



East Tisted Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of East Tisted Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Thursday 16th December 2021 at 6pm

Summoned to attend: Phil Cutts (Councillor & Chairman)
Helen Evison (Councillor, Clerk & RFO)
Peter Finch (Councillor)
Sandra Nichols (Councillor)
Colin Rule (Councillor & Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator)

By Invitation: Charles Louisson (District Councillor)
Two villagers

Apologies: Mick Crumplin (Village Hall Management Committee)
Robert Jones (Hampshire Constabulary)
Russell Oppenheimer (County Councillor)

The meeting opened at 6pm

1. Apologies and welcome

The Chairman welcomed all. Apologies were received from Mick Crumplin and Russell Oppenheimer. No response had been received from the Police.

2. Declaration of interests

None.

3. Public forum

3.1 The December report from RO had been circulated with the agenda. PC highlighted the review of the 20mph speed limit policy.

3.2 An update was received from CL, District Councillor.

- Much District Council activity was focused on the Local Plan. There had been many objections to the possible development at Chawton Park Farm so the number of sites under consideration had been increased to 4 in respect of each of which a review of the transport implications was expected in Feb 2022. They were also considering adjustments that might be made in order to make the Plan more sustainability-friendly. A Supplementary Planning Document covering these changes was out for consultation until mid-Feb 29022.
- Waste collection services had been affected by a shortage of drivers. The impact of this had been limited by prioritising regular waste and recycling collections over garden waste. However, they had been catching up, were now only one week behind, hoped to be back on track by Christmas and to restart on schedule in mid-January.

Q: Were the Household Waste Sites functioning normally?

A: Yes, he believed the arrangements were unchanged.

- He still had funds available to support (a) suitable Parish Council project(s).

3.3 In his capacity as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, CR advised that volunteers were still unable to collate the weekly crime reports; the list, however, was useful for items of local interest, such as road works.

3.4 HE advised that she understood that the Village Hall Management Committee had now met. PF reported that he had encouraged them to invest in the maintenance of the Hall and furnishings.

3.5 In the absence of any communication from the Police, PC volunteered to try to re-establish contact.

ACTION: PC



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4. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th August 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

Actions and matters arising:

- New police contact is Robert Jones (replacing Dan Ross)
- Source chains for recreation ground gates – complete – PF advised that there had been times when the gate was left unlocked or the lock was left aligned to the code. Some people were still not picking up after their dogs. The situation needed to continue to be monitored and, from time to time, the code changed.
- Village green and pond – agenda item
- Broadband – agenda item
- Highways items – agenda item
- Support planning application - complete
- Co-ordinate plans for Platinum Jubilee - agenda

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Broadband

PC updated everyone in accordance with his report, Attachment 1.

CL advised that under the government scheme applications would close a couple of months before the procurement phase and, as this was scheduled for Feb 2022, there was, practically speaking, no time for further applications. In the spring we would get an idea of what areas of Hampshire were likely to be covered; HCC would be looking for one company to handle the whole county.

Councillors discussed BT/Openreach plans for discontinuing use of copper, what might be done for isolated properties and the need for back-up batteries.

7. Facilities

7.1 Recreation Ground

PC reported that he had now received the proposed new lease and a comparison with the current lease, from Rotherfield's solicitors. Although these had now been circulated, they had not been received in time for councillors to consider them before the meeting.

PC highlighted that the proposed new lease required that two members be officially authorised to sign it on behalf of the Council.

It was proposed by CR and seconded by SN that, subject to review of the proposed lease, and in the absence of any objection to its terms by other Councillors, that PC and HE be authorised to sign it on behalf of the Council. This proposal was agreed.

ACTION: ALL Councillors

7.2 Village Green and Pond

PC explained that he had been trying to arrange a meeting with Arthur Scott in order to discuss alternatives to the proposed fence around the pond as this was not attractive to villagers and that, although should the Parish Council arrange to lease the green and pond the insurers were happy to extend cover at no extra cost, he was reluctant for the Council to pick up any additional liabilities. He now hoped to meet with AS in January. **ACTION: PC**

It was suggested that the whole green might be fenced, rather than just the pond. It was felt that this would be less unattractive, would keep vehicles off the green and have the advantage making the road feel narrower. Although this option had previously been rejected by AS, it was suggested that it be raised again.

As an alternative to fencing the pond it had been suggested that it might be filled in. It was suggested that the Environment Agency might have a view regarding such a development.



