

Minutes of the Meeting of East Tisted Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 19th August 2021 at 6.30pm

Summoned to attend:	Phil Cutts (Councillor & Chairman) Helen Evison (Councillor, Clerk & RFO) Sandra Nichols (Councillor) Colin Rule (Councillor & Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator)
By Invitation:	Russell Oppenheimer (County Councillor) – 6.35-7.40pm Five Villagers
Apologies:	Peter Finch (Councillor) Mick Crumplin (Village Hall Management Committee) Charles Louisson (District Councillor)

The meeting opened at 6.30pm

1. Apologies and welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the first meeting in the Village Hall since March 2020. Apologies were received from Peter Finch, Charles Louisson, Mick Crumplin and two villagers.

2. Declaration of interests

None.

3. Public forum

• It was noted that no response had been received from Dan Ross of Hampshire Constabulary and agreed to try to contact the police in Alton. **ACTION: Clerk**

RO joined the meeting

• CR advised that there was little to report for Neighbourhood Watch as there were still no weekly figures. He continued to circulate any reports received.

• HE reported briefly on behalf of MC. The Village Hall was back in use by hirers and open for villagers on Friday evenings; they were hoping to restart events but were cautious about spending in case people were still reluctant to mix. A Committee meeting was to be organised.

• PC read the report submitted by CL, District Councillor. Refer Attachment 1.

• RO, County Councillor, reported that:

- Having taken up the role of Executive Member for Highways Operations, he was able to advise that the budget was small, having been cut by 40% in recent years, and stretched by rising prices, freak weather and increased volumes of traffic, probably due to covid-related reluctance to use public transport. Bus routes were at risk. Various traffic calming measure were available.

- Devolution, now known as the 'County Deal' was again under consideration. He was supportive of the concept; it would be sensible to reduce the number of councillors and organise a joint waste partnership. Also, they would need co-operation across Hampshire in order to address climate change, nature recovery and energy transition, e.g. the 'Super Homes' project to retrofit the housing stock.

- He would prepare and circulate a written report for September.

Q: Was it allowable to get funding from outside sources for road improvements? A: Yes.

Q: What sort of traffic calming measures were being considered?

A: The usual range, village gates '20 is plenty' signs, dragon's teeth and line painting. Projects typically cost £10-20,000.



It was noted that the Parish Council was already working with Highways on speed reduction measures; a meeting to discuss a 20mph speed limit in the centre of the village had been scheduled. Refer agenda item 8.

The Chairman thanked all and closed the meeting for public participation

4. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6th May 2021 were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chair. Action items were covered within today's agenda.

5. Facilities

5a. Recreation Ground

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council were still waiting for the new lease from Rotherfield's solicitors. The additional fencing requested was already in place. Considering the difficulty with fouling by dogs, the Chairman advised that he had looked in to requesting a 'Public Space Protection Order' but that this looked complicated and impractical to enforce. Although there were some reservations about the proposal to install chains with combination locks, a villager had volunteered to manage changing the codes and it was agreed to trial these. It was agreed to allow £100 to purchase chains and combination locks. Further it was agreed to ask Rotherfield whether they had any chains that could be used and then to liaise with the Cricket Club.

5b. Village green and pond

The Chairman reported that the landowner believed the pond to represent a risk and that it should be fenced but that this proposal was unpopular with villagers. He understood that Rotherfield were costing options.

The Clerk advised that she had been in contact with the insurers explaining that the Parish Council might lease the green and pond; the insurers had indicated that, were the Parish Council to do so, the lease could be added to the current policy at no extra cost, they did, however, express concern regarding the ash tree adjacent to the electricity supply pole. Councillors understood that this tree was to be felled, so this should not be an issue. The Chairman explained that, should the Parish Council lease the green and pond, there were potential costs such as tree works and, when necessary, pond re-lining that would need to be considered.

It was agreed to continue discussions with the landowner.

ACTION: PC

6. Village Co-ordinator

SN reported the action taken and responses received, summarised in Attachment 2. It was concluded that, although feedback had been enthusiastic, it had been limited and, as such, there was probably not sufficient interest to justify going after funds; any such role would need to be undertaken by volunteers. It was suggested that an invitation to volunteers might be circulated and that this might be combined with the organisation of celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee, refer item 11.

