

TICKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on
Thursday 8th April 2021 at 7.00 p.m. by video/telephone conference.

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

ACTION

PRESENT: Cllr John Banks in the Chair, Cllrs Andrew Hirst, Ann Loader, Rachel Maby, Mike Perrott, Dan Sewell, Pam Trenchard and Steve Williams.
In attendance: Ward Councillor Nigel Ashton and members of the public

Prior to the formal business Matt Wooldridge and Aden Precious from National Grid gave an up-date on completing the underground cables, the programme for building the new T pylons and removing the existing pylons. Particular reference was made to forthcoming piling works and road closures. The presentation slides would be available following the meeting and the archaeological report on excavations at Church Lane would be made available in due course. Thanks were recorded to Matt and Aden for their presentations.

55/21 APOLOGIES. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs David Franks and Bruce Ralfs.

56/21 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS
Thanks were recorded to Cllr Perrott for taking the minutes of the last meeting.

57/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
No councillors declared a personal interest in any agenda item.

58/21 MINUTES of the meeting held on 11th March 2021, copies of which had been circulated, were approved and would be signed by the chairman retrospectively.

59/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
There were no matters arising other than those on the agenda.

60/21 CLERK'S REPORT
There were no significant matters to report.

61/21 CAR PARK
(a) Cllr Sewell reported that parking donations of £110 had been made over the last two weeks. Signs had been erected by Cllr Banks - one temporarily placed on the field gate and to be re-sited on the rear wall of the hall as agreed. Cllr Trenchard mentioned that cars were parking at various village locations, perhaps to avoid the parking donation, but also because the Fishing Lakes car park was closed. This led to discussion about the raised path by the fishing lakes which was used increasingly but was very narrow. Although this was not an official footpath, it was agreed that Cllrs Banks and Perrott would discuss options with North Somerset Council (NSC).

JB/MP

(b) The Clerk had circulated a quotation from Glendale Countryside in the sum of £300.87 plus VAT for white lining in the car park. This included additional yellow hatching near the side door. It was agreed that the quotation be accepted.

Clerk

(c) The Clerk had requested councillors' views on the use of the car park by the Police for training purposes. It was agreed that the car park could be used on condition that the advisory speed limit of 5mph was adhered to and the Council informed prior to use. Cllr Trenchard said that the PCSO would like to attend a future Parish Council meeting and this was welcomed by councillors.

Clerk

62/21 HIGHWAYS

(a) Speed Limits

Cllr Sewell spoke about the “20 is Plenty” campaign to persuade NSC to adopt a policy of more 20mph speed limits. The Council had previously discussed the possibility of supporting the campaign and seeking a 20mph limit throughout the village but no decision had been reached. The Clerk reported that of the residents who had contacted her, none was in favour of a 20mph limit. Cllr Trenchard spoke strongly against such a proposal: she pointed out that the B3130 was a main route for traffic, particularly for HGVs, between Nailsea and J20 of the M5 and suggested that vehicles travelling at 20mph would cause more incidents due to driver frustration. She also pointed out the difficulty of exiting properties along the B3130 and believed this would be aggravated by slow moving traffic. Cllr Sewell said there was clear evidence from the Vehicle Activated Speed Signs that the current 30mph speed limit was ignored; he was neither in favour nor against a 20mph limit but stressed the importance of enforcement. Cllr Loader spoke in favour of making the 20mph speed limit by the school mandatory and agreed that enforcement was key. She suggested that, rather than requesting a 20mph limit throughout the village, an alternative would be to seek to extend the 30mph limit at the eastern end of the village so that it joined with the speed limit near Pound Lane, Nailsea. It was hoped that this would encourage drivers to maintain 30mph throughout the village. Cllr Ashton said that he supported 20mph zones on safety grounds and where they were practicable, but they were not always appropriate and must be based on safety needs rather than a wish to deter traffic.

After a full discussion councillors agreed that

- (i) a 20mph speed limit through the village should not be pursued,
- (ii) a meeting be requested with NSC Highways Department to explore the possible extension of the 30mph limit toward Nailsea,
- (iii) when the new NSC policy was published, a mandatory 20mph speed limit near the school would be further investigated
- (iv) prior to any final decisions on the above, full consultation with residents would take place.

