

TICKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on
Thursday 14th January at 7.00 p.m. by video/telephone conference.

Due to Coronavirus restrictions the Council was unable to meet face-to-face.

ACTION/BY

PRESENT: Cllr John Banks in the Chair, Cllrs David Franks, Andrew Hirst, Ann Loader, Rachel Maby, Mike Perrott, Bruce Ralfs, Dan Sewell, Pam Trenchard and Steve Williams.

In attendance: The Clerk.

01/21 APOLOGIES. All members of the Council were present.

02/21 CHARMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman reported that 20 volunteers had agreed to join the Tickenham Parish Council COVID Volunteer Scheme to be available to assist residents during the current lockdown. He continued to attend North Somerset Council network meetings (North Somerset Together)...to discuss areas of mutual interest relating to the COVID-19 lockdown.. Government advice was circulated as relevant, e.g. village halls and play areas.

03/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No councillors declared a personal interest in any agenda item.

04/21 MINUTES of the meeting held on 10th December 2020, copies of which had been circulated, were approved and would be signed by the chairman retrospectively.

05/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising other than those on the agenda.

06/21 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk's report had included reference to a transaction between the Field Committee and Gem Security for a lock to a gate to the Village Field to replace one which was damaged. The Clerk considered, and councillors agreed, that Gem Security was in breach of its agreement with the Council whereby the only persons permitted to authorise transactions were Cllr Ralfs, Cllr Perrott and the Clerk. Furthermore, Gem Security had been informed by a Field Committee representative that Cllr Ralfs should be removed from the list of persons authorised to act for the Council. It was proposed by Cllr Perrott and agreed that this issue should be taken up with Gem Security. The Council also confirmed that the Clerk would remain as the primary key holder, continuing to keep records of the issue and return of keys. Clerk/18.01.21

The Clerk also reported two additional items:

Census Day, Sunday 21st March 2021: Local councils were asked to help publicise the Census. The Clerk would circulate the information received to date. Clerk/18.01.21

Bristol Airport: Notice had been received of Bristol Airport's appeal against NSC's refusal of their planning application to extend the airport. This would be added to the agenda for the February meeting. *Note: The closing date for representations is 22nd February 2021.* Clerk/01.02.21

07/21 TICKENHAM SETTLEMENT BOUNDARY

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the Council's proposals were awaiting decision by NSC. It was agreed that he would enquire as to the present situation, particularly with regard to residents' queries which were awaiting responses. JB/22.01.21

08/21 PROPOSED CAR PARKING CHARGES

The responses from the Village Hall and Village Field Management Committees had been circulated. Neither supported the proposal for direct charges but both suggested that an honesty box would be acceptable. The Chairman had investigated options for a digital honesty box: one provided by JustPark would cost £310 to initially set up and £240 per year thereafter. Several scenarios of the likely income had been circulated to Councillors and it was hoped that income/annum would be over £1,000/annum.

Following discussion it was agreed that a digital honesty box be installed at the Village Hall car park with a suggested donation of £2.50. The wording would state: *All donations will go towards the upkeep of this car park and the adjacent field and play facilities. Suggested donation: £2.50. Your support is very much appreciated.* This would be followed by the information for payment. Cllr Sewell would speak with JustPark to arrange the installation. Details of the transaction fee had been included in the costings circulated to councillors. DS/31.01.21

09/21 HIGHWAYS

(a) SpeedWatch: Cllr Trenchard had been advised by Police H.Q. that during the current lockdown, Community SpeedWatch operations had been suspended which made the decision not to put in a presence easier. With the majority of volunteers falling into the vulnerable category she had not felt comfortable in asking them to take part in a session. This would be reviewed once the Police had confirmed that operations could be resumed. In the meantime, the Roads Policing Unit, Speed Enforcement Officers and Neighbourhood Policing Teams continued to be operational and visible in our communities.

Cllr Perrott commented that during lockdown vehicles were travelling much faster through the village but it was unlikely that NSC would put equipment in place to record numbers and speeds.

(b) Tickenham Hill: Cllr Ralfs said that the speed limit on Tickenham Hill was totally ignored: he believed that signs were in the wrong places particularly when approaching the main road from side junctions. Cllr Ralfs would provide more information so that the Clerk could report to NSC. BR/Clerk/31.01.21

(c) Grass Verge, B3130: Cllr Sewell commented that a white van parked on the verge appeared to have been abandoned as it had been there for at least three weeks. The Clerk would report it as an abandoned vehicle. Clerk/18.01.21

It was suggested that planting trees would deter vehicles but it was understood that there were service cables and pipework underground that precluded planting.

(d) Incidents: Cllr Franks reported that a collision between a crane and a car on Stone Edge Batch in December had resulted in an oil spillage. Police and ambulance services had attended. Injuries unknown. The warning sign remained in place.

