

# TACOLNESTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Tacolneston Parish Council held at Tacolneston Village Hall on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7pm.

Present: Cllr L. Pincher (Chair), Cllrs K. Darrell and J. Hooper.  
Parish Clerk/RFO: D. Wickham  
District/County Councillor B. Duffin & 3 members of the public.

- |   | Minute Ref No: |
|---|----------------|
| 1. <b>To consider approving any apologies for absence.</b><br>Apologies were received and approved from Cllrs Gulliver, Taylor, McClenning and Gowing.  | 23/001         |
| 2. <b>To receive any declarations of interest and dispensation requests on any items to be discussed.</b><br>Cllr Darrell declared an interest in item 8.   | 23/002         |
| 3. <b>Public Participation.</b><br>a) District/County Cllr Duffin announced that the council offices in Long Stratton had now closed. Village Clusters had now been approved and handed over to the inspectors for the next stage of the process. There was still some members' grant funding available to be spent before the end of March. The Tree Warden suggested funding the fruit trees (see item 8) and Cllr Duffin agreed this may be feasible. A new fence for the play area and drainage improvements for the village hall were also suggested – quotes will be sought from the Recreation Centre Committee.<br>b) The village hall is being used as a 'warm space' with approximately 18 local residents attending – refreshments are being provided by the organiser. Cllr Duffin confirmed that the Long Stratton bypass will commence construction in 2024 with minimum disruption and Norfolk County Council's 2023-24 precept will increase by 2.99%. Cllr Hooper reported that cars were driving over the grassed area outside the bungalow on the corner of Norwich Road and New Road and turning it into mud. Cllr Duffin advised that this matter was being dealt with by a director at Saffron Housing. | 23/003         |
| 4. <b>To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022.</b><br>Having been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting, it was proposed by Cllr Darrell, seconded by Cllr Pincher, and agreed by all that the minutes were approved as a correct record.   | 23/004         |

Signed:



Date:

8/3/23

5. **To receive any updates from the Media and Communication Working Group.** 23/005  
 Cllr Darrell reported that a letter had been sent to Richard Bacon MP, and a response had been forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate, in relation to the National Grid pylon proposals. The Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk Pylons Group were asking for volunteers to deliver leaflets and arranging a march.
6. **To receive any updates from the Pylons Working Group.** 23/006  
 Sarah Langley had tried to recruit volunteers to join the working group but there had been no uptake. A large battery storage facility was being developed near Swardeston and it was feared this was in readiness for the pylons.
7. **To discuss the need to appoint a new trustee to the Tacolneston Fuel Allotment Charity.** 23/007  
 Cllr Darrell reported that Neil Ward had volunteered for this vacancy and proposed his appointment. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Pincher and **Resolved** unanimously.
8. **To consider a request from the Tree Warden to fund the purchase of fruit trees.** 23/008  
 The Tree Warden proposed the planting of fruit trees between the chestnut trees to the west of the playing field. A selection of apple, pear and plum trees was suggested (£119.10). Cllr Pincher proposed that the Parish Council should fund these trees if Cllr Duffin was unable to provide a grant for this purpose. This was seconded by Cllr Hooper and **Resolved** unanimously.
9. **To agree the 2023-24 budget and precept demand.** 23/009  
 In the current difficult economic climate Cllr Hooper proposed adopting the draft budget and maintaining the precept at last year's level (£18,000). This was seconded by Cllr Darrell and **Resolved** unanimously.
10. **To appoint the internal auditor for the 2022-23 financial year.** 23/010  
 The Council unanimously **Resolved** to appoint Robin Goreham.
- 11 **Financial matters.** 23/011  
 a) The bank reconciliation was reviewed and approved.  
 b) Following receipt of the relevant invoices these payments were approved:

Payee	Detail	Net	Vat	Gross
D Wickham	Clerk's Expenses Nov & Dec	£173.85		£173.85
D Wickham	Clerk's Salary January	£486.35		£486.35
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE January	£121.40		£121.40
D Wickham	Clerk's Salary February	£294.95		£294.95
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE February	£73.80		£73.80
Pylons East Anglia	Donation	£50.00		£50.00

The Clerk's salary reflects the Local Government pay increase backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

Signed:



Date:

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- 12 **Planning matters.** 23/012
- 2022/2406  
*Location: Christmas Cottage, The Green, Tacolneston.*  
*Proposal: Internal and external alterations and extensions*  
*Application Type: Householder*
  - 2022/2407  
*Location: Christmas Cottage, The Green, Tacolneston.*  
*Proposal: Internal and external alterations and extensions*  
*Application Type: Listed Building Consent*

The Council had no comments to make on the above planning applications.

- 13 **Public Participation.** 23/013
- It was suggested that some thought be given to celebrations to mark the King's coronation in May. Cllr Pincher asked for a volunteer to lead this project to come forward.
- 14 **To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting as 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7pm.** 23/014
- This was unanimously agreed.

The meeting ended at 7.40pm

Signed:



Date: 8/3/23