

Tiptree Parish Council



MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of the Full Council took place on Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.34pm in the Meeting Room, Community Centre, Caxton Close

Present- Cllrs:	R Mannion (Chairman)	M Maund (Vice Chairman)
	S Allen-Shepherd	C Bigg
	J Bunney	D Coe
	J Greenwood	N Mattinson
	M Pennick	S Redgewell
	D Webb	B Wood

Also in attendance – 1 member of the public, Borough Cllrs J Elliott, D Loveland and the Clerk of the Council.

- 613/19 **Apologies for Absence:** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs: N Anderson & R Smithson, and also from ECC Cllr J Jowers.
- 614/19 **Chairman's Announcements –**
Reminder from the Chairman of the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting
- 615/19 **Declarations of Interest –** There were no declarations of interests
- 616/19 **Public Questions –** None
- 617/19 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 24 February 2020. It was unanimously **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 24 February 2020 be approved and were signed by the Chairman.**
- 618/19 Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held 02 March 2020. It was unanimously **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee held 02 March 2020 be approved.**
- 619/19 Minutes of the Highways Committee meeting held 02 March 2020. It was unanimously **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Highways Committee held 02 March 2020 be approved.**
- 620/19 **Clerk's Report:**
Electric Bicycle scheme from CBC – The Clerk reported that CBC had asked for "interest" from larger Parishes regarding the use of an electric bike. Five differing models (in varying cargo capacity) were available, and our interest in assisting Colchester to determine viability of the platform was being asked. The clerk was unsure how the vehicles would be stored/charged in the confined space available, and then what use could be made of the vehicles.

Councillors were of a similar mind, but the "expression on interest" has been left open with CBC.

621/19 **County Councillor Report - None**

622/19 **District Councillor Report:** - Cllr Wood reported her attendance at the recent transport meeting, where the last bus from Colchester to Tiptree on Sunday is being removed from the timetable in the near future. Cllrs were extremely disappointed with the news. In a related matter, the bus stop at St Luke's does not have a bus stop sign nor timetable. This issue has been reported and is being investigated. **Cllrs resolved to receive and note the information.**

623/19 **Policing Update:** Following the MP's meeting on 28 Feb, outcomes were discussed, with the following points noted:

- There has been a greater Police presence in the village over the past 2-3 months.
- All contributors to the meeting did well, especially Ch Insp Huddleston.
- That 2 volunteers for Community Special Constabulary had come forward after the meeting.
- That a potential youth Worker had come forward after the meeting
- It was also noted that there appeared to be a media agenda in painting the village in a poor light.

Cllrs resolved to receive and note the information.

624/19 **RCCE Essex Village of the Year Competition:**

Cllrs noted the requirement for Villages to a maximum size of 6,000 could enter, and therefore declared Tiptree to be outside of the scope. The council unanimously **resolved to receive and note the competition, with no action from Tiptree.**

625/19 **Essex Fire and Rescue Consultation:** Councillors discussed the Essex Fire and Rescue strategy document, noting that the trend of incidents was declining, and that the trend therefore of Essex was to reduce the number of full-time staff while increasing the on-call capability. This strategy works against the wishes of the people of Tiptree, who have a rapidly growing village, and would like to see a permanent staff onsite in order to help deal with incidents in and around the Parish, which will only grow as the Village increases in size. It was therefore unanimously **resolved to respond to the consultation, with a request from Tiptree that a full-time station be manned at Tiptree.**

626/19 **Toilet Block on Church Road:** Cllr Bigg reported that the 3 quotes for architectural designs on the building had been returned, and all were higher than the current budget allowed. In order to proceed with the lowest cost (and preferred bidder), a budget increase from £1,500 to £3,000 was requested. Cllrs enquired where the money could be vired from in the budget, and 4145 (Legal Charges) was significantly underspent, enabling a virement. **RESOLVED to approve the increase in budget to £3,000 by virement from Legal Charges.**

627/19 **CoronaVirus (COVID 19):** The Chairman wanted to ensure that sufficient posters were in place in the Community centre and Parish offices to warn of the dangers of COVID 19, and that sanitising hand gel was also available. The

clerk reported that the Parish office was able to work remotely in an environment where that was required. The latest advice from the NHS was also distributed to Councillors. **The report was then received and noted.**

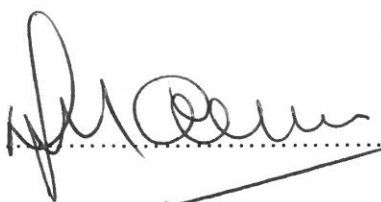
- 628/19 **Neighbourhood Plan:** Cllr Greenwood talked through the latest revisions to the Neighbourhood Plan, ensuring that all Councillors were aware of the progress and readiness of the plan for submission. Changes to the plan's policies have been made following the consultation -The changes are minor, but have enabled Policies to be articulated with more clarity and robustness, ensuring better deliverability for the plan. Councillors were asked if there were any issues with the Plan at this point, as they intend to return to council for final approval at the next meeting of Full Council. **There were no issues raised, and the Plan report was received and Noted.**

- 629/19 **Accounts for Payments:**
The payment schedule was noted by councillors. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve the schedule of Payments.** The following payments in excess of £250 were approved:

Payment to -	Amount
David Taylor Construction (Workshop Construction)	£34,920.00
JT White (Comm Centre Plumbing)	£283.00
Navigus (NHP Consultancy)	£756.00
SSE (Comm Centre Gas Bill)	£1,337.77
Planned Environmental Svcs. (Comm Centre Boiler)	£586.80

- 630/19 **Income**
The Income Statement for December was discussed – with the **report received and noted by unanimous resolution.**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed..........Date.....29/06/2020.....