

TIFFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES
Of the meeting held in the Reading Room
Monday 12 November 2018 at 8.00pm

Present: Cllrs Beasley (Chair), Godwin, Jowers, Chaplin, Tyrrell, Power

In attendance: S Loake (Clerk)

Also present: Mr R Powell

- 1. Apologies** were accepted from, Cllr Welch, who was on holiday, and Cllr Pady, who was unwell
- 2. Open session:** Mr Powell expressed an interest in becoming a member of the Parish Council. It was agreed that the co-option of Mr Powell should be included on the agenda for the January meeting.
- 3. Declaration of interests in agenda items:** There were none.

6: Vacancy for Clerk to the Parish Council: The Chairman brought Item 6 forwards on the agenda. The Chairman stated that there had been three expressions of interest in the vacancy for Clerk to the Parish Council. One had withdrawn through illness, and the other, who is also the Chair of a Committee at SNC, was deemed to be unsuitable. Mr Andrew Tennet had given an excellent performance at interview, giving some full answers to some searching questions, and had been open and honest where he had a lack of knowledge. He has previous experience of managing budgets, and is keen to assist the PC through the forthcoming period of local government re-organisation. The Chairman stated that it was the opinion of the recruitment committee that Mr Tennet should be appointed. It was proposed by Cllr Godwin, 2nd Cllr Chaplin, and agreed that this decision should be ratified. Mr Tennet joined the meeting and was congratulated on his appointment. The current Clerk stated that he would do all he could to ensure that there was a smooth handover. The current Clerk will cease responsibility on 30 November, and, as there is no meeting in December, Mr Tennet will then have a month to familiarise himself with procedures before the January meeting of the PC.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018 and 19 October 2018 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising

5.1 Community defibrillator: Cllr Jowers has cleaned the telephone box, and Cllr Tyrrell agreed that he would install the cabinet for the defibrillator.

5.2 Community use of school hall: Mr Tennet agreed that he would arrange a meeting to discuss this with Mr Henry-Moore, who is the lead at Tiffield School,

and with the Head of the Federation. It has been suggested that the PC may like to hold meetings in the school hall rather than in the Reading Room.

5.3 Village signs: The chair stated that he is progressing this with the Art Club and with the Village School. He will make a presentation of ideas to the next meeting.

5.4 Grit Bins: The Clerk stated that he had ordered 42 x 25kg bags of road grit, which would be delivered on a pallet to the area beside the Reading Room. It was noted that the NCC report stated that there is a bin at the junction of the A43 and St John's Rd, but there has not been a bin at this location for many years.

7. Action relating to proposed developments on A5 and A43: It was noted that the responses should be in by 16 November. Cllr Chaplin has posted in the village Facebook page encouraging residents to respond.

8. Review of bonfire and fireworks display: This event had been satisfactory, and had raised income of £1426, which has been banked into the Lloyds account. In addition, there has been a donation of £150. The income would have been slightly higher, but rope lights had not been purchased this year, as they were not included in the catalogue from the suppliers. It was agreed that in future years a generator should be used rather than the electricity supply from a resident.

9: Railfreight depot: There has been no significant development. Cllr Jowers commented on the proposed improvement to the road between Oxford and Cambridge, which, it is hoped, may reduce traffic on the A43.

10 Pocket Park: Cllr Chaplain reported that the railings to the steps are to be repaired by CTV, at a charge of £250, which it was agreed was reasonable

11 Planning Application: An application had been received for a small single storey extension to 3 Pigeon Hill. There were no objections to this.

12 Financial Matters: The Clerk explained that he had been unable to prepare a full report in the form that he generally uses, because he is still recovering from a major operation which was on 30 October. He stated the current bank balances and a list of payments to be approved, which is attached to the file copy of these minutes. It was proposed by Cllr Jowers, 2nd by Cllr Godwin, and agreed that the payments should be made. Cllr Power stated that she and Cllr Pady would be conducting a review of the Internal Controls before the present Clerk hands over to the new one.

13 Councilor Questions

13.1 Cllr Power enquired about the affordable housing project. The Clerk stated that there had been no progress on this for a long time, and the local government re-organisation may mean this being cancelled, but he would make enquiries.

13.2: Cllr Power stated that the toilets and marquee have been booked for the Festival on 29 June 2019. The Clerk stated that he had contacted various bands, and would propose the entertainment schedule to the next meeting.,

13.3: Cllr Jowers enquired about the sand bins. It was agreed that the sand should and bins should be disposed of.

13.4: Cllr Godwin stated that TITS had suggested purchasing a projector for use by community organisations. It was agreed that enquiries should be made to see which organisations would be interested in contributing to this.

13.5: Cllr Chaplin stated that she had communication from a Mr McColl, a nonagenarian former resident of the village, who had donated £50 to the Pocket Park.

The Chairman concluded the meeting by thanking the Clerk for his services to the Council since April 2015, and for all the additional work that he had undertaken to contribute to the community. The Chairman wished him a speedy and full recovery from his recent operation. The Clerk responded by thanking the Councilors for their patience during his declining health, and for tolerating his occasional inefficiencies. The Clerk wished good luck to Mr Tennet in the role.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.38 pm