greenfield at Limesbrook Farm Kelvedon Road Tolleshunt D'Arcy	Replacement shared telecommunications monopole to a height of 15m; retention of existing antennas and dishes; provision of 3no. Additional antennas and ancillary development thereto. It was RESOLVED to support this application.
TCA/MAL/17/00129	10 North Street Tolleshunt D'Arcy	T1 Silver Birch – Fell entire tree down to a 6ft stump. It was RESOLVED to object to this application on the following grounds: The tree has a high amenity value, is easily seen from the street, enhances the view and masks the electricity transformers behind it. Furthermore the applicant gives no reason for wishing to fell the tree.

TCA/MAL/17/00142	Rose House 6 South Street Tolleshunt D'Arcy	T1 Walnut tree – to be felled. It was RESOLVED to object to this application the following grounds: There is no firm evidence given that the tree is causing damage to the dwelling (no written report from a structural engineer or from a tree surgeon stating what can be done to mitigate the alleged problem.) The tree is clearly visible from the road, adds to the street scene and is of a high amenity value.
TCA/MAL/17/00146	Gannets 8 Kelvedon Road Tolleshunt D'Arcy	T1 Eucalyptus – remove 4.5m off the top. Reduced to last cuts. It was RESOLVED to support this application.

10. Finance:

a) It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the following payments:

Ch no	Payee	Details	Amount
569	Mr K Money	Clerk's salary Feb	£ 279.80
570	Miss V Banyard	Acting clerk's salary	£ 322.78
571	HMRC	Income tax on clerks' pay	£ 198.80
572	Tree Fella	Arboricultural report on play area trees	£ 600.00
573	Mrs M Curtis	Cemetery clerk - salary	£ 192.90
574	Safe Fire Protection Ltd	Servicing of fire extinguishers in the pavilion and village hall (Sept 16). It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would pay both these invoices subject to Councillor Cook checking that these were paid for by the VHMC last year.	£ 220.80

- b) To receive and approve the Financial Statement (Bank Reconciliation) for Feb 2017.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the financial statement as presented. It was noted that the withheld payment of £2,400 could be reviewed in the future.
Councillor Mr Munson noted that the interim clerk was unable to carry on beyond 31.3.2017 and it was **agreed** that contact is made with Mr Money to ascertain his position about returning to the role of clerk.
- c) To consider and approve taking out insurance cover for the defibrillator and casing, together with Fire and Theft and Public Liability. It was **RESOLVED** that insurance cover (£110.00) with Community Heartbeat should be taken out to cover the defibrillator and casing, as the amount quoted by Allied Westminster (the Village Hall insurers) did not cover public liability when the defibrillator was being used.

11. To receive reports from the following Representatives:

- a. Burial Ground – to consider renaming the burial ground as a cemetery.
Councillors discussed the various definitions of "burial ground" and "cemetery" and the advice given by the Institute of Cemetery Management was to call it whatever the residents of the village called it. It was therefore **RESOLVED** to put this matter on the agenda for the Annual Village Assembly in April.
- b. Recreation Ground – to consider works to trees required under Town and Country Planning Act 1990, sec 211 – work to trees within a Conservation Area.
The report from Mr Kevin Moore (Treefella) had been very thorough. A working party of Councillors had used this to produce a specification of works for which three quotes were now being sought. The issue would be included in the agenda for the March meeting.
Other matters concerning the recreation ground.
No matters were raised.

- c. Highway matters.

Councillor Mrs Cook undertook to report to Highways a damaged manhole cover in Chapel Road and a damaged storm drain in Tollesbury Road.

- d. Website / Facebook update.
There was nothing to report.

12. To consider the following items:

- a. The use of the telephone box outside the Queen's Head.

The clerk has advised BT that the Parish Council would like to adopt the phone box, and is awaiting confirmation that it is available. It was **RESOLVED** that if it is possible, the box should be purchased for the sum of £1 with a view to using it to house a second defibrillator.

- b. The holding of a Summer Ball on the Recreation Ground – to consider information provided by Councillor Munson.

Councillor Mr Munson provided some details of the proposed Ball and various matters were discussed. The clerk advised the Council that it would need a robust business plan linked to its Risk Assessment Policy before a decision can be made on whether or not to run the Ball, and such a Plan would need to be circulated to Members prior to the next meeting. It was therefore **RESOLVED** that a detailed business plan and Risk Assessment would be discussed at the March meeting.

- c. To receive a report on the Land Registry Claim – land to the rear of 13 Church Street. To date the clerk had been unable to gain further information on this issue but would try to progress the matter.

- d. To receive an update on the provision of a defibrillator and casing for the village.
There was nothing further to report.

13. To set the date for the Annual Village Assembly for 2017. Subject to the availability of the Village Hall it was **RESOLVED** to set the date of the Annual Assembly at 19th April 2017. Councillor D Cook undertook to find this out.

14. Sole Trustees of the Village Hall – to agree a meeting of the same at 7 pm on 28.3.2017 (prior to the Parish Council meeting)

It was **RESOLVED** to hold the meeting as above.

15. To consider items for inclusion in the agenda of the next meeting.

Councillor Mr Munson (signatory) was asked to sign a letter asking Santander to formally close the Village Hall deposit account held with that bank.

The issue of dog fouling in Harvesters will be discussed at the next meeting – Councillor Mrs Barwick to find out more details of what the problem actually is.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.31 pm.

Signed..........28th. March 2017

John Smith (Acting Chairman)