(e) B3130 Drainage and Flooding: The Clerk would enquire again about progress on the survey and repair programme. Clerk/18.01.221

10/21 FOOTPATHS

LA/16/12: Cllr Ralfs reported that he had not yet contacted the owner of Wychwood about a handrail on the post next to the stone stile as the owner was in ill health.

11/21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) New Applications:

20/P/3068PIP: the Star Inn: Erection of 7 dwellings following demolition of the Star Inn. The Clerk had responded on behalf of the Council. A copy of the response is attached to the minute book. Clerk/18.01.21

20/P/2347/RM: Youngwood Lane, Nailsea: The Clerk had submitted a response based on the lack of adequate transport infrastructure provision and as agreed by councillors via email correspondence. A copy of the response is attached to the minute book.

Clerk/18.01.21

b) Updates:

20/P/0556/FUL: Pine Trees, Cadbury Camp Lane: Woodland management scheme: approved.

20/P/0630/FUL: 160 Clevedon Road: Log cabin and garden room: approved

20//2610/HHPA: Bali Hi, Tickenham Hill: Single storey rear extension: permission not required

(c) Enforcement cases:

3 Jacklands Cottages: Parking contrary to the planning decision had been reported to NSC.

12/21 NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL ACTIVE TRAVEL STRATEGY: CONSULTATION

Cllr Banks had circulated a draft response to this consultation and had since incorporated comments received from councillors. It was agreed that the document be approved and forwarded to NSC by the 15th January 2021.

Clerk/15.01.21

13/21 FINANCES

(a) Payments

Clerk/asap

The following invoices were approved for payment:

| | |
|----------------------------------------|---------|
| Clerk salary December | £285.53 |
| HMRC December | £71.40 |
| Clerk's expenses December | £6.10 |
| T A Coleman (website design) | £200.00 |
| NSC (dog bin) | £14.40 |
| AED Locator (defibrillator monitoring) | £378.00 |

(b) Tickenham Church Grant

The Clerk reported that it was unlikely that this would be taken up for at least the next twelve months and the Parochial Church Council would be willing to forego the grant. This news was welcomed and the £3,000 currently earmarked would be taken back into the general reserve.

Clerk/20.01.21

(c) Draft Budget 2021/22

The Clerk had circulated a revised draft budget based on the usual 2% increase in precept. It included several reductions in expenditure in order to present a balanced budget. The Clerk confirmed that the Government had set no limit on precept increases except to advise that councils should "show restraint" and no referendum principles had been set.

Cllr Perrott proposed and the Council agreed that the precept be set at £8,503.66, a 10% increase over the 2020/21 precept. The Clerk was asked to amend the draft budget to reflect both this increase and the potential £1,000 income from parking charges. It was suggested that expenditure on course fees, subscriptions and field maintenance, currently excluded, might be reinstated.

It was further suggested that, with reserves now at an acceptable level, the headings used for accounting purposes could be removed and the total funds marked as General Reserve. However, it would be prudent to remember that unexpected expenditure might be necessary at some point, e.g. election expenses or legal fees.

The Clerk would make the adjustments and circulate a third draft budget for comment. The Council was reminded that the request for precept must be submitted to NSC before the end of January 2021.

Clerk

- 14/21 CLIMATE AND NATURE POLICY: IMPLEMENTATION
Cllrs Banks and Sewell would prepare a paper for consideration at the next meeting. In the meantime, all councillors were asked to consider the policy previously circulated and put forward ideas for implementation. JB/DS/All
- 15/21 WEBSITE
Cllr Sewell suggested and Council agreed that documents from the old website could now be uploaded to the new website. Councillors considered that the new Parish Council website should not contain information about other village groups as this would duplicate and conflict with the village website. Cllr Banks was in touch with Mark Crocker about a link from the Tickenham Village website to the new Parish Council website. Cllr Perrott mentioned the link on the NSC website to the old website and asked that this be changed. DS/Clerk/asap
- 16/21 VILLAGE HALL REPORT
Cllr Trenchard had previously circulated a report including:
Hall funds currently stood at £19,684. Despite being closed there were still significant items of expenditure on utilities, insurance etc. The Committee Room continued to be used for the Community Library. The Committee was currently considering whether notices should be placed in the car park discouraging people from travelling to visit local areas for exercise. Cllr Trenchard was thanked for her report.
- 17/21 VILLAGE FIELD REPORT
Cllr Banks said there was little to report, but happily the children's play area remained open.
- 18/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
Cllr Perrott proposed and the Council agreed that thanks be recorded to Cllr John Banks for his not inconsiderable work in drafting responses to the various NSC consultations.

Cllr Steve Williams referred to the importance of the Action Plan in keeping track of Council decisions and actions required. Clerk/20.01.21
- 19/21 DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS
2021: Second Thursday of each month commencing at 7.00 p.m. as follows:
11th February; 11th March; 8th April; 13th May; 10th June; 8th July; [12th August];
9th September; 14th October; 11th November; 9th December
These meetings will be held by video link until further notice.