

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2021**

Attended:

Mrs Yvonne Arnold  
Mrs Maggie Ashcroft  
Mr Paul Bragg  
Mr Edwin De Lisle  
Mr Arthur Dethick  
Mrs Jennifer Hutchings  
Mrs Alison Ireland  
Mrs Emma King  
Ms Annie Newbigging  
Ms Judy Rasmussen  
Mr Mike Robinson  
Mr John Statham  
Mr Iain Stowe  
Mrs Jean Stowe

Cllr David Ward – Chairman  
Cllr Iain Gowans  
Cllr Ish Kamran  
Cllr Sue Latham  
Cllr Steve Snell

Mr Ian Coles – Clerk

Mr Keith Garfoot (Anglian Water)  
Mr Matt Moore (Anglian Water)  
Ms Rose Shisler (Anglian Water)  
Mr Ken Otter (Tallington Parish Council)

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 MAY 2019**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2019 were considered, following which it was proposed by Cllr Steve Snell, seconded by Cllr Sue Latham and unanimously agreed the minutes be accepted as a correct record of the meeting; the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1 APRIL 2020 – 31 MARCH 2021**

The Chairman, Cllr David Ward, summarised the previously published report to the meeting on the activities of the Parish Council for the year ending 31 March 2021.

In a difficult year as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, significant progress was made in resolving the waste water management issues of the village.

Lincolnshire County Council required all their parish councils to change their existing websites which had created a lot of extra work for us but we are now fully operational and have also created our own Facebook page for the village.

Significant work was undertaken in the cemetery during the year to deal with several trees which needed attention and we are very pleased with the overall result.

The amenity contract for the village was tendered during the year and after much consideration, this was awarded to our existing supplier, Gary's Gardens.

There are two new gravel extraction projects that are in the process of being discussed and we have been active in this in order to provide input on behalf of our residents.

Both the previous Chairman and Vice Chairman resigned during the year and we welcomed Iain and Ish as our two new councillors on to the Parish Council.

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Initials:

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**4. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Mr Ian Coles provided a financial summary for the year from the Financial Report which has been published on our website.

Our expenditure in the year increased significantly from previous years, primarily as a result of the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils (LALC) advising us that it is requirement for the clerk to become an employee of the Parish Council, which lead to a sharp rise in our staffing costs.

In addition, the cost of both the tree work in the cemetery and changing our website (as referred to in the Chairman's Report) increased our overall expenses above that which we would have normally expected.

It has also been necessary to increase the level of the annual precept required from South Kesteven District Council for 2021/22 at a higher level than we would have normally done to meet future expected costs. Councillors will consider a budget produced by the Responsible Financial Officer later in the year to decide on the appropriate level of the precept required for 2022/23.

Mrs Alison Ireland asked if there was a concern that we may not have sufficient funds to meet the current year's expenditure. Mr Ian Coles confirmed that we would monitor this closely during the year and take any appropriate action required to limit expenditure, if necessary, to avoid this situation occurring.

**5. COMMUNITY REPORTS**

No written reports had been received but Mr Iain Stowe provided a brief verbal report on behalf of the Village Hall Committee confirming the impact on its use as a result of the pandemic and the actions taken to deal with this.

**6. WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT**

Three representatives of Anglian Water had been invited to the meeting to provide us with an overall summary of the issues that had been raised and the actions that they had taken to rectify these during the course of the year.

Mr Keith Garfoot gave us a detailed review of this and confirmed that they will be remaining on site for the next 18 months to monitor the situation, particularly during the winter when problems are more likely to occur, depending upon weather conditions.

The actions that they have taken are the same as those carried out in Southorpe in recent years where they had been experiencing similar problems to the ones that we have endured. Keith confirmed that, following those actions, there has not been a need for tankers to be present there to pump away additional waste water since.

Mrs Alison Ireland asked what future actions are now being taken to monitor the sewer levels to try and avoid additional problems. Keith explained that, by removing blockages and reducing rain water entering the system, the levels should be manageable. Consequently, it is hoped that the presence of tankers in the village will be the exception, rather than the rule, with flooding and sewage overflow greatly reduced.

Mr Ken Otter pointed out that many of our problems originate from Tallington and it is therefore important that issues are also dealt with there to ease the problems in West Deeping. Keith acknowledged this and confirmed that he will liaise directly with him on this point.