7. Broadband

PC explained that no further action had been taken and suggested that this item be postponed to the next meeting. This proposal was agreed. ACTION: PC & Clerk

8. Highways

8a. Motorbike Noise

SN summarised discussions at the recent meeting, refer Attachment 3. RO added that he was meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner next month and would 'keep the pressure on'.



8b. Road Closure Notifications

CR reported that village shopkeepers had complained that they had lost trade as a consequence of the 'road closed' signs had been in place from a Friday to a Thursday on account of a water leak. The leak had been minor and had been repaired on the Tuesday. It had not been necessary for the road to be 'closed' for so long, if at all. It had not been an emergency and there had been no advance notification.

RO explained that placing and removal of signage was handled by different contractors to the those carrying out the works, that they had a 'risk averse' approach and that they may have been affected by staff shortages due to the 'pingdemic'. He did, however, offer to take this up with the Highways team and highlighted that, if there were issues, residents could contact him directly. *RO left the meeting*

PC advised that it was possible to register with the website 'one.network', and request to be notified of road closures.

8c. Report from the Highways Working Group (HWG)

Refer PF's report, Attachment 4.

Considering the speed indicator device (SID) statistics, it was noted that the maximum speeds recorded (45-55mph) were dangerous and that the average speed was below 30mph. As the average speed was below the current speed limit this supported the view that the 'natural speed of the road' was lower than the current limit.

Two villagers left the meeting

It was agreed to postpone consideration of the purchase of 'posters' until the next meeting. ACTION: HWG & Clerk

PC read out Hampshire Highways' response to the request to extend the 40mph limit along the A32 as far north as Gaze Burvill, highlighting that they were considering the situation with accidents between East Tisted and Farringdon, particular at the Newton Valence cross roads. PC reiterated that the HWG had a meeting arranged with RO, as Executive Member of Highways, in October to discuss the request for a 20mph limit on Station Road.

ACTION: HWG

PC read out Hampshire Highways' response to the request to reinstate the footpath and verge by the bungalows on the A32 explaining that this would probably cost in the region of £10,000 and would need to be community funded. It was noted that the developer who had built the bungalows had been contracted to reinstate the footpath and verge but that they had gone out of business before undertaking the necessary works. A resident explained that he would be willing to contribute a significant sum to the works and it was agreed that he would ask other similarly affected residents whether they would also contribute. Councillors agreed in principle to support any Community Funded Initiative arising. **ACTION: Villagers & HWG** Finally, it was noted that completion of the signage decluttering works had yet to be scheduled.

9. Planning

a. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council had lodged an objection to the development of containers at 'Loomies' and that a hearing had been held in Winchester last week. The outcome was unknown.

(Clerk's note: We have since been informed that the application was approved.)

b. Councillors noted receipt of notification SDNP/21/02686/TCA regarding felling of ash and eucalyptus trees in the conservation area behind the village hall and that, after e-mail consultation, no objection was lodged, the works being necessary.

c. Councillors noted receipt of notification SDNP/21/03317/ANPR regarding rerouting of footpaths near Stoney Brow Cottages and that, after e-mail consultation, no objection was lodged as the changes appeared logical and not restrictive.

d. Councillors considered SDNP/21/03658 LIS, application for reconstruction of a faulty chimney at the Old Coach House. It was agreed to support this application. **ACTION: PC**



10. Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

a. Members received and approved for signature by the Chairman the bank reconciliations and summary of transactions since the last meeting.

b. Members approved the payment of £400 for mowing of the play area and the pond from March to July and an hourly rate of £10 per hour for hire of the Village Hall.

c. Members agreed retention of the Internal Auditor for 2021/22 at a fee of £110 (i.e., unchanged).

d. Members received the latest budget monitoring and year end forecast report and approved same for signature by the Chairman.

11. Platinum Jubilee

The Chairman suggested that a working party be set up to consider what might be done to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee next year. He noted that Rotherfield were supportive and it was likely that the PCC would be, too. The Parish Council could, perhaps, co-ordinate and, if possible, apply for funding. SN offered to co-ordinate this and to call for volunteers.

ACTION: SN

12. Date of the next meeting

Thursday 16th December 2021 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8pm. Helen Evison Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer 21st August 2021

Agreed as a true and correct record.

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