

TIPTREE PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING of TIPTREE PARISH COUNCIL

The Full Council Meeting of the Tiptree Parish Council took place in the Small Hall at the Community Centre, Caxton Close on Tuesday 6 December 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs

Jonathan Greenwood (Chairman)	Michael Maund (Vice Chairman)
Sue Allen Shepherd	Ed Birkin
Ashley Girling	Stuart Gulleford
A (Tony) Peck	Simon Phillips
Sandra Redgewell	Diana Webb
Barbara Wood	Mark Woodcraft

Present: Staff

The Clerk to the Council	The Deputy Clerk
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Also in attendance: 2 members of the Public, ECC Cllr J Jowers and CCC Cllr R Mannion

131/22 **Apologies for Absence:** – Apologies for absence were Received and Noted from: Cllr C Kitley, who had prior engagements and would arrive late.

132/22 **Declarations of Interest** – None

Cllr S Phillips entered the meeting

133/22 **Chairman's Remarks:** The Chairman (i) reported that the advertising of an election following the resignation of Cllr Bigg had not elicited the requisite 10 electors requesting an election: the Council are therefore free to Co-Opt. (ii) The Clerk would offer training in addition to the EALC training on Cllr elections if requested. (iii) The Chairman reported that he had received the notification from the Inspectorate that the Brook Meadow Appeal had been dismissed.

134/22 **Questions and statements from the public:** A member of the Public wished to comment on item 137/22, as a resident living directly opposite the site. Statements were made regarding the upkeep up the site (very poor), the anti-social behaviour at the site (frequent), and the poor standard of fencing.

135/22 **Minutes of the Full Council.** The minutes for 1 November 2022 were **unanimously approved for signature** by the Chairman.

136/22 (a) **ECC Cllr Verbal Report:** Cllr Jowers covered a number of topics, specifically (i) a hearty congratulations on the Brook Meadow Appeal win (ii) The ECC Highways pot hole list for Tiptree (after a mix up internally at ECC) is now with Highways. (iii) Numerous complaints had been received regarding the “Braxted Bumps” – Council also referred Cllr Jowers to Grange Road for the same issue. (iv) Devolution at the ECC Level is still be discussed, which may mean more responsibility for Parishes. (v) Hall Road requests for traffic calming measures have been negated after a speed survey noted that the average speed of traffic is 16.2 mph. (vi) A “20 is Plenty” campaign regards the lesser roads within the villages is underway, with Rowhedge and Abberton already onboard. (vii) Members also asked Cllr Jowers about the o/standing repair of the street light on the corner of West end Rd and Maldon Rd.

(b) **CBC Cllr R Mannion verbal Report:** (i) Cllr Mannion wanted to congratulate TPC (and especially the Chairman) for their efforts in fighting and winning the Brook Meadow Appeal. (ii) Cllr Manion was keen to support the PC in their discussion with CCH regarding the LAP at Thyme Road.

137/22 This item was Resolved to be brought forward on the agenda, as a Member of Public was present specifically to hear the Council debate - **Thyme Road Play area:** Councillors discussed the letter received by Ward Councillors regarding CCH’s plan to close down the play area and make it into Open Space. Questions were asked about the LAP (local Area for Play) designation for the site, and what removal of the play equipment would mean. **It was resolved that Amenities members would hold a site visit prior to the next meeting, and provide a recommendation to Full Council.**

138/22 **Payment Lists:** The payment lists for November 4th and November 18th (previously approved by email) were reviewed and it was **RESOLVED unanimously to approve the payments.**

139/22 **Neighbourhood Plan:** The Chairman reported that the Neighbourhood Plan is now in the final stages of the examination, as it goes through the Fact Checking of place names etc. The Steering Committee also reported on the meeting held with Mersea Homes and ADP (Planning Consultant) regarding the Planned development of the Elms Farm area. A map showing the planned development was passed amongst all Councillors. **It was then RESOLVED by a majority that the outline planning as shown conformed with the Neighbourhood Plan, and that Council was in agreement with the Outline Plan.**

140/22 **Budget Setting:**

- (i) The Budget for 2023/24 was presented with an expenditure of £398,966. The item was proposed and seconded, then **it was unanimously resolved that the budget be adopted.**
- (ii) The Precept for 2023/24 was reviewed by Full Council, and **it was unanimously Resolved to set the precept at £378,872.** This represents a 2% increase on last year, significantly below the level of inflation and no more than £2.00 per annum for the Band D Equivalent homes. It also represents a shortfall against the budget, which would be covered by Reserves.



- 141/22 **Coronation Day 2023:** The clerk reported that a Bank Holiday had been declared for Monday May 8th. Council debated the merits (and available manpower) of attempting another event. After debate, it was **RESOLVED that Council would support/encourage local events that were planned.**
- 142/22 **Staffing:** The clerk reported that an Applicant had been found to fulfil the Village Caretaker role, and had been previously interviewed. In order to accommodate the candidate in the role, it was recommended that a 3 month trial be put in place to confirm effectiveness, to be made permanent if successful. It was **unanimously RESOLVED that the hiring be made, effective December 9th 2022.**
- 143/22 **Review of Standing Orders:** The Clerk reported that Standing Orders had been reviewed by P&F but not Full Council. **It was Resolved that Standing Orders be re-adopted.**
- 144/22 **Review of Financial Regulations:** The Clerk reported that Financial Regulations had been reviewed by P&F but not Full Council. **It was Resolved that the Financial Regulations be re-adopted.**
- 145/22 **Review of Asset Register:** The Clerk reported that the Asset Register had been reviewed by P&F but not Full Council. **It was Resolved that the Asset Register for 2022/23 be adopted.**
- 146/22 **Review of Parish Risk Template:** Council reviewed the Parish Risk template and Resolved to adopt the Risk Template.
- 147/22 **Receipt of Minutes:** Council determined to receive and note the minutes "en-bloc", and **unanimously agreed to receive and note the minutes of:**
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| Planning Committee | 04 October 2022 |
| Amenities Committee | 11 October 2022 |
| Highways Committee | 25 October 2022 |
| Policy & Finance Committee | 25 October 2022 |
- 148/22 **Bank Reconciliations:** Cllr Wood's reported that reconciliations were correct up until October, and that she had just received the November records for reconciliation. **The report was received and noted.**
- 149/22 **Remembrance Sunday Event:** At the request of Cllr Allen-Shepherd and with the agreement of the Council, this item was moved to the next meeting in view of the length of Agenda still to cover and time available.
- 150/22 **Climate Focus Discussions:** The Chairman reported on a number of Climate Change workshops that had been attended during the summer months, and the follow-on meetings from the workshop. The desired result is better linking of Wildlife areas/refuge spots and greater public participation. To assist in this, Pilot projects have been selected at Stisted, Tiptree and Wivenhoe. It is hoped that leaders of the pilot program will be able to attend Council meetings in order to update and encourage the success of the trial. **The report was received and noted.**
- 151/22 **Community Centre:** Youth club request to extend hire of the hall through March 2023. Councillors unanimously **Resolved that the extension of the Hall Hire be granted through March 2023.**



152/22 **Windmill Green Carol Service:** The chairman reminded all that the Carol Singing event was taking place at 4pm on Sunday 11 December. Weather was expected to be very cold, but dry. Volunteers were sought to distribute the QR code for the Carol service. **The report was received and noted.**

153/22 **Financial Overview:** The budget to-date was discussed, **received & noted.**

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 21.02 pm.

Signed..... *Jill Greenwood* Date..... *10/1/23*