Clerk

- (b) Traffic Regulation Order: Proposed Prohibition of Vehicles on Country Lanes: It was noted that this proposal had been temporarily withdrawn by NSC to allow proper consultation to take place.

- (c) Verges: There had been a suggestion that the verges should be cut less often by NSC. After discussion it was agreed that verges should be maintained as at present except for the one near the golf course where only the narrow strip should be cut as necessary so as not to restrict the footpath.

Clerk

- (d) Request for Dog Bin, Cadbury Camp Lane:

A resident of Cadbury Camp Lane had asked if the Parish Council would provide a dog waste bin. There was debate around whether NSC would empty a bin in this private road, exactly where it would be placed, whether the requested location was in Tickenham parish and the fact that it would cost £14.40 per month to empty a bin. It was agreed that Cllr Banks would circulate a map showing the location and the matter would be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting.

JB/Clerk

- (e) Incidents

There appeared to have been incidents near Golden Acres Nursery and Garden Park but no details were known.

63/21 FOOTPATHS

Cllr Perrott reported that the tree blocking Old Lane had been removed and an electric fence across a stile opposite The Star had been reported. A resident had repaired the gate to the bridge in the field adjacent to 240 Clevedon Road but this would also be reported to NSC for further attention.

64/21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Clerk

(a) New Applications:

20/P/3037/HED: 45 Clevedon Road: Removal of ancient hedge: Councillors were surprised that this application had been accepted for registration as there was a discrepancy in references to the length of hedge to be removed, i.e. 5m and 86m. It was noted that the hedge was alongside a proposed bat corridor to be provided within the adjacent proposed Golden Acres development. Councillors requested that, if they were to provide a considered view, all applications should be clear and complete.

21/P/0444/FUH: Orchard End, Orchard Avenue: Side and first floor extensions: Councillors had been previously consulted by email and raised no objections.

21/P/0844/DEA: The Star Inn: Notification of proposed demolition: The Council strongly opposed the demolition of this building on the grounds agreed for a previous application for development. The need for an asbestos survey was raised.

21/P/0893/TPO: High Trees, Cadbury Camp Lane: Fell 2 Ash and 1 Sycamore. No objections were raised.

(b) Updates

21/P/0138/FUH: 196 Clevedon Road: Porch and internal alterations: Approved

21/P/0215/AOC: Diamond Cottage, Cadbury Camp Lane West: Discharge of Condition 4: app: 20/P/1113/FUH: Approved.

(c) Tickenham Garden Centre – Section 106 Agreement

It was agreed that more information was needed about the funds designated for the parish and how they might be accessed and used. The item would be included on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

Clerk

(d) Tickenham Garden Centre Development: Lighting

In response to an enquiry from the developers, the Council confirmed that its preference was for low level bollard lighting.

Clerk

65/21 FINANCES

Clerk

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Clerk's salary March	£285.53
HMRC March	£71.40
Clerk's expenses March	£5.80
NSC (dog bin)	£14.40
National Assoc. of Local Councils	£219.24
Rocket Media (signs)	£91.20
JustPark (set-up fee)	£210.00
JustPark (management fee)	£24.00

66/21 VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Cllr Trenchard said that the next meeting of the Management Committee would be on 9th June. In the meantime groups were beginning to make bookings in readiness for re-opening.

67/21 VILLAGE FIELD REPORT

Cllr Banks reported that people continued to use the Field and there had been a tremendous response to the proposal to plant bulbs on the bank.

68/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A member of the public had asked why the Council was not using one of the commonly used conferencing systems and live streaming meetings. Cllr Banks said a number of options could be considered but as from May council meetings would be face-to-face and open to the public as normal.

69/21 DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS 2021

Normally the second Thursday of each month commencing at 7.00 p.m. as follows:

19th May (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council) See note below.

10th June; 8th July; 12th August; 9th September; 14th October; 11th November;
9th December

NB: The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 19th May 2021 in the Village Hall.