

TOSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30th May 2022 at Tostock Village Hall beginning at 7.30 pm

Present Cllrs O Boland, Johansson, MacDowall, Mellen,

Attending Mr Peter Dow
5 members of the public

MINUTES

- 22.05.01 **Resolved:**
That Cllr Mellen take the Chair for this meeting pending the election of a Chairman of Council.
- 22.05.02 **Resolved:**
That Mr Peter Dow be appointed Clerk to this meeting.
- 22.05.03 **Noted:**
The following when Apologies for Absence were invited.
3.1 An apology for absence from Cllr Richardson which was Noted
3.1 An apology for absence from Cllr P Boland which was Noted.
- 22.05.04 **Noted :**
That when any Members' declarations of Local Non-Pecuniary Interest and/or Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in subsequent Agenda items were invited and any additions, deletions or alterations to the Council's Register of Interests noted, none were forthcoming.
- 22.05.05 **Resolved:**
That the Minutes of the Meeting of 26th January, as circulated and published, be agreed as a true record.
- 22.05.06 **Resolved:**
That, forthwith, Cllr Mellen be Council Chairman.
- 22.05.07 **Noted:**
7.1 That the Meeting received Cllr Mellen's Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman of Council.
7.2 That Cllr Mellen continues to serve as the Council's Responsible Finance Officer.
- 22.05.08 **Noted:**
An oral report from Cllr Mellen as SCC Ward Member which made mention of the following:
8.1 The Cabinet meeting of 26th April had confirmed the post-16 school travel plan policy.
8.2 SCC has received a positive OFSTED report regarding Care Leaver Service.
8.3 SCC is currently not endorsing the Ipswich Borough Council proposals for the creation of Ipswich Garden Suburb comprising some 1,000 houses and education provision on grounds that it fails to address issues of biodiversity, sustainable transport and flooding / pollution risks.
8.4 The central government, 'Levelling-Up' initiative offers the chance for Suffolk to assume Level 2 status with more devolved powers but without the creation of a Mayoral office. Discussions with Government ministers are expected soon.
- 22.05.09 **Noted during a Public Forum:**
9.1 The Chairman undertook to discuss with the District Monitoring Office the possibility that newly-elected Cllr Austin Davies might replace former Cllr Wendy Turner as a Section 91 appointee to TPC.

- 9.2 The Chairman undertook to confer with Cllr Richardson regarding the current position on the appointment of a village litter-picker.

22.05.10

Noted:

The following as arising from previous meetings:

- 10.1 Cllr MacDowall agreed to liaise with the Chairman regarding the Village Hall Committee's suggestions as to how the time-limited CIL funding held on deposit might best be directed towards improving the Hall facilities. Any recommendation will be made to the next meeting of Council.
- 10.2 A member of the public undertook to draw up a schedule of trees on TPC land towards the possibility of the commissioning of an arboricultural safety audit.
- 10.3 A member of the public undertook to liaise with the Chairman in advertising the need for volunteers and a team leader to take forward the installation and operation of the Council's new Speed Indicator Device across the 4 identified sites in the village.
- 10.4 It was noted that preparatory works were now completed at Flatts Lane allowing SCC access to determine the nature of maintenance required for flood prevention and that the Chairman would liaise with Highways officers to confirm the situation.
- 10.5 The Chairman agreed to liaise with Cllr Richardson regarding the presence on the village website towards ensuring accurate and up to date publication of Council matters.
- 10.6 It was confirmed that mole activity on the Leys was no longer a problem.
- 10.7 Cllr MacDowell confirmed that the Village Hall Committee is actively engaged in rationalising and prioritising the various widely-consulted options for improvement to the Village Hall and realises the benefits of beginning with the assessed 'need' and a realistic projection of the footfall / usage that would eventually underwrite and justify funding.

22.05.11

Resolved:

That this Meeting approves the Management Accounts for the year to 31.03.2022 as tabled by the Responsible Finance Officer, Cllr MacDowell.

- 11.1 It was noted that the accounts are presented on a cash basis and therefore do not yet show transactions related to the legal expenses in the matter of the recent Judicial Review and that this must be taken into account when making any projections related to apparent budget surplus or cash at bank.
- 11.2 It was confirmed that it was Council's stated intention that the Judicial Review costs should be amortised over the next 3 financial years.
- 11.3 Peter Dow agreed to liaise with Cllr MacDowell towards the appointment of an Internal Auditor in the hope that this could avoid the necessity for an AGAR submission-date extension.
- 11.4 It was confirmed that the current arrangement for Bank signatories is adequate and that the Chairman will try to have the Bank Statements redirected from the home address of the last Parish Clerk.

22.05.12

Noted: That the date of the next scheduled meeting was Thursday 14th July at 7.30pm at a venue to be confirmed.

22.05.13

Noted: That the Meeting closed at 8.45pm.