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Q: Why was the areas around the pond always such a mess? Might it be improved?

A: It was left to grow as, in the past, the Parish Council had decided to leave a 'wild life belt' around the pond.

7.3 Hearing Loop

A villager had requested that the Parish Council continued to meet virtually as this provided those who were hearing impaired better access to discussions. As Councillors were required to meet in person and there was no Wi-Fi in the Village Hall, options were limited but it was suggested that a hearing loop might be helpful. A basic model was expected to cost about £200. In the light of CL's earlier offer to support suitable projects, PC proposed and SN seconded a proposal to apply for a District Councillor's grant to purchase a hearing loop.

This proposal was agreed.

ACTION: PC

8. Platinum Jubilee

SN provided feedback from a meeting, attended by 17 villagers, at which they discussed ideas for possible events to mark the Platinum Jubilee in June 2022, refer Attachment 2. Villagers were enthusiastic. Beacon- lighting on Thursday 2nd June and a lunch on Sunday 5th had emerged as the front-runners.

They were hoping to obtain grants to fund the events. As there was always the chance of bad weather, they were considering the need for a marquee, tables and chairs. They had received one quote, £1000 for a marquee and £600 for tables and chairs. Other quotations were to be sought. SN highlighted the need for 'Portaloos', whatever the weather.

PC thanked SN for organising this.

It was agreed that an update would be provided at the next Parish Council meeting.

ACTION: SN (Clerk)

9. Planning

No applications had been received since the last meeting.

10. Highways

10.1 Signage and unofficial layby on the A32

PF reported that Hampshire Highways (HH) had been making progress with the decluttering and renewal of signs along the A32. Some new post had been erected. These could be used to site the speed indicator device (SID) once the speed limit signs had been added.

Ian Janes of HH had had a look at the unofficial layby on the roadside by the new bungalows on the A32. It was thought that the path and verge had been removed by the developer and, as such, should be reinstated by the developer. HH had no funds to support such a project; any work would have to be self-funded. It was estimated that such a project would cost about £10,000.

Q: Would all costs have to be self-funded or might HH match-fund?

A: No funding was available. The full cost of any works would have to be self-funded.

There had been a meeting of the residents of the four bungalows involved. Three of the four were keen to see action and one or two were willing to consider contributing but no commitments had been made. Options were limited; the area could not be informally blocked as this would create hazards at the roadside. It was suggested that, if a suitable site could be found, it might be possible to put up sign highlighting that this was a footpath, not a layby.

PF undertook to keep chasing HH.

ACTION: PF

10.2 Speed statistics Station Road

The statistics from the SID indicated a slight decline in traffic, that 15-18% of drivers were speeding and the highest speed recorded was 50mph.

10.3 20mph speed limit

PF was pleased to note HCC's review of the 20mph policy as reported by RO.



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10.4 Posters

PF advised that ‘posters’, i.e., temporary signs, that could, for example, be used to remind drivers that they shared the road with pedestrians, could be purchased for £119 plus VAT each. Following on from CL’s earlier offer, it was suggested that a District Councillor’s grant be applied for in order to fund the purchase of two, one for each end of Station Road. PC proposed and SN seconded a proposal to apply for a District Councillor’s grant to purchase two posters. This proposal was agreed.

ACTION: PF

10.5 Plans for 2022-23

It was agreed to defer discussion of future plans for speed control until the next meeting.

ACTION: Highways Working Party (Clerk)

11. Responsible Financial Officer

- Councillors received and approved for signature by the Chairman the summary of recent transactions, bank reconciliations numbers 46 and 47 and the Budget Monitoring Report to 07.12.21
- Councillors approved payment of a donation of £350 to the PCC for upkeep of the churchyard, a donation of £650 to RPCC for upkeep of the recreation ground (cricket pitch), reimbursement to PC of £61.28 for the purchase of locks and chains for the recreation ground gates and the invoice of £305 from Brian Davey for mowing of the green around the pond and the winter pond works.
- Councillors reviewed the proposed budget for 2022-23. The proposal included an uplift in the precept of 2.5% and the majority of funds were earmarked for speed control measures. This proposal was agreed, refer Attachment 3

12. Forthcoming meetings

6.30pm Thurs 17th March 2022

6.30pm Thurs 26th May 2022 to be followed, Covid-permitting, by the Annual Parish Meeting

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.20pm.

Helen Evison

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer 30.12.21

Agreed as a true and correct record.

Signature....., Chairman Date.....