Keith also confirmed that he is working closely with both Lincolnshire County Council and Deeping Drainage to remove blocked soil from pipes which are reducing the efficiency of the system to pump water through to Market Deeping.

Cllr David Ward thanked Keith, Matt and Rose for attending the meeting and providing us with an in depth summary of everything and it was felt that attendees were reassured that Anglian Water were prioritising our problems and making every effort to resolve them for us.

## **7. EXPANSION OF TALLINGTON LAKES**

Mr Matt Moore confirmed that there is expansion funding available to deal with the additional housing at Tallington Lakes and that this can be used to ensure that it does not contribute to the waste water problems in West Deeping. Mr Keith Garfoot also suggested that Tallington Lakes may have a separate pumping outlet to deal with sewage and rain water so it may not necessarily cause any issues for us in this respect.

Concern has been expressed about the impact on our highways with the construction of an additional road on the Tallington Lakes site which we believe will eventually join the A1175 and significantly increase traffic in and around our village. It is widely understood that the appropriate authorities are aware of this and that court proceedings are in progress, initiated by Lincolnshire County Council, South Kesteven District Council and the Fire Service.

Cllr David Ward confirmed that he had also been made aware that Tallington Lakes are planning to build an aquapark on the site which we also feel will increase traffic and sewage problems. Mr Ken Otter mentioned that he is unsure as to whether or not we have any basis on which to object to this. Mr Iain Stowe asked what our objections would actually be and Cllr David Ward confirmed that it is mainly the impact on additional traffic that could be expected with a greater number of visitors to the site.

Mr Ken Otter confirmed that our councillors are welcome to attend future Tallington Parish Council Meetings if they wish to when this matter will be discussed in further depth.

It was agreed that this matter will be discussed further at the forthcoming Parish Council Meeting on Monday 16 August 2021.

## **8. CHILDRENS PLAYGROUND**

Cllr Ish Kamran confirmed that several residents have asked if it is possible to pursue the development of a children's playground in the village. Mrs Yvonne Arnold and Mrs Maggie Ashcroft mentioned that they are keen to take this forward.

For reference, Mr Ian Coles provided the meeting with a brief summary from the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 May 2016, when a play area was discussed previously. At that time, despite good support from the village for doing so, it was not possible for a suitable area to be identified which was acceptable to the police and Neighbourhood Watch. The preferred area was in the Tinsley Field but the proposal was not supported by some residents nearby who may have been affected by its use.

It was also pointed out that the development of a playground has financial implications and that the Parish Council does not currently have available funds to allocate towards this. Mrs Emma King suggested that we may be able to fund raise for this and this possibility will be considered in further depth.

In the meantime, Mr Ken Otter extended an offer for our residents to use the facilities that they have at Tallington if they wish to.

It was agreed that this will be discussed further at the forthcoming Parish Council Meeting on Monday 16 August 2021.

## **9. CEMETERY GATES**

Cllr David Ward asked what the general view of residents was as to whether or not we should repair or replace the cemetery gates. Mrs Maggie Ashcroft advised that, if we did decide to do this, whilst the cemetery gates did need attention, the posts to which they are attached also need to be repaired or replaced first.

It has been suggested that, by not having any gates, the cemetery is more welcoming for residents and visitors to attend.

It was agreed that we will not proceed with the repair or replacement at the present time.

**10. BUS SHELTER**

Cllrs David Ward and Ish Kamran had both looked at the bus shelter in some depth to ascertain the actual state of it and the extent of repairs required, including whether or not it needed to be demolished and replaced.

It was confirmed that the foundations are sound but the repairs required may be quite extensive.

Mr Ian Coles confirmed that we have contacted South Kesteven District Council regarding a grant which we could apply for to either repair or replace the bus shelter. If we did decide to replace it, however, we would wish to do so with a wooden one that is more in keeping with the village.

Cllr Ish Kamran confirmed that a further risk assessment needs to be carried out to decide on what action should be taken and that this will be discussed further at our Parish Council Meeting on Monday 16 August 2021.

**11. AREA ON STAMFORD ROAD**

Mrs Alison Ireland mentioned that there is a 'wild area' on Stamford Road not far from the bus stop and wondered if this is intentional or if it is an area that should have been attended to by South Kesteven District Council. This will be investigated further and discussed at the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 16 August 2021.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

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**Chairman**

**Dated** \_\_\_\